

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.



Walt Gao for Felix

# Protestors return to Queen's Lawn

## Students and staff protest as part of TUC-backed “workplace day of action” calling for a ceasefire in Gaza.

**Editor-in-Chief**  
**MOHAMMAD MAJLISI**

**S**tudents and staff called for an immediate ceasefire and an end to Imperial College's ties with arms companies in a protest at lunchtime on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November. More than 40

students and staff were present, holding Palestinian flags and banners calling for students to join the “intifada” now.

The word “intifada”, translating roughly to uprising, is controversial, with some arguing that it has connotations of several violent uprisings in the Israel-Palestine conflict in the 1980s and 2000s, where

civilians on both sides of the conflict were targeted by bombings and violence.

Speakers at the protest called on Imperial to divest from arms companies, as well as condemning Prime Minister Kier Starmer's inaction towards the Israel-Hamas war. Protestors chanted “From the  
→ **READ MORE ON 4**

### NEWS

**OT Interview: ICSMSU President Lilia Evans**  
→ **READ MORE ON 4**

### COMMENT

#### Questions in Recovery

An anonymous writer tells of their experience struggling with, and recovering from, an eating disorder.  
→ **READ MORE ON 9**

### BOOKS

**From radiologist to writer: Gita Ralleigh**  
→ **READ MORE ON 16**

### FILM&TV

#### Arcane Season 2

Film writers Sijung and David discuss why the hottest new Netflix show is worth your time.  
→ **READ MORE ON 26**

### SPORT

**Liverpool beat Real Madrid**  
→ **READ MORE ON 31**

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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

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Located at Beit Quad,  
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Printed by Iliffe Media  
Winship Road,  
Milton, Cambridge  
CB24 6PP

Registered Newspaper  
ISSN 1040-0711  
Copyright © 2024 *Felix*

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# NEWS



Walt Gao for Felix

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...

river to the sea, Palestine will be free”, and “blood money on your hands, show us your divestment plans”.

Protestors also spoke on the lack of materialisation of a proposed investment forum between the College, the Union, and students, which was due to be held in early November, but cancelled after complaints that not enough notice was given. One speaker said: “We were told it would happen on the 11<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, or the 18<sup>th</sup> of November. Today is the 28<sup>th</sup> and there is still nothing.”

So far, no updates on the situation have been announced, although a source close to the matter told Felix that preparations are being made to host the forum in the near future.

Protestors also lauded the recent news that sportswear brand Puma had dropped its sponsorship of the Israeli Football Association. Speakers endorsed the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanction (BDS) movement, calling for those present to boycott McDonalds in particular.

Students witnessing the protest had mixed reactions. One student who wished to remain anonymous told Felix that they believed the protests “are largely inappropriate”, and that “freedom of expression should not infringe on Imperial students right to a peaceful learning environment.”

Another student told Felix that they thought “the protests are brilliant. I think they’re a really, really useful way to communicate to the college that we don’t support” ties with arms companies.

Some questioned the efficacy of the protests– one student said “I think the real question is we need to understand how much pressure it’s going to put on Imperial management,” adding that “there is quite a good amount of security here, so the protestors have [had] an effect on somebody, but wasn’t sure if “more needs to be done for the protestors to reach their goal.”

## National Week of Action

The protest is part of both a “Workplace Day of action” and a “National Week of Action” organised by the activist group Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC), to coincide with the UN–organised International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

A spokesperson for Imperial Action for Palestine, one of the key members of this coalition, said that “Friday 29th November is the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. The week has been designated a national week of action by the Palestine solidarity campaign. We are joining activists around the world in taking action this week to draw attention to Israel’s genocide, its system of occupation, oppression and apartheid.”

As part of the week, activist groups at Imperial have organised teach-ins and banner making for protests outside of Imperial’s campuses. When asked by Felix if the activists were shifting focus and tactics, relative to last year’s protests and encampment, a spokesperson for Action for Palestine said: “We have always conducted a

combination of teach-ins and rallies. Education is a vital part of any social justice movement. When people are informed, they take appropriate stances.”

The Trade Union Congress (TUC), and University and College Union (UCU) have endorsed the campaign. A statement on the UCU’s national website says: “We encourage UCU members and branches to use the next national workplace day of action for Palestine on Thursday 28 November” to “raise awareness” on the Israeli military’s action in Palestine focusing on the destruction of universities.

Earlier in May, Imperial’s UCU branch passed a motion that called for the UCU to “support marches, protests, workplace days of action and other events called by Stop The War Coalition (STWC) and PSC by actively publicising them among our members.” As part of the solidarity campaign, some members of the UCU participated in leafleting, as part of a larger coalition with other activist groups present at Imperial.

On 7th October, Hamas launched attacks on Israel, killing around 1,200 people and taking a further 252 hostages. According to the Palestinian Health Ministry, 45,708 Palestinians have been killed in the ongoing war. Earlier this month, the International Criminal Court charged Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and former Minister of Defence Yoav Gallant, as well as the head of Hamas’ military wing, Mohammed Deif, for war crimes and crimes against humanity. Both Israel and Hamas have rejected the allegations.



# Bangladeshi Hindus protest outside Huxley

Editor-in-Chief  
MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Members of the UK Bangladeshi community gathered outside the Banwgladeshi High Commission on Queen’s Gate to protest the detaining of an influential Hindu leader in Dhaka on Tuesday 26th November. Approximately 50 members of the public joined the protest chanting and holding placards calling for the release of Hindu priest Chinmoy Krishna Das outside the main entrance to the Huxley Building.

The protestors chants were loud enough to be heard on Elvaston Place and Queen’s Gate Terrace. The chants were not in English, but the phrase “Jai Shri Ram” could be heard, a Sanskrit phrase that roughly translates to “Glory/ Victory to Lord Ram”, and is an expression of

faith in Hinduism. Variations of the phrase are used as greetings for Hindus across India but it was popularised by India’s ruling Bharatiya Janata Party in the 1980s in its campaign to rebuild the Ayodhya temple on the site of the Babri mosque. The temple is believed by Hindus to be situated at the site of the god Rama’s birth.

Das was arrested at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka for sedition at 4:30pm local time on Monday 25th November. He is the newly appointed spokesperson for Sanatan Jagatan Mancha, an advocacy group for Bangladeshi Hindus. He was previously affiliated with the Internatioanl Society for Krishna Consciousness. His arrest has sparked protests across the country as members of Bangladesh’s Hindu minority, which accounts for 8% of the population, demand for his release. The incident is the latest in a period of religious unrest within the country, following former president Sheikh Hasina’s self-imposed exile.



Mohammad Majlisi for Felix



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# OT Interviews: Lilia Evans, Imperial College School of Medicine Students' Union President

Lilia discusses her plans to improve the culture within the Medicine department, and how the nature of the department presents her with unique problems and opportunities.

## Editor-in-Chief

MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Lilia Evans is sat in the Felix office, phone in hand. She is constantly on the lookout for messages from the medics' union team, consisting almost entirely of student volunteers. She is the only sabbatical officer, and her position involves managing a team of 23 students. She won with a strong mandate of 64%, in part due to her previous commitment to the Union. "I was Vice-Chair for Wellbeing Reps," she tells me. "Then I went to Welfare Chair."

Her manifesto focused entirely on the welfare of students, with her four aims for the year being student representation, expanding financial accessibility, fostering inclusivity and equity, and building a supportive and competent union.

I ask Lilia about why there is a focus on culture and welfare instead of academic goals. She said, "With my experience of being on the SU Committee, I think the academics team and the liaisons working with faculty has always been good, or at least since I've been at Imperial."

"And the academic stream just generally is really, really self-sufficient – they run mocks, they work with faculty, and I always have seen that as kind of an ongoing thing that we're constantly doing that doesn't need so much specific support. Those feedback points are coming through constantly. I would say [for] BMB (BSc Medical Biosciences), we should be focusing on academic support a lot more, but it's difficult for me given I don't know what the BMB course is like and I'm relying on the officers and Student Union to kind of relay that back."

"I think things that we typically associate with academics, such as mitigating circumstance and like that

kind of welfare support areas of being on placement or the student experience or placement travel costs, those are associated with academic success, but there are more welfare issues, which is what I'm focusing on more, so indirectly I am kind of trying to target academic things."

I pick up on the BMB part: it is the only other undergraduate course that the Faculty of Medicine offers and students are also represented by Imperial College School of Medicine Student Union. Lilia wants to improve the engagement from BMB students.: although there are "three BMB officers," she explains, "I think



**Medicine, stereotypically used to be a very white male dominated profession, but it is changing."**

they don't feel represented by ICSMSU. They don't feel like they identify with us and that is something that I do really want to help improve. [I'm] having conversations with BMB students from identify what they want and also just trying to support BMB society to put on events for their community."

I discussed representation, a key theme across all of Lilia's promises. It's inspired partly by her own experiences – she has "been involved in quite a few societies in medicine like in ICSM (Imperial College School of Medicine) and being part of those societies or going to sports nights, there's been things in the past, I recognize as not being [conducive to a] good, positive culture. Being more involved in SU over the years, I had the nice opportunity to meet other, older years that were more confident in speaking out against certain issues."

She continues: "The biggest issues for me are all these EDI (equality, diversity, and inclusion) characteristics, so being a student with disabilities, or being an LGBTQ+ student, or even being a student that is has a religious identity that they visibly show by wearing like a hijab or something. Those students are disproportionately underrepresented on placement and because of the nature of placements, we go to hospitals, you're interacting with consultants that aren't members of faculty here." Medical students complete three years of placement, in their third, fifth and sixth years, as well as across the first two years. "Sometimes you can get people not being very nice to you: racist remarks, but also just visibly, not seeing yourself represented in those more senior members of staff. Medicine, stereotypically used to be a very white male dominated profession, but it is changing."

Her last promise is what piques my interest – what is a "supportive and competent SU" and why does one need to be built? Medical students seem to be the most satisfied – as shown through successive National Student Survey (NSS) results – and the fact that culturally medical students are known to have their own ecosystem that they engage in. Lilia tells me it's because "there's a certain type of student" who applies for roles. "When we have discussions as a committee, I think it is very easy for people to bring in their personal views and then the rest of the committee agree with it because it kind of aligns, but what I've been pushing this year in, chairing the meetings is to think from different perspectives of students that I don't typically hear from."

"Obviously I have my friendship group and they're very similar to me as well, so even if I talk to them about faculty, they'll probably agree with whatever my sentiment is. So, [I'm trying] trying to reach beyond that and consult people that we don't usually hear from."



## SCIENCE

# Alakazam's mind-bending brain power

James Desmet dives into a whimsical thought experiment in the realm of Pokémon.

Science Editor  
JAMES DESMET

Alakazam is an iconic Pokémon that has been present in the game since its first generation. They are a staple of the Psychic Pokémon class and notoriously difficult to get your hands on. Just as well, seeing as they were exceedingly powerful Pokémon in the earlier generations, with many considering them the outright strongest Pokémon in the first generation. This is no surprise considering, according to the lore, Alakazam can reach an IQ of over 5,000!

This is attributed to their brain, which is said to be continually developing new neurons and growing. Over its lifetime, a Alakazam can therefore reach such an IQ, according to the Pokémon gospel – the Pokédex. While fascinating, this is completely implausible. It does, however, make for a good thought experiment.

The human brain is responsible for

approximately 20% of the body's energy expenditure. In an adult who consumes 2,000 kcal per day, this would typically amount to 300–400 kcal per day,

meaning that in a brain weighing 1.4 kg, there would be a continuous power output of 20 watts. This will serve as a useful base for our thought experiment.

Given the extremely high IQ of



**With energy demands rivaling a supercomputer and an estimated consumption of 578,000 kcal/day, it might just be the hungriest Pokémon in the world.**

Alakazam, let's assume that their brain is twice as efficient as a human brain. Assuming energy demands and power output scale linearly with IQ, and given that Alakazam's IQ is 50 times that of an average human, the energy output of their brain would be 10,325 kcal/day. However, we must also account for the host of telekinetic

abilities that they possess – these likely require additional energy to perform. Therefore, let's increase this energy output by 50% to account for these highly demanding capabilities. This brings our calculations to 15,488 kcal/day. Adding on 1,500 kcal for basal metabolic function, considering the Pokémon's 48 kg, 1.5-metre stature, this brings the total to just under 17,000 kcal/day.

This number dwarfs even professional athletes, who can consume 4,000–7,000 kcal/day depending on sex and discipline. However, this

is only the beginning. When you look a bit deeper, you'll notice that the Pokédex entry in Pokémon Pearl, released in 2006, states that "its highly developed brain is on par with a supercomputer." With this information, we can make a different estimate!

The operations per second of IBM's Blue Gene/L, a prominent supercomputer in 2006, were  $2.8 \times 10^{14}$  operations per second. The operations per second of a human brain are estimated to be approximately  $10^{11}$  operations per second,

giving a human brain an efficiency of  $5 \times 10^9$  ops/watt. Assuming Alakazam has an efficiency twice that of the human brain, this would equate to  $10^{10}$  ops/watt. Therefore, with the operational speed of a supercomputer and twice the efficiency of the human brain, Alakazam would output 28,000 watts continuously. Converting this to kcal/day would amount to 578,000 kcal/day!

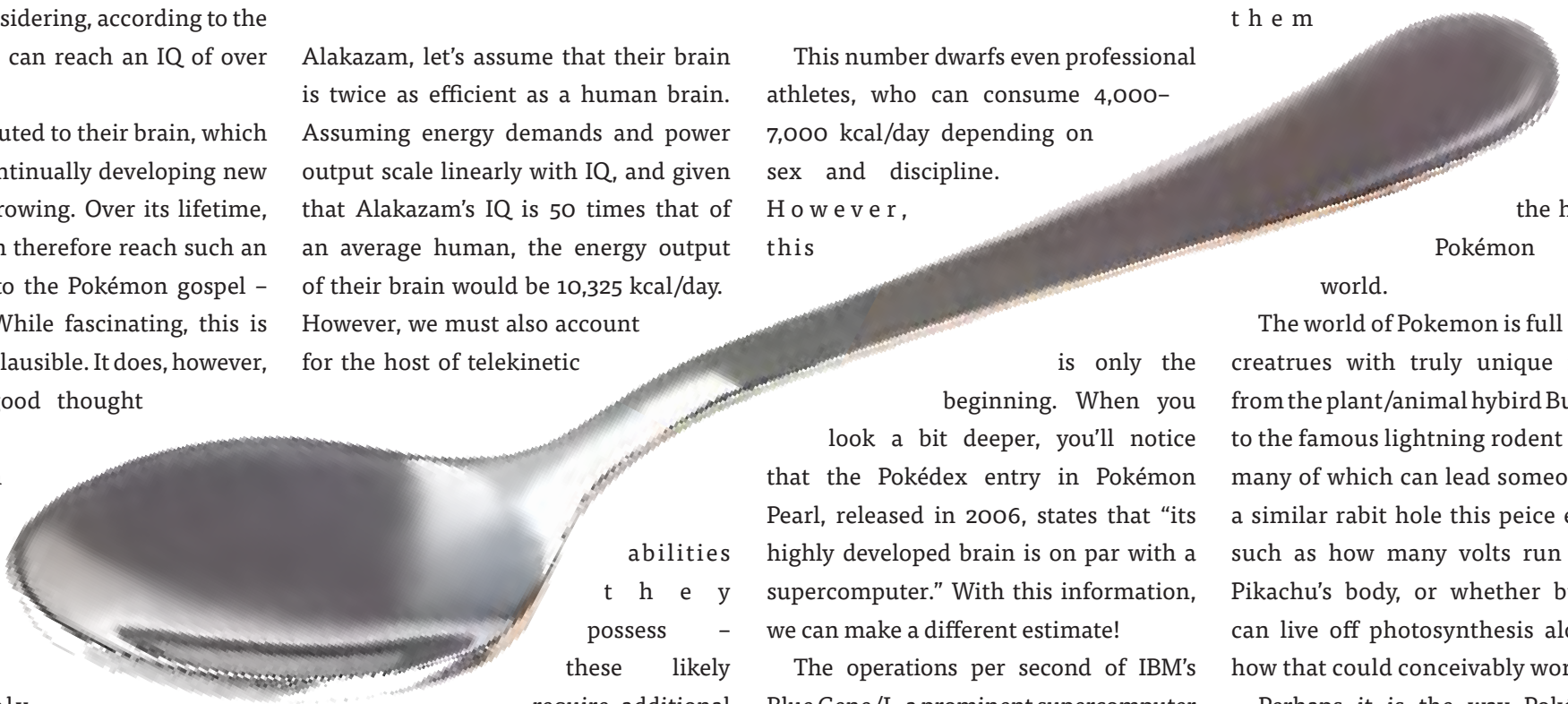
This figure is absolutely staggering and might mean that Alakazam rivals the almighty Snorlax when it comes to energy consumption, making them

possibly the hungriest Pokémon in the

world.

The world of Pokemon is full of wacky creatrues with truly unique features, from the plant/animal hybird Bulbosaur, to the famous lightning rodent Pikachu, many of which can lead someone down a similar rabbit hole this peice explores, such as how many volts run through Pikachu's body, or whether bulbosaor can live off photosynthesis alone, and how that could conceivably work.

Perhaps it is the way Pokémon so brilliantly mixes reality with just the right amount of fiction that keeps us hooked for generations...





# Fibres and spaghetti

**The world's thinnest spaghetti has been made by Chemists at UCL using nanofibre technology.**

Science Editor

TAYLOR POMFRET

Chemists at UCL have recently cooked up the world's thinnest spaghetti. Made at the nanoscale, the spaghetti has a thickness of  $372 \pm 138$  nm. Usual spaghetti has a thickness of roughly 2mm. For comparison, Capelli d'Angelo – a remarkably thin type of pasta translated as “angel hair” from Italian – has a thickness of 900  $\mu$ m.

The nanofibres are made out of starch-rich ingredient like flour – the basis for pasta – though the fibres themselves are not intended to be eaten as food. They were instead created by the team due to the wide-ranging applications that these nanofibres have in medicine and industry.

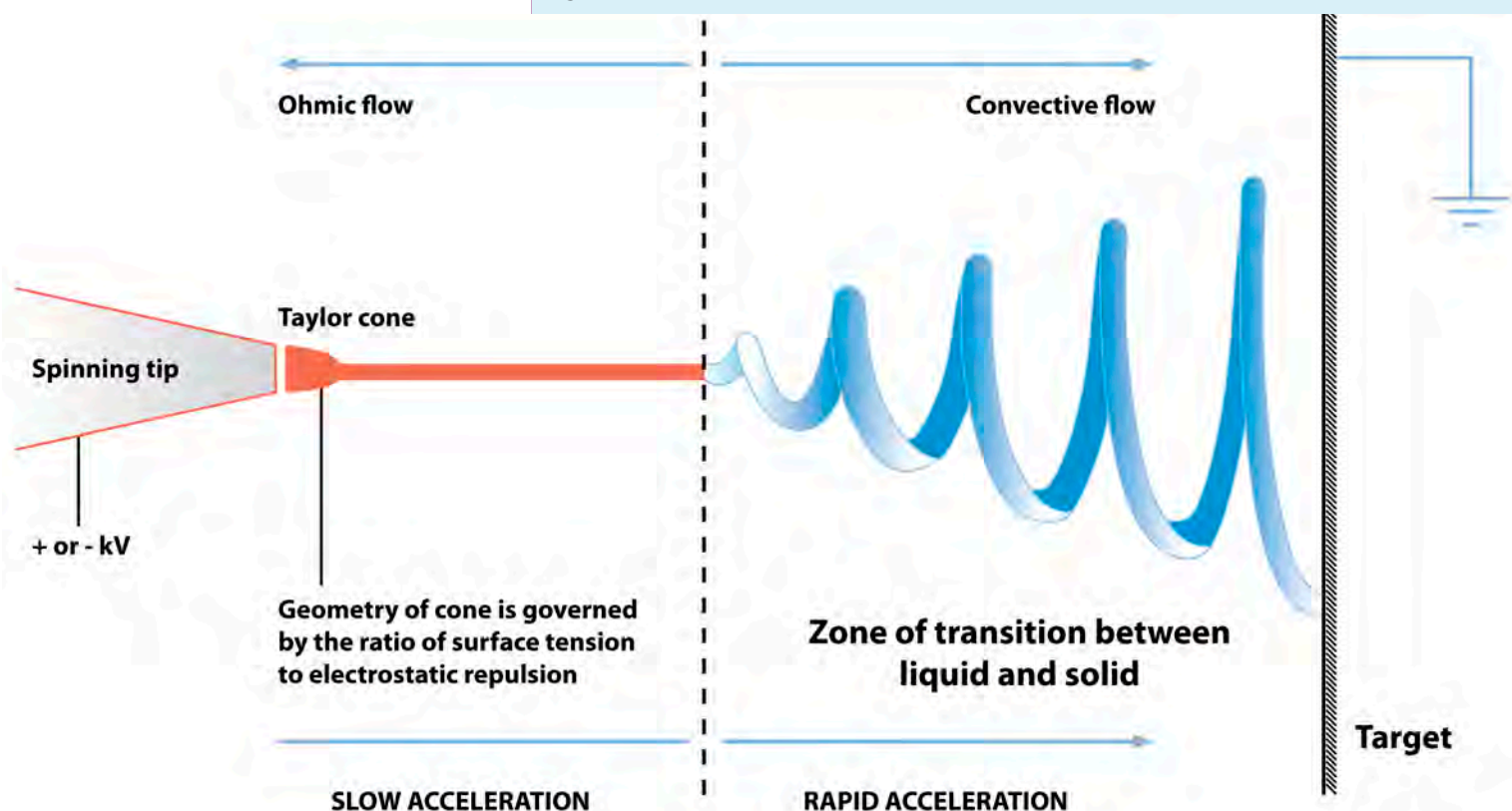
Due to the nanofibres being highly porous – which allows water and moisture in but any form of bacteria out – it has potential uses as a bandage to aid wound healing. The nanofibres may also be used as scaffolding for bone regeneration and for drug delivery.

The team's findings were published in the *Nanoscale Advances* journal as a paper entitled, “Nanopasta: electrospinning nanofibers of white flour”. In the paper (which featured several figures designed with a particular Italian theme), the team used a technique called electrospinning to create the fibres. This takes threads of flour and formic acid and pulls them through the tip of a needle by an electric

charge, akin to making spaghetti where one pushes a mixture of water and flour through metal holes. The only difference is that the tip of the needle spins during the process fibre-making.

Electrospinning has gained a lot of attention in the last decade. This is not only due to its versatility in spinning a wide variety of polymeric fibers but also due to its ability to consistently produce them in the submicron range – which is otherwise difficult to achieve using standard mechanical fiber-spinning technologies techniques.

Sadly, the nanofibres are unlikely to be useful as pasta. The team claim the fibres would overcook in less than a second, before you can even take it out of the pan.



Electrospinning process. Joanna Gatford, via. Wikimedia Commons (CC BY-SA 3.0)

## THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE

### Perovskites take step toward real world applications

Perovskite solar cell devices are amongst the most exciting upcoming energy solutions. They have the potential to provide highly efficient solar energy with reduced environmental impact. The field has seen rapid development in recent years, with power conversion efficiencies (PCE) progressing from 3 to 26% in the past decade. Perovskites, however, struggle with stability issues – a problem currently receiving massive research focus.

Yang *et al.* (Northwestern University) recently developed a new protective coating that enhances perovskite stability. The team developed an amidinium coating, which boasts significantly improved protective qualities compared to research-standard ammonium-based coatings. The new technology was shown to retain 90% PCE after 1,100 hours of operation at 85 °C, a notable improvement on ammonium-coated devices which lose 35% of their PCE within the same operational period.

### Old tech, new life: could refurbished pacemakers bridge the gap in access to lifesaving devices?

On the 17th of November, scientists at the annual American Heart Association meeting reported their preliminary results from a randomised clinical trial of 300 people. The “My Heart Your Heart” study found that patients that received refurbished pacemakers managed just as well compared to those who had received new ones.

Lead study author Thomas Crawford, M.D., a professor of internal medicine at the University of Michigan Medical School, highlighted the disparity in access to pacemakers, stating, “In some high-income countries, as many as 1,000 people per million population may receive a pacemaker annually. In low-income countries, it could be 3 per million population or fewer.”

Crawford's team implanted either a new or refurbished pacemaker in patients and tracked outcomes over 90 days. The results were nearly identical for both groups, with no device malfunctions reported.



## ENVIRONMENT

# Green Careers Fair surpasses expectations

Environment Editor  
**OSCAR MITCHAM**

This year's Green Careers Fair took place on the 12<sup>th</sup> in Queen's Tower Room. Well over 500 people attended to see the 27 companies which had set up stalls.

Of all the companies present, only two focused on climate adaptation rather than mitigation. This highlights a broader problem: in 2021/22, 91% of global climate finance went to reducing emissions (mitigation) and only 5% went exclusively to adaptation. We need to be funding adapting to the consequences of climate change at similar levels as mitigation.

There are plenty of exciting areas for innovation in adaptation, just like miti-

gation. The consequences of hurricanes, flooding, extreme heat, and drought, will be wide ranging and we need engineers and scientists working on building resilience and designing new monitoring techniques in vulnerable places. Each situation is unique, and whilst this is part of

what makes adaptation interesting, local solutions are not appealing to investors. Unfortunately, the "cool factor", as Green Careers Fair organiser Guillaume Felix put it, is just not there for adaptation. The organisers told *Felix* they'd make an effort to include more companies work-

ing on adaptation next year.

Despite this missing link, a variety of companies were present, with everything from batteries and renewables, to reducing food waste and plastic pollution represented. One student complemented the Green Careers Fair saying it helped them gain a "broader understanding of how multidisciplinary the green industry is."

The fair was sponsored by Sustainable Imperial and hosted jointly by Imperial+, Chemical Engineering Society, Environmental Society, Climate Entrepreneurs Club, and Engineers without Borders UK. A representative for Imperial+ said they "were delighted to see the event go so well: the number of attendees surpassed our expectations and broke last year's record by a large [margin]!"



Green Careers Fair 2024 Green Careers Fair Committee

# Updated Union sustainability plan shows progress

Environment Editor  
**OSCAR MITCHAM**

Kicking off the new academic year's sustainability forums, Stephanie, Deputy President (Finance and Services), chaired November's Union Sustainability Forum on Monday 18<sup>th</sup>.

The forum was both a place for Stephanie to share updates from the Union, and for the various societies and campaign groups present to share their pro-

gress and brainstorm new ideas.

Environmental Society updated attendees on their "Ecosia on Campus" campaign and plans for the secret garden (it's a secret). Plant-based Universities also shared progress on their campaign.

Stephanie pointed attendees to the updated Union Sustainability Strategy. The strategy is yet to be formally launched, and contains details of actions and goals for sustainability. It includes ways the Union will hold the College to account for existing commitments – such as deliver-

ing education on sustainability for all students by 2030 and their Socially Responsible Investment Policy – as well as ways the Union will push for more action on, for example on divestment, and aim to make themselves more sustainable.

Improving the Union's sustainability means measuring their scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions through a carbon audit, and enforcing new ethical partnership and procurement policies.

The event was attended by just over a dozen students, including committee

members from Environmental Society, and Ethics and Environment Officer Hollie Meyers. Camille, Union President, and Nico, Deputy President (Welfare), were unable to attend.

Next month's forum is this Wednesday running from 12:00 to 14:00 in a drop-in format. January's forum will be led by Plant-based Universities. PBU invites all union councillors and interested students or staff to attend to learn about their campaign or ask any specific questions.



## COMMENT

# Questions in recovery

## The experience of combatting an eating disorder – and what this writer learned from it.

Comments Writer  
ANONYMOUS

**TRIGGER WARNING:** *this article describes the struggles of living with and overcoming an eating disorder.*

Living with an eating disorder is hard. But recovering from one is even harder. Without a doubt the hardest thing I've ever had to do.

After a while, going through the motions of restricting and over-exercising became routine and habit – it became comfortable. And anything straying from “the plan”, however small, was enough to result in a total breakdown. Thus, the first question I faced was how to convince myself to even attempt recovery. Recovery would mean living in a constant state of fear, panic and confusion. Like removing the ground beneath by own feet and falling. How, when I already felt like shit, could I persuade myself to feel worse for months, maybe years, with only the hope of being happy at the end of it? How could I convince myself that I even deserved to recover?



If I'm honest, I'm not sure how I did it, but I did, and now I'm finally on the other side. It was worth it, but the journey was far from smooth.

Despite a referral, intervention from the NHS was nowhere to be seen, and so I was left to figure it out on my own. The first thing I tried was to just “eat normally”. But what was normal? In only a couple of short years, my brain and body had completely forgotten how to eat. I couldn't eat when hungry and stop when full because I no longer felt hunger – not in the typical sense. My



**The first thing I tried was to just “eat normally”. But what was normal?**

subconscious was screaming for food but my stomach felt “dead”, that's the only way I remember being able to describe it at the time. I remember asking my sister over and over in tears of frustration: how do “normal people” decide what to eat, when to eat, how to eat? Because I could no longer comprehend that it just happened naturally – I had majorly fucked up my system.

Three meals a day is the standard, right? But then, how often can you stray away from that? How often do people treat themselves? My sister's answer of “whenever they feel like it” completely baffled me. *What do you mean* that people could just grab themselves something

whenever they wanted it? It sounds stupid now, but at the time, my brain wanted everything and nothing at the same time – making decisions felt impossible. Do normal people ask this many questions?

When this wasn't working out, I turned to advice from the internet – which wasn't a good idea either, but it was my only option. There, I found two sides of the “right way to recover”, each overwhelming me with its own set of questions.

One was following a meal plan. Following a strict set of instructions on what to eat sounded almost just as disordered. How would I transition out of it? Furthermore, I'm Asian and any meal plan I could find was based on a Western diet – filled with jacket potatoes and bread rolls. Would following such a plan just isolate me more from my family? Would it bring me any closer to normality?

The other option was an “all in” recovery. In other words, allowing yourself to eat whatever, whenever, and however much you want. This one was scary for obvious reasons. Could I let go of that control? When you starve your body for so long and finally start eating, your body retaliates. It tries to make up for all the nourishment it missed, all at once, until it learns that you'll feed it consistently again. This comes in the form of extreme hunger. Should I eat more food than “normal people”? Should I eat even if someone isn't there to see it?

For me, it was this endless stream of questions, and the uncertainty and internal chaos that came alongside



them, that made recovery so hard. Why couldn't they just stop? Why couldn't I just snap myself out of it? I spent months stuck here. The constant back and forth against myself left me lost and so, so very tired of fighting. Would I ever be okay again?

*I know the answer to that now.* My thoughts were a tangled mess and truly recovering needed a careful and consistent rewiring of all of them. A rewriting of the neurological pathways



**Truly recovering needed a careful and consistent rewiring of my thoughts. And that takes time.**

tied to the beliefs at the root of the struggle. And that takes time.

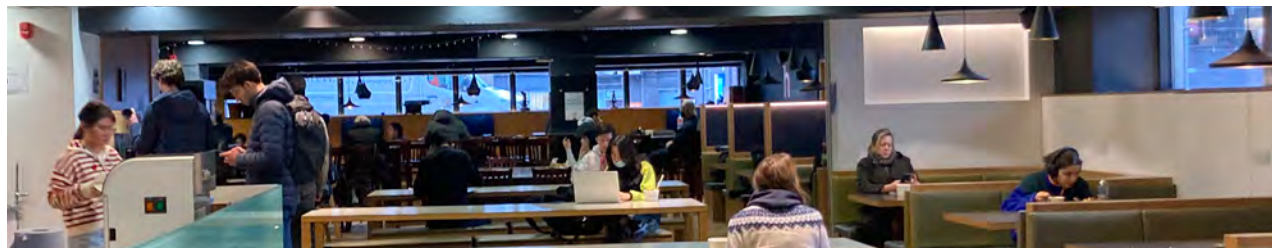
If you have been affected by issues raised in this article, help and support can be found online with the BEAT eating disorder charity (QR below).





## FOOD&amp;TRAVEL

## KOKORO



Kokoro is within h-bar, the underground bar in West Sherfield Isabella Duchovny

Hidden in the Sherfield building is Kokoro, lies a Japanese sushi and bento restaurant. Felix headed to Kokoro at h-bar to give it a taste.

## Food Writer

ISABELLA DUCHOVNY

When entering the Sherfield Building from Queen's Lawn, take a left and go down a flight of stairs, where you'll find the entrance to Kokoro. The Felix food team visited on a Thursday around 1pm, and there was a line outside the door.

The process of ordering food felt chaotic and rushed; employees were hassling students to move forwards or go to different tills. One of the members of the team even forgot about the side dish they wanted to order. On the flip side, the line moved quickly, taking less than ten minutes from the back of line to paying for the food.

It's immediately clear there's a diverse menu, with lots of cold and hot food options, as well as a variety of sides, ranging from gyoza to onigiri.

Cold food options include nigiri, sushi, and salads. The portion sizes are relatively small, depending on how hungry you are. We suggest pairing a main course with one of Kokoro's many sides for a more balanced and filling meal, as the prices at Kokoro are like those found in the Junior Common Room.

The Avocado Hosomaki (£3.95) is simple and fresh. For those looking for a tastier bite, adding soy sauce enhances the flavor.

As for Kokoro's hot food options, the Korean Bulgogi Beef (£7.15) with rice was flavorful and satisfying, though not particularly surprising. While it doesn't hit it out of the park, the beef is tender

and full of the sauce's tangy flavor.

Keep in mind the hot food portion was three parts rice to one part beef bulgogi. As a carb lover, who grew up on pasta and bread, this was perfect. However, for those seeking a more balanced meal, this might not be the best choice.



The hot food menu offers only two vegan options: the Katsu Pumpkin Curry (£6.30) and the Spicy Tofu (£6.25). However, the Spicy Tofu is the only option that provides a satisfying amount of protein.

The tofu is soft and drenched in a chili bean-based sauce. It has a kick – my Western European friend found it spicy



Top-left, going clockwise: Spicy Tofu, Pumpkin Korokke, Beef Bulgogi, and Avocado Hosomaki Isabella Duchovny

– but that depends on personal taste. For anyone with allergies, keep in mind there are peanuts, and they might be hidden in the sauce.

Once again, this serving is very carbohydrate-heavy and not the most

nutritionally balanced portion. The tofu contains only a few vegetables, mostly onion strips, but it would benefit from more vegetables to boost fibre content.

Kokoro also offers students the option to pair their hot food with noodles. The noodles taste good, but we recommend pairing the noodles with the Spicy Tofu to enhance their flavor. The team has also heard around campus that Kokoro's Sweet Chili Chicken cannot be missed.

Finally, the sides. As someone who grew up in the United States, I can't overstate the importance of sides – especially with Thanksgiving mashed potatoes, mac and cheese, and sweet potato casserole just around the corner.

The Felix food team tried the Pumpkin Korokke (£1.95), a vegan option, which is a Japanese deep-fried dish. Although you might expect it to be savory, it's sweet, which creates a unique pairing with the crispy exterior.

There is a warm and welcoming atmosphere – once you get through the line. It's loud during the lunch rush, but it still feels cozy.

It's a genuinely enjoyable meal, even if it doesn't quite exceed expectations. The hot food is comforting, especially as winter is approaching, and the cold food tastes light and fresh. The sheer number of options makes Kokoro a place where you can return frequently and always try something new – I know I will.



# THE FELIX GUIDE TO WEST LONDON COFFEE SHOPS

**Gilbert Anthony Jackson, Arts Editor Emeritus**

**Richmond Hill Bakery, Richmond**

**Drink of choice:** Large Americano (with hot milk) and a slice of carrot cake

**Price:** around £3

**Serves food?** Bakery/breakfast/brunch/lunch options

One goes to Richmond with the usual objective; to see the park at the turn of autumn, where the passage of time lies visible in leafy cohorts of purple and gold. The ascent to the park is surprising for many a traveller and numerous find their trip to Richmond Park to be equivocal to ascending Parnassus. While the zenith of Parnassus offers spiritual and artistic enlightenment, what remains to be said for the likes of Richmond - the causal West Londoner escapist's park of choice?

As any self-respecting gambler knows, the reward for such a cosmopolitan

journey is the beverage at the end of the road. Richmond, like any middle-class neighborhood, is bedecked with coffee shops and tea rooms, but this one stands out in a rather personal manner. It is nothing out of the ordinary and does not boast coffee of superb quality, but what it has is the calm, soothing atmosphere of a local bakery nestled down a side street, away from the hurly-burly of tourists and traffic. It is the respite at the end of the road, the journey's end that waits for your return. It offers what every traveller and

explorer requires, decent coffee and tea of a wide variety and selection, and a hearty portion of edible delights to accompany.

It remains one of my favourite places to frequent, with every bite of cake and every sip of delightful coffee saying "Here's to another adventure. If you can make it here, you can stay here for a little longer."

**Charlotte Probstel, Societies Editor**

**Guillaum Coffee House, Gloucester Road**

**Drink of choice:** White Americano with soy milk

**Price:** £3.00

**Serves food?** Bakery items & breakfast/brunch options

It starts with the most mignon exterior and a deep sea blue logo that pulls you into the shop. A bar of seats along the wall opposite to the baristas to your left invites you to sit as you wait to order your coffee.

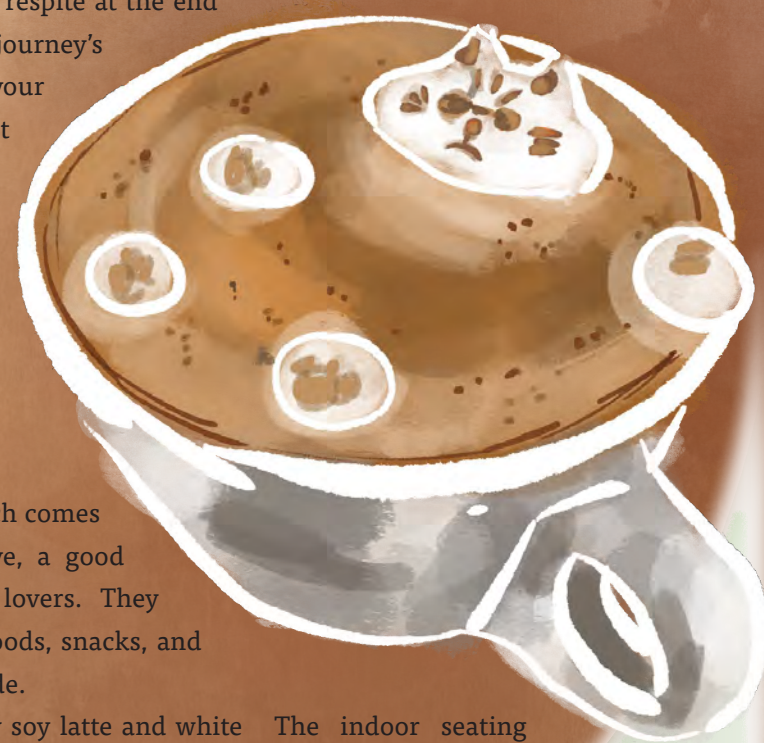
The menu - is extensive and creative. You have the generic orders and then new ones, such as affogatos, Spanish Lattes, and hot chocolates with different concentrations, 60 to 85%. They even list different types of tea, such as herbal, black, or green on their menu instead of the usual, unspecific "Tea". Every

beverage pretty much comes as a cold alternative, a good thing for you ice lovers. They also serve brunch foods, snacks, and Kombucha on the side.

I appreciate every soy latte and white soy americano that I order from Guillaum Coffee House. Their alternative milk isn't Alpro, which is already a good sign. They serve nine different coffee beans, and the house blend for the undecided drinkers.

Sure, the price is above what the campus serves, yet the quality cannot compare to the exponential difference.

The indoor seating in the petite cafe is comfortable for sets of two, and students may study for up to two hours during the weekdays but not on the weekend.





**Barnaby Hilton-Royce, Writer**  
**Antipode, Hammersmith Broadway**

**Drink of choice:** Mocha

**Price:** £4.00

**Serves food?** An array of options

Nestled next to Hammersmith Apollo, Antipode is one of the vibiest coffee shops you can visit in West London. Its dimly lit interior, very chatty baristas and cool cups make you feel like a real Creative, and the coffee is delightfully enjoyable too. At night it doubles as a bar, and the wine offerings are placed suggestively

on a shelf overhanging the bar.

Their mocha is dark, rich, and creamy, and you can tell the chocolate is of high quality. Inside seating is a bit sparse, however, but it's fine when you're running late to lectures and you need to grab something to wake you up in the morning. I would pay a visit.

The chai lattes use real chai, which can be seen at the bottom of the mug after drinking. My lab partner noted the cappuccino is served at the perfect temperature to drink. And they are "generous with the chocolate sprinkled on top".

**Juliette Flatau, Graphic Designer**  
**Maison St Cassien, Wimbledon Village**

**Drink of choice:** Hot Chocolate

**Price:** £3.50

**Serves food?** Lebanese food, freshly baked cakes, brunch

**M**aison St Cassien is one of the oldest independent cafes in Wimbledon Village. Despite what its long-drawn French name may make you think, it is humble and full of life, and always full. With outdoor seating underneath the village bell tower, and tables opening onto Wimbledon stable's horse-riding treks, it has the best view in the village. The cafe serves reliable coffee, all the basics, and no trimmings. But I don't go to a cafe

to drink coffee (I'm caffeine intolerant), I go for the experience. But it is their food selection that makes it one of the best cafes in the area. Hot drinks are great, but they are even better eaten with chicken shawarma, baklava, and a giant slice of carrot cake. The ambiance and food put this cafe at the top, with all the locals. It is beloved, and if you're a regular, they'll always remember your name.

**Aditi Mehta, Books Editor**

**Blank Street Coffee**

**Drink of choice:** Iced matcha latte, but not blueberry

**Price:** £3.20 for a latte, hot or iced, £3.60 for a large.

**Serves food?** Bakery items to takeaway.

**W**hy does everyone I see holding a Blank Street Coffee look so leisurely? For all its faults, one thing I can say Blank Street does successfully is mix you a drink for when you're in a hurry.

Taste-wise, I deem the drinks a watered-down-uncaffinated-disease-inducing-syrupy-slurry concoction that doesn't taste quite like the coffee or matcha base. I understand the need for a pick-me-up to brighten one's day, but I find the chain's 'creativity' fruitless, and frankly, not even yummy.

Which brings me to the sweet treats.

The non-vegan items are not too bad, but indistinguishable from any other coffee shop and probably less value for money than what a Tesco will get you. Their vegan pastries are the antithesis of what I, and probably any baker, deem required for any good pastry, in that I firmly believe they require butter. Dryish, hard, and a bit too flakey - they have been burned. A stand-alone positive is that alternative milk comes at no extra cost, at least.

I pick my poisons, and unfortunately, VC-backed, mega-chain Blank Street is not my poison of choice.

**James Desmet, Science Editor**

**Kiss the Hippo Fulham**

**Drink of choice:** Latte

**Price:** £3.80

**Serves food?** Bakery items

**A** coffee shop that roasts its own beans from a variety of locations, pricey but sustainably sourced, carbon negative, and high-quality. It's worth it if you want a good coffee for a reasonable price considering all factors. I would recommend the George Street, their flagship blend. The roasts vary depending on the time of year, so worth visiting year-round.





**Mo, I'm Felix****Electric Coffee Co Goldhawk Road, Shepherds Bush****Drink of choice:** Flat white**Price:** £3.00**Serves food?** Yes, bakery items, breakfast/brunch/lunch options made to order.

I enjoy coffee. I really enjoy coffee. Unfortunately, I enjoy it in the exact way you expect me to enjoy it, that is to say, I enjoy it pretentiously.

I watch James Hoffman. I have his book. I brew AeroPress for myself (Hoffman method of course).

I worked at Caffè Nero for a while, and did a pretty good job as a barista, according to my now former coworkers. One of the best gifts I have ever received for my birthday

was a spectacular bag of third-wave Ethiopian coffee with notes of honey, peach, and

orange.

Thank you, Vince, very cool. I can ramble about why I believe that a good filter brew is better than espresso.

London is a coffee paradise, although I haven't made the hallowed pilgrimage to Square Mile yet. Nor would it have been eligible for the criteria the editor of this piece, which I will also inevitably have a look at during this week, set out. Otherwise, I would have probably put the Hampstead Redemption Roasters, next to the Daunt Books.

Electric Coffee Co. is a small independent coffee shop on Goldhawk Road. I'm lucky enough to live close by, and I normally go for a flat white. Their special brew is quite good too. The coffee is excellent, and I have bought a few beans from them myself. Inside, there's decent seating, and for

those of you who like to destroy their lives with coffee and cigarettes for breakfast, there are often tables set up outside to people-watch on Goldhawk Road.

The staff are friendly. It's quite twee. I wouldn't say it's spectacular, but it doesn't need to be. To be a favourite is to have something beyond objectivity.

Electric Coffee is the best because it's where I have gone with my close friends many times. It was one of the independent first coffee shops I went to in London. I have many happy memories associated with it. There is a warmth in my mind when I think of Electric Coffee, and I enjoy the rustic, slightly bohemian furnishings and odd art. It felt, feels, like a respite from the immense disorder of studying physics. It's nice to get a break, and in the moments of my life when I needed to get one, it offered its warm embrace to me.

Also, it has pretty decent, competitive prices, and a good menu—matcha is present, but I haven't tried it to say whether it's good or not. I suspect it will be.

**Feb Senton, Writer****Imperial College Library Cafe****Drink of choice:** Iced latte**Price:** Too much for what it is**Serves food?** Bakery, lunch, & dinner options

The library cafe has the unfortunate quality of huge variation depending on the barista serving you, resulting in slightly burned espresso a fair amount of the time. Back in the day, one of the baristas used to give me latte art of a heart on my coffee, though - I am not sure if this is common practice, but I appreciated the sentiment, regardless.

I used to order oat milk, however, oat milk is notably harder to master, so it was regularly burned, leaving an off-putting sour taste. Thus, I recommend giving up on your alternative milk dreams and settling for the natural, more palatable

taste of cattle milk.

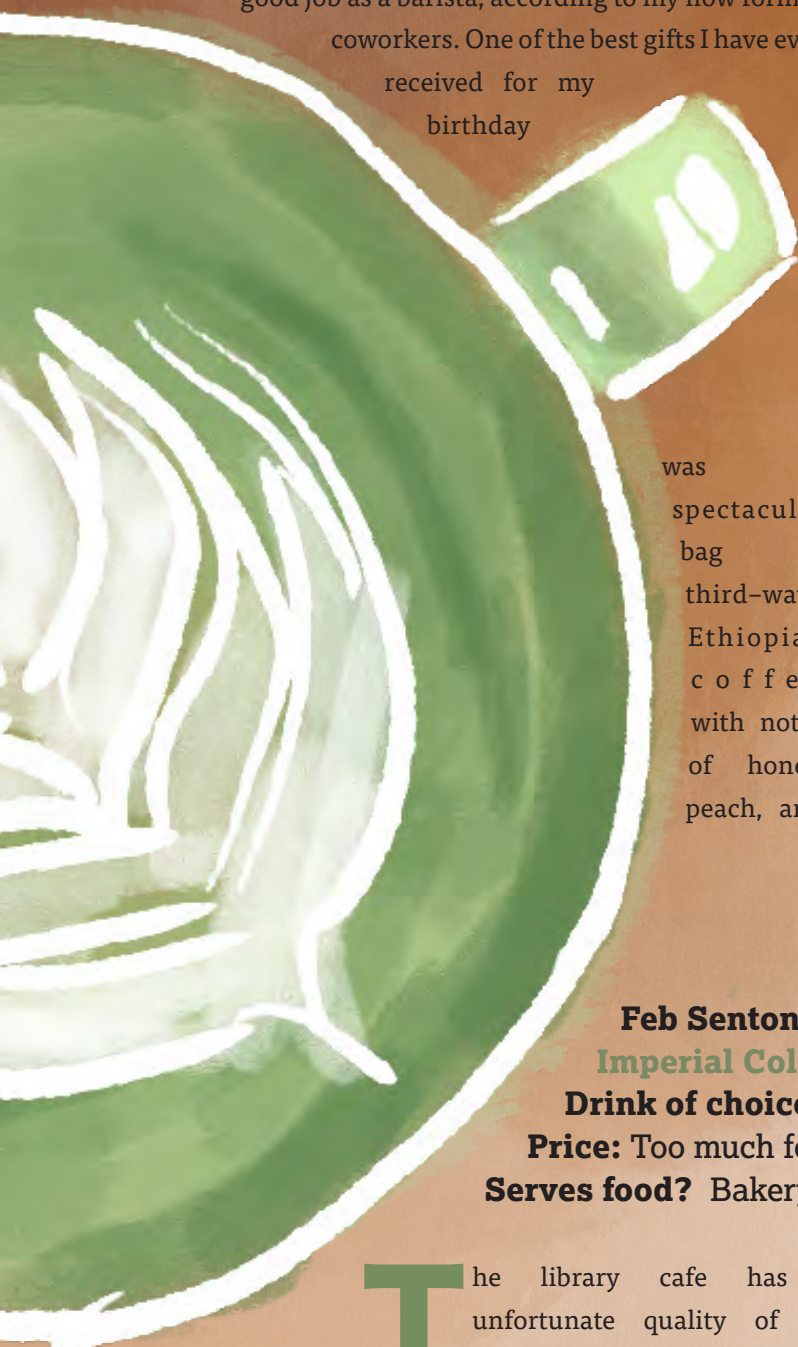
The iced lattes are much better than the hot drinks, as the cold milk stained with espresso is naturally sweeter than burned milk, and much easier to get right. If you order syrup (which there is a huge variety of these days, both sugar free and not) you could even call it a pretty decent iced latte.

The muffins are good; very moist, very addictive - blueberry would be my recommendation. The middling paninis are highly overpriced for what they are (packaged and heated), inducing dreadful Costa Coffee flashbacks.

The pricing is not good for a student cafe, that is the main issue. If you order both a muffin and an

iced latte, you are going to be spending 5 pounds. For the cost, you may as well go to Blank Street just down the road, and look measurably cooler, or just make a coffee in the Blackett common room yourself for free. It is not good to go during lunch times, mid-morning, or in the early afternoon as a pick-me-up, because half the student body will have the same marvelous idea. However, it is a useful meeting spot.

Despite this 'diplomatic' review, I would bear in mind I wasted around half my life last year in the library cafe, spent sacrilegious amounts of money, and used it as the perfect flirting spot.







**Ruby Lydford, Catnip Editor**  
**35nine, 359 Fulham Palace Road**  
**Drink of choice?** Latte  
**Price?** £4.00

**3**5nine is a lovely independent coffee shop, and certainly popular among those who know about it. It lives on a strip that owns a number of coffee spots for the everyday enjoyer. Across is the Fulham Palace Gardener café, situated inside the conservatory of the garden centre, and The Gourmet Hound a few doors down, which serves lovely sausage rolls.

However, these competitors have their flaws – The Gourmet Hound does not serve iced drinks, and the garden centre café does not have high-quality espresso. 35nine is one of those rare coffee shops without flaws.

The staff are sweet and helpful, but not too friendly that they remind me of the suffocating staff at Lush.

The espresso is the best I have had in Fulham, and the milk is steamed and frothed incredibly, even for the iced

drinks, which is rare.

Usually, a coffee shop sacrifices the quality of either iced or hot beverages, but here it is not the case. The bakery items, especially the pastel de natas and the cinnamon swirls are delicious – and they don't come in an unnecessary metal pastry tin. The latte art is quality, and the iced drinks actually feel like something worth purchasing, unlike many places where I think "I could make this with Nescafe and cold milk".

The decoration is tasteful and seasonal – everything is given substantial thought and is run by someone who genuinely likes their job. Though I have only had the brunch food once, it was memorably delicious.

I would love to gatekeep this independent star of a spot, this is run by owners who deserve to be successful.

**Lila Harrison, Sportswriter**

**35nine, 359 Fulham Palace Road**

**Drink of choice?** Dirty iced chai latte

**Price?** £4.50 (eat-in)

**Serves food?** Bakery items, breakfast/brunch/lunch options made to order.

**T**he sweetest man serves coffee and food at this coffee shop. Every morning it is clear he calibrates his espresso machine, testing it, because the coffee is always perfect. Never bitter, never acidic. He uses great syrups and ice, too. He also serves great pastel de natas.





EVENTS TERM ONE

# WINTER CEILIDH

6 DECEMBER  
19:00 - 21:00  
Metric  
with Imperial Ceilidh society

EVENTS TERM ONE

6 DECEMBER  
19:00 - 00:00

# NIGHT @ THE DARTS

METRIC

EVENTS TERM ONE

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

12 DECEMBER  
18:30 - 20:00

# RUN CLUB

EVENTS TERM ONE

# ENCHANTED FOREST

— END OF TERM PARTY —

13 DECEMBER  
Metric | 22:00 — 03:00

# TERM ONE EVENTS



SCAN ME



## BOOKS

# From radiologist to writer: an interview with Gita Ralleigh

Aditi and Shanaya speak to Imperial College lecturer Gita Ralleigh about her career switch, life as a writer, and of course, some of her favourite books.

**Books Editor**  
**ADITI MEHTA**

**Books Writer**  
**SHANAYA JUNEJA**

**G**ita Ralleigh is an undergraduate creative writing teacher and personal tutor at Imperial College. Before teaching at Imperial, she worked in the NHS as a medical doctor for over 30 years.

## What prompted you to make the switch from medicine to creative writing?

I actually came to creative writing quite late in life. I would have loved to do it during my medical degree but nothing like that was on offer. Then came postgraduate exams and long hours – the demands of the job simply didn't allow me to try writing.

I'd had two children. After my second child was born, I went back to work part time instead of full time. And I thought, you know what? This is the opportunity that I've always been waiting for to have a go at creative writing.

## How did you go about making that drastic switch?

I did some writing on my own. Then I enrolled in a course run by Faber, a publish-

er in London. I enjoyed that so much. I went on to do an MA in creative writing at Birkbeck College, designed for working people who want to do part time degrees. And I just kept on going from there.

But that was a long time ago; I completed my MA in 2015 and only officially stepped down from clinical practice last month. So, I kind of kept on doing both for a long time.

## Is it possible to do both?

Yes, I think you can do both. I have friends who doctors and creative writers, doctors who write non-fiction, and doctors who write poetry. In my case, teaching, writing, and practicing medicine became too much so I wanted to try out just teaching and writing. I don't necessarily think you have to choose. That's my main message, and that's why I love teaching at this institution.

## What drew you to teaching?

I love the process of mentoring and working with others: seeing sparks of creativity light up, the work students produce, and helping them improve it.

## What about to creative writing?

I think I just always loved reading and books. Even when I was a medical stu-



Gita Ralleigh

dent or working 100-hour weeks, I would always read. Reading continues to be an escape. I think enjoyed it so much I was drawn to express myself through writing.

Secondly, I became aware when my kids were young that there were not a lot of children's books with South Asian characters or characters of colour.

So, it was partly about self-expression, and partly because I could see a gap in the market that I thought publishing wasn't filling. I thought maybe I can try and fill that gap.

## What are some challenges you face in creative writing?

I would say you're definitely a lot poorer! That's one thing. Another daunt-

ing aspect is that it's so undefined. In medicine, every minute of my day was timetabled. Whereas now, I could write today, or I could not write, or I could just sit in my pyjamas.

The challenge is: how do you define yourself when you've always had to go through exam after exam after deadline after deadline? How do you cope with the open-ended nature of it?

## Where do you like to write?

The British Library. It's such a lovely place to hang out and read. The Humanities room is my favourite, so you might spot me in there.

Other than that, I really like cafés, but it certainly has to be the right kind of café to write in!



## Do you have any tips for aspiring writers?

Funnily enough – try not to think about the perfect environment to write in. I've produced kind of many manuscripts that didn't get published, and many poems that didn't get published. And you know I wrote a lot of my on my way into work at Charing Cross using my notes app. It would be scrappy and imperfect, but if you get something down, you can always go back to it and make it better later.

Don't underestimate your little gaps of time, because even those little scraps can grow into something if you use them wisely.

## Who are some authors that have inspired you?

I'm currently writing a detective story so I'm reading plenty of detective/mystery stories. Otherwise, I'm really very interested in fantasy, folklore, mythology. I really enjoy Haruki Murakami. He's one of my favourite writers and a big influence. I also love Ursula Le Guin – a classic fantasy writer as well.

## What draws you to their work?

As scientists we know the laws that the natural world obeys. Then, in fantasy things happen that don't obey those natural laws. It sets up all kinds of questions and problems, and becomes a way to interrogate the world that we live in. I think Le Guin and Murakami both use



**Language is power. We dismiss it at our own peril.**

fantastic elements to interrogate and examine things that we take for granted in the world sometimes. That's what I really love about fantasy, its power to do that.

## What is your all-time favourite book?

If you're going to read one book, I would say read *Beloved* by Toni Morrison. It's almost such a good book that

you read it and want to give up writing altogether, because it's just so amazing.

The protagonist does something terrible, but Morrison makes us sympathize with her. She makes us understand her. A novelist has the power to bring characters alive.

Morrison is an amazing thinker as well. She shows how a novelist must have such an expansive world view.

Also, I think sometimes, as a writer of colour you can be dismissed by a world that doesn't really see you. Toni Morrison really came up against that, but knocked down any barriers that were in her way to even win the Nobel Prize.

## What is piece of advice you have for a STEM-driven Imperial student?

Don't dismiss language. I feel like all scientists, whether they're interested or not, need to have a grounding in language. However good the science is, if you can't communicate it to non-scientists, then you're stuck.

Language is power. We dismiss it at our own peril. You can employ it both in a good way and a bad way. We need to be aware of that. Remember that that language is the only thing we have when we communicate with each other.

### Editor's Note:

Following the Books article in Issue #1854, the Abdus Salam Library team expressed interest in expanding their Literature section with reader-suggested titles.

Scan this QR code to request a book you would like to see on the shelves!



# The Collector by John Fowles

## Fowles' menacing Frederick character is a chilling progenitor of incel culture.

**Books Writer**  
**GEORGE PASTONS**

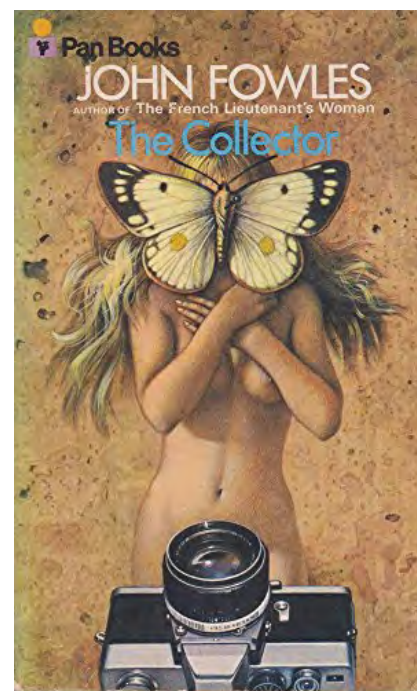
I was introduced to "The Collector" in an immensely weird way: a girl who fancied me (who I would later date for about two years) lent me her copy, a paperback edition from 1971 featuring a naked woman barely covered by her own arms, a camera, and a butterfly masking her face. She in turn was given this book as a gift from a person who fancied her, who had stolen it off the discount bookshelf they have at Tesco to raise money for charity. Looking back, that makes sense in a synchronistic, Jungian way. There is a love triangle in this book, a twisted one, as well, but with much worse outcomes.

I don't want to spoil the plot, but it's magnificent. Fowles manages to capture the pathetic, almost emasculated nature of an incel perfectly. To be more accurate, Frederick is a volcel, or voluntary celibate, who reveals to have paid a sex worker to get rid of his perceived stigma of virginity. An avid collector of butterflies, Frederick wins a large prize betting on football, allowing him to fulfil his lifelong fantasy of kidnapping a woman – he captures Miranda, a young woman at art college, and traps her in his newly bought house in Sussex.

The novel is disturbing. Frederick is portrayed so grimly, and the tension never eases. It's also extremely sad. Miranda, in Frederick's eyes, is at once objectified as part of his collection, and victimised as a woman through the deeply gendered violence he enacts on her. She is a Madonna before he meets her, untouched by the fact she is a human and not a clockwork object

he can observe, until she isn't anymore, and just becomes a Whore in his eyes. Fowles describes incel culture before incel culture was a thing. Perhaps it always was, and social media has only allowed incels to wallow in their own misery as a collective. Perhaps incels are themselves collectors of each other, choosing to reinforce their twisted perspectives rather than accept that you simply cannot collect or objectify women.

It is a great read, however. I loved it, and got a copy gifted to me for Christmas by that ex the very same year. She annotated it, and now my copy is almost ghoulish, as there are notes about very teenage perspectives of love in it, and in a way, that sort of reflects what incels and Frederick missed out on, by never escaping their shells. In another way, he himself is a butterfly, mounted in glass, never to change as a static object. It's a tough book to review, precisely because one must read it themselves.



## UNION &amp; SOCIETIES

# The Blackett Debate

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November saw Debate and Physics societies collaborate on the “Blackett Debate”.

## Societies Writer

BARNABY HILTON-ROYCE

The motion for the debate was “This House regrets the Manhattan Project.” Eight Physics students and Debaters locked horns in the form of British Parliamentary debate, as they discussed the merits – or the lack thereof – of nuclear bombs.

been as pronounced” if other motions were followed. Sahil was the Chief Adjudicator of the event, meaning he was

Several of the competitors made cogent and astute points related to how nuclear proliferation has led to negative implications that international

relations, whilst those in opposition spoke of how nuclear weaponry has caused relative peace due to its use as a deterrent.

It’s impressive to see how the competitors rose to the occasion, with many of them participating for the very first time. However, the debate was full-time, meaning it was eight seven-minute rounds.

It felt drawn out, and I think it would have helped if the debates were a little shorter.

Students present enjoyed the event, with one student even making flowcharts of every argument put forward by the debaters.

Both societies hope to turn this into a regular event due to the feedback, with Sahil saying he would “love” to do it again.

responsible for both ensuring the rules of debate were followed, moderating the judges, as well as coming up with the motion.

## A call to all societies

Recent discussions with my peer editors and writers at *Felix* appalled and quite frankly, saddened me.

The *Felix* team has reached out in the past to societies to establish a collaboration – may it be reporting on a lecture, a debate, an activity, or a show. This is such to receive permission to use relevant quotes and pictures and to set aside some time to interview members.

However, discussions have revealed that some society committee members have completely ignored our writers and editors, even after multiple follow-ups, and sometimes just walking away in the middle of an interview. Members of societies have also submitted purely AI-generated articles on factual topics, taking advantage of our newspaper to promote their name and receive frequent exposure within *Felix*. While this is not the average experience, such behaviour is unnecessary and rude.

We all, besides our Editor-in-Chief, are volunteering students, who dedicate hours every week to make this newspaper the best we can.

We do not write to harm your society in any way. Our goal is to prove that Imperial is more than academia and research. As Societies Editor, I aim to only publish critiques which are helpful to societies, and features which promote them.

We also write about events we enjoyed and we will feature a society multiple times if we have a strong relationship with them. HinduSoc was covered twice last year, ICRadio thrice this term, and FemTech and Neurotech’s lecture series will pop up more often.

Henceforth, I would like to ask for all societies to respect the team. Failure to do so will result in articles replaced by advertisements.

Sincerely,  
Charlotte






Debaters Elias Fink

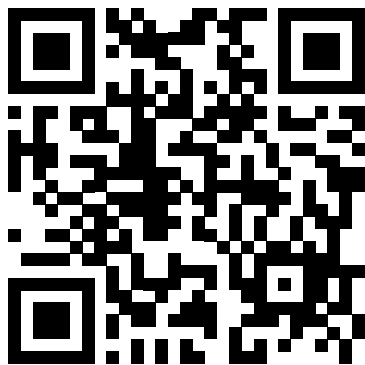




# Announcements

November			This Weekend (29 <sup>nd</sup> Nov. – 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec.)		
29 <sup>TH</sup> & 30 <sup>TH</sup> Fri. & Sat.	<b>Peter Pan &amp; Wendy</b> ICSM Drama	A decolonial and feminist interpretation of Peter Pan and Wendy.  Time: 19:30 (doors open 19:00) – 22:00	Where: University Concert Hall (UCH), Beit Quad, SW7 2BB  Tickets: £10 (Fri.) / £8 (Sat.)		TICKETS
30 <sup>TH</sup> Saturday	<b>Beyond the Stethoscope</b> ICSM Coding	Annual conference with speakers, workshops and abstract presentations.  Time: 08:45 – 16:20	Where: Sir Alexander Fleming Building  Tickets: £4.99 / £9.99		TICKETS
30 <sup>TH</sup> Saturday	<b>Winter Concert</b> IC Sinfonietta	Featuring Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 6, Wieniawski Violin Concerto No. 2 and Hér-old Zampa Overture.  Time: 19:00 – 21:30	Where: Great Hall, Sherfield Building  Tickets: £7		TICKETS
December			Next Week (2 <sup>nd</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec.)		
2 <sup>ND</sup> Monday	<b>Orchestra Concert</b> ICSM Music Soc	Featuring music from Carmen Suite No. 2 & Latin American Classics!  Time: 6:30PM (Concert starts at 7:00PM)	Where: St. Stephen's Church, Gloucester Road, SW7 4RL  Tickets: Free, £10 (non-students)		TICKETS
6 <sup>TH</sup> Friday	<b>Pub Crawl</b> Northern Society	Starting at Tottenham Court Road Spoons and ending in the Lexington club in Angel. Societies will be Northern, Irish and Welsh  Time: 19:00 – 00:00	Where: Montagu Pyke, WC2H 0DT  Tickets: No-ticket Event.		INSTAGRAM

Want to join the board above?



Scan the QR code and fill out the form by Sunday evening



## FILM&TV

TV Writer  
**DAVID LATIMER**

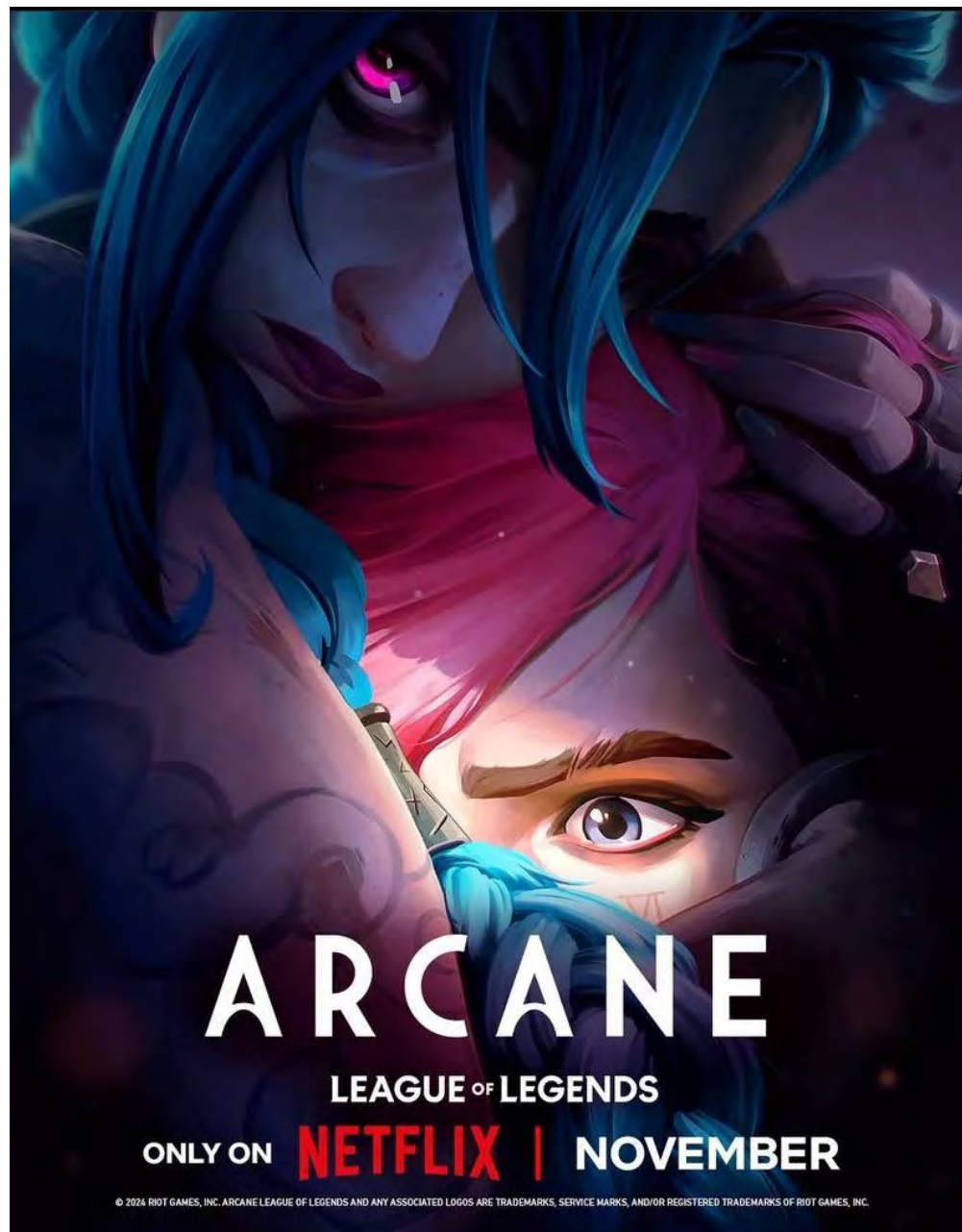
TV Writer  
**SIJUNG LEE**

**A**fter three years, the second and final series of *Arcane* has been released. The size of the shoes left by the first season was intimidating – with multiple Emmy awards and other accolades, expectations for the new season were high, and many fans were worried that the second season couldn't possibly live up to the hype that had been built up by them. I'm pleased to say that this season delivered on the promises made by some of the first season's cliffhangers and was able to satisfyingly finish the character's stories. But all of that praise isn't to say that this season has been flawless.

### Pacing

As in the first series' release, the nine-episode season was split into three sets of three episode "acts", with acts being released a week apart. This release schedule is a good middle-ground between a weekly release and a binge drop, keeping fan discussion and online relevance thriving over the course of its release. While this release format worked wonders for season one – where the acts felt distinct from each other, with their own arcs and subplots – the effect is less strong for the new season. There is nothing that comes close to season one's time skip to cleanly separate the acts. Due to this, the pacing suffers slightly and the plots feel like they're stuttering forward at an irregular rate. What doesn't help this are the notable disappearances of certain characters for extended periods of time, made even more noticeable due to this release format. This being said, the effect was not nearly strong enough to sour the experience and will be less noticeable on rewatches.

Aside from the release format, the season felt like it rushed through a significant amount of the plot without spending enough time on the smaller moments that matter. This might be



# Arcane Season 2

**It's finally arrived. Is the story peak television or is the finale a rushed flop?**

also in part due to the scope of the season. Season one was a very small story with major plot points focusing on character decisions and reveals: the major plot followed how the sisters Vi and Powder got along following a great tragedy. Where is any of this now? This season has far fewer scenes showing the relationship which is supposed to be the crux of the show. As hinted at in season one, the second season decides to move out and focus on larger issues and

conflicts. As cool as this is, it's easy to feel that some of the homeliness of the first season is lost, making you wish that the second spent at least a little more time on personal side plots instead of the grand, large-in-scope conflict.

The knowledge that everything will have to come to a neat conclusion by the end of the season weighed heavy, especially as more and more storylines were introduced. It is notoriously far easier to set up a story than to conclude

it – especially with a three-year wait to build suspense. The story does end up concluding well, I think (no spoilers, of course), but I still get the feeling that they needed more time. Maybe if the episodes were longer than 45 minutes, maybe if there was another episode or two, I don't know. Questions could be had over whether a two-season format was the right choice or whether a third season would have helped to space out the story.



**The fact that the show isn't afraid to do its own thing is a breath of fresh air that kept the show interesting**

What might have contributed to the brevity of the show is the cost of the episodes. Combined, the two seasons cost a staggering \$250 million, making it the most expensive animated show ever made. Still, the quality of the show's visuals is evident. The length was supposedly a conscious choice, with co-creator Christian Linke stating that the idea for a two-season arc was the plan as early as the writing of the pilot. But, while watching the season, I found it hard to believe that all of this was thought out in advance, with so much of the plot flying past at breakneck pace. There is one episode in the season that really slows down and I would consider it the best episode by far. Maybe the reason that this episode felt so wonderful to me is that it feels like a season one episode, with its slower plot and more character-driven scenes. It's bittersweet watching it because, as good as it is, it makes me wish that season two had been more like this on the whole.

But maybe the change in pacing was an intentional choice. Carefully laid out narratives and individualised plots were characteristics of the previous season, which all merged by the end to start even larger ones. Vi, originally from the underground city of Zaun along with her younger sister Powder, now develops her story in Piltover, the City of Progress. Hextech brings



other nations into the scene that were only briefly mentioned before, such as Noxus. The substantially increased scope gave each episode more weight, especially with evolving ideas of the magical realm of *Arcane*, leading to a focus on the growth of individual characters rather than simply a Piltover-Zaun conflict by Act III. While some of the new side characters that were introduced this season felt out of place and unnecessary, most served as catalysts for the development of the previous main characters, especially Jinx.

Animation and music

This season experimented more with a variety of animation styles for different segments of the story. Don't be fooled – this wasn't just set dressing. The styles are used to represent different character perspectives and emotions. Some early scenes portray grief with a loss of dimension and colourless lines whereas others show a pop of vivid shapes and textures that brings out awe in otherwise nerve-racking scenes. Fortiche, the animation studio behind *Arcane*, clearly saw how well-received a scene like the Jinx-Ekko fight from the first season was and tried to replicate it. A lesson it seems they didn't apply as well was the use of music for scenes

– the playlist from the first season was, at least in my opinion, better than the roster this time around. But music quality aside, the use of music in scenes this time was given a different approach. A common occurrence in season two is what is effectively a music video for one of the songs from the soundtrack that



There is one episode in the season that really slows down and I would consider it the best episode by far

feels separate from the rest of episode, commonly replacing what would be the cold open. They're all good scenes individually but I can't help but feel like there may have been a few too many. One of the scenes that felt like an exception to this was the opening to episode five, which felt like a completely natural part of the story and really was a great watch. Unlike season one, there were no fight scenes that were accompanied by an iconic track so most of the songs this time around were fairly forgettable due to their lack of integration into the story.

Comparisons with source material

For anyone who is a fan of League of Legends, I'm sorry. Not for any reason relating to *Arcane* – just generally. But for anyone who has an interest in the preexisting lore of Runeterra, you might be surprised to find that this season takes a slightly different direction than the story you may be familiar with. Certain characters from the game's universe never actually exist in the state that they are known in, or only do so for very brief periods of time. Also, certain events happen in different ways or have completely new story beats altogether. This isn't unheard of; the first season departed from the known lore at some points but the second season takes this idea and runs with it.

The fact that the show isn't afraid to do its own thing is a breath of fresh air that kept the show interesting to both people familiar and unfamiliar with the source material. In some places, at least in my opinion, they push this boundary too far and completely derail who a character is in the known canon, turning them into someone else entirely. Alternatively, it felt like some story beats or character decisions felt strange or unnatural just to get the character they had created to fit with the already existing character people know. Altogether, it seems that

Fortiche should have been consistent in whether they want to stick with the same story or branch out instead of this weird hybrid we ended up with.

What's next?

Fortiche and Riot Games have both confirmed that, even if the story of Jinx and Vi has been concluded, they will continue to work together on more TV shows that focus on other parts of Runeterra. After the generally warm reception to S2 and its high ratings, it's not hard to conceive that they might want to make more. But beyond that cynical view point, the world the show inhabits is a vast one and there is so much that the studio could make into a story and lots that I hope they do.

I do think what Fortiche accomplished was commendable and I think, for any other series, a season like this would be considered flawless. It's only because of the precedent that they themselves set that makes this season feel a tad underwhelming. I would still absolutely recommend watching the show to anyone who hasn't and can safely say that I really enjoyed following along with the story of the show and I'm glad that something like *Arcane* was even funded in the first place and I'm thrilled that it's kept the quality of its animation so consistently stunning.





## CULTURE

# Tomfoolery isn't dead

From the streets of the Big Apple comes a fresh take on stand-up comedy that lifts pages from the works of Charlie Chaplin and brainrot.

## Culture Writer

DAVID LATIMER

By the time you're reading this, Jack Tucker is no longer in London. This saddens me deeply because, as I hope I can convey well enough, this show is without a doubt the most insane, hilarious show I have ever seen. Let me take a minute to let you into a portion of this man's world.

It's very difficult to describe Tucker's style of comedy. As you might be able to tell from his ensemble outfit – his shows don't follow traditional logic. His show exists liminally in a space where any notion of what is 'supposed to happen' doesn't, and it comes to nobody's surprise that Tucker initially debuted in the Edinburgh Fringe scene. Experimental is one word for it; the show has a breakneck pace and I'm not sure if there was even a five-second period without laughter. At one point during the show, a member of his crew came in with a fresh order from the Tottenham Court Road McDonald's, which a crew member then ate after blindfolding Jack with a paper bag. Each riff, lick, wink, spasm, jump, and one-liner was accompanied by a stock sound effect or music cue which made the whole show feel like a wicked fever dream constructed in the throes of a February flu. Or hell, maybe they'd skip a cue to keep you on your toes and subvert expectations. Anything goes.

My first exposure to Jack Tucker was through clips from his shows that went viral on TikTok. With his cumulative likes on the platform nearing three million, it's safe to say that I wasn't

the only one watching. The fast-paced nature of his comedy seems tailor-made to the platform, and with the average length of a video floating around the forty-second mark, Jack's videos manage to maintain the attention span of the average TikTok user for just long enough for them to enjoy the whole bit. Not to mention that enjoyment of absurdist and post-modernist humour has only been growing in younger generations – see brainrot and hood irony for prime examples.

This shouldn't be taken to mean that

Seinfeld). The show is structured around Tucker getting constantly sidetracked and distracted from the night's material, which he constantly reminds you of. He'll get through two lines of observation before he's sidelined by a crowd member or an impromptu jazz performance and has to start again. As the eighty minutes turn to seventy and then quickly to forty and beyond, Tucker is quick to keep mentioning how much time has been wasted and how he's mentally deciding on which material to cut from "the show" when it inevitably begins.

He is a character created and played on stage by comedian Zach Zucker (yes, really) since 2020 alongside a variety of helpful stage hands including a sound master, who is as responsible for the humour as Zach is, having to perfectly time and choose from a litany of sound effects to match Zach's timing for both the scripted jokes and the many unscripted bits. Other notable characters include a trumpet-playing jazz musician whose main addition to the show was the Family Guy theme song and a man who was inexplicably always on roller skates and fell over more times than must have been safe. This troupe makes up the act and, even if Zucker is the face of the show, the act is a collective effort. Zucker has his history as part of the comedy duo, Zach and Viggo, self-proclaimed clowns, and this moniker is beyond fitting for this style of act. Before any of this began, he traveled across the world and trained for two years under the wing of the same clown who taught Borat everything he knew. From there, he formed Stampdown, a now award-winning music and comedy label under which Tucker operates under.

All of this is to say that a clown is exactly what Jack Tucker is. I've done my fair share trying to explain deeper themes of the show but, truth be told, the gig is a clown act. A modern, hyper-speed take on the clown act, that takes the physical comedy and occasional raunchy material into the 21st century. I must admit it's not for everyone, but it was definitely for me, and I would recommend trying to secure a ticket the next time he's in London – assuming he doesn't get sick of the character by 2025. God knows I would be by now.



Truly a man whose mind works in a way we cannot comprehend. Zach Zucker

all of Tucker's comedy comes from a place of absurdism and shock value – although it should be made clear that a fair amount of it does. Behind the freestyle rapping, childish reoccurring gags, and collection of props – there are a lot of actually funny, original jokes. Alongside this, the show has a strong premise. In a fashion, reminding me of Waiting for Godot (or perhaps more appropriately, The Chinese Restaurant episode from

"The show", of course, is what you've been watching the whole time; the real show was the friends we made along the way. Or was it? How much of the show was scripted? Was that heckler an audience plant? Did Jack know that the apple would destroy itself in the way it did for him to make that joke? Is anything real?

Speaking of crew, I should be candid with you all. Jack Tucker does not exist.



**BUSINESS**

# Invest now, Profit later

All you need to know about how to build wealth today



Saving vs. Investing Image by InvestmentZen

**Writer****DANIEL TOMPKINS**

**W**e've all heard the phrase 'time in the market is better than timing the market', but what does this actually mean?

Consider the S&P 500. If you invested \$1,000 in the S&P in 1980, today this would be worth \$66,264. However, if you waited 10 years and invested in 1990, you would have \$25,548 today, meaning delaying the investment by 10 years takes almost two-thirds of your potential profit off the table. When investing, maximising the time your money is in the market is paramount. In this article, we will explore why you should start investing now and what you can do to get started.

There are two key benefits to beginning your investing journey as soon as possible. The first is the time your money can compound over. Allowing your returns to grow and multiply over time is the easiest way to guarantee long-term wealth. To see for yourself, try an online compound interest calculator. An initial investment of \$5,000 and an annual rate of return of 8% (S&P 500 adjusted for inflation) yields around \$55,000 after 30 years, assuming no additional investment. If you had added \$1,000 to your investment account each month, this \$55,000 becomes a cool \$1.5 million.

In addition to allowing your money to multiply, investing early for the long term allows you to ride out any short-term market volatility. Young investors who start early can afford to ride out dips in the market and still see a return over

time. The later you start, the less time you allow for your portfolio to recover from bearish market cycles, which ultimately will lead to lower returns. Investing also brings value beyond increasing your net worth; it teaches you vital lessons about financial literacy that are equally valuable.

There are a few common misconceptions about investing that are important to address, one being the idea that you need large amounts of capital to get started. This is not necessarily the case. Investing platforms today offer fractional shares, so instead of buying one share of Tesla for \$328, you can buy 0.3 shares for about \$100. This allows you to invest as much or as little as you would like flexibly. Another common misconception is the idea that investing your money is risky. It's arguably riskier to

hold cash as it's guaranteed to lose value over time, due to inflation. Investing in stable assets such as indices like the S&P 500, blue-chip stocks, or gold are all relatively safe.

To conclude, investing a small amount over time can set you up for future financial stability, but the key is to start early. The longer your money is in the market, the more your returns will compound and the greater your final pot will be. Trading212 is a great beginner platform to get started, with many index funds to choose from. Good luck!





CATNIP

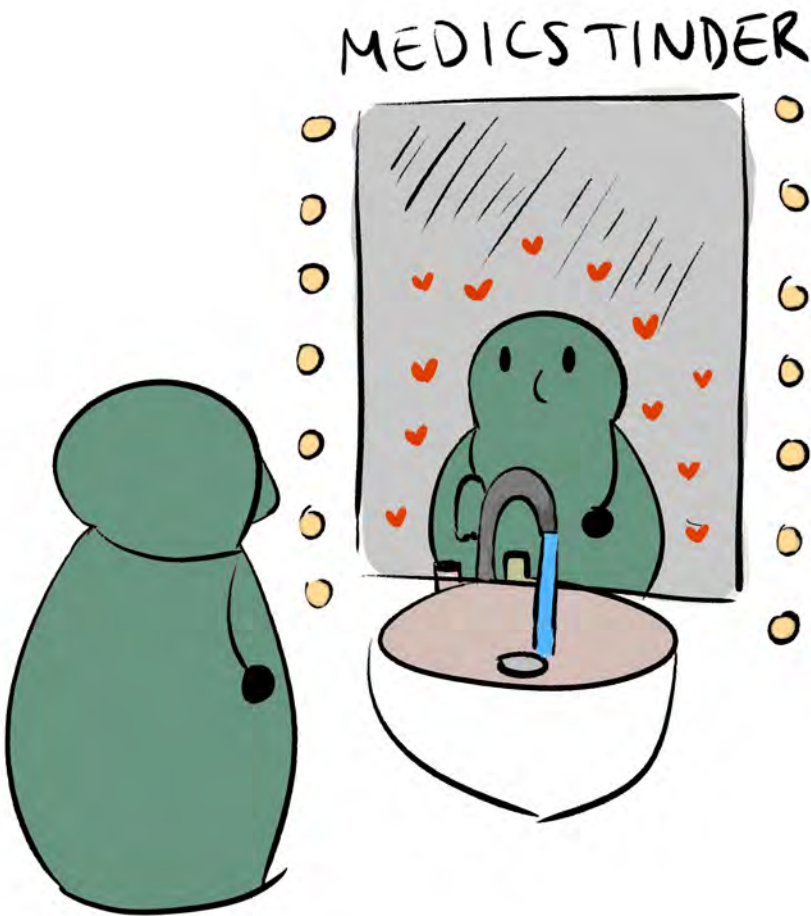


Illustration by Ruby Lydford

ARIES	TAURUS	GEMINI	CANCER	LEO	VIRGO
This week you're on the oppression Dean's List but you're beat out by the solo poly hijabi QWOC amputee.	This week you desperately manifest that IC Hockey do a centrefold nude photoshoot next issue.	This week you cuss out the Catnip editor for yet another week of gay sex and nicotine addiction jokes.	This week you suggest a look-a-like competition on Queen's Lawn for Ribbon Guy.	This week you begin bulking season by eating more meat, but quickly run Tinder dry.	This week you delete your mental health to focus more on social media.
LIBRA	SCORPIO	SAGITTARIUS	CAPRICORN	AQUARIUS	PISCES
This week you come out as gender fluid (60% queer media, 40% holding space for the lyrics of defying gravity).	This week you get a propranolol prescription for your Spotify Wrapped anticipation anxiety.	This week you try dogging in the Natural History Museum and you see a megasorass.	This week you receive death threats from a society supporting a blonde woman after it is revealed that you placed #1 on Billboard Greatest Popstars ranking.	This week you are rejected from SAF's Hot Ones because being a member of DoCSoc is "too political".	This week your friends change your opinion on whites after they serve you one with notes of pear and citrus.



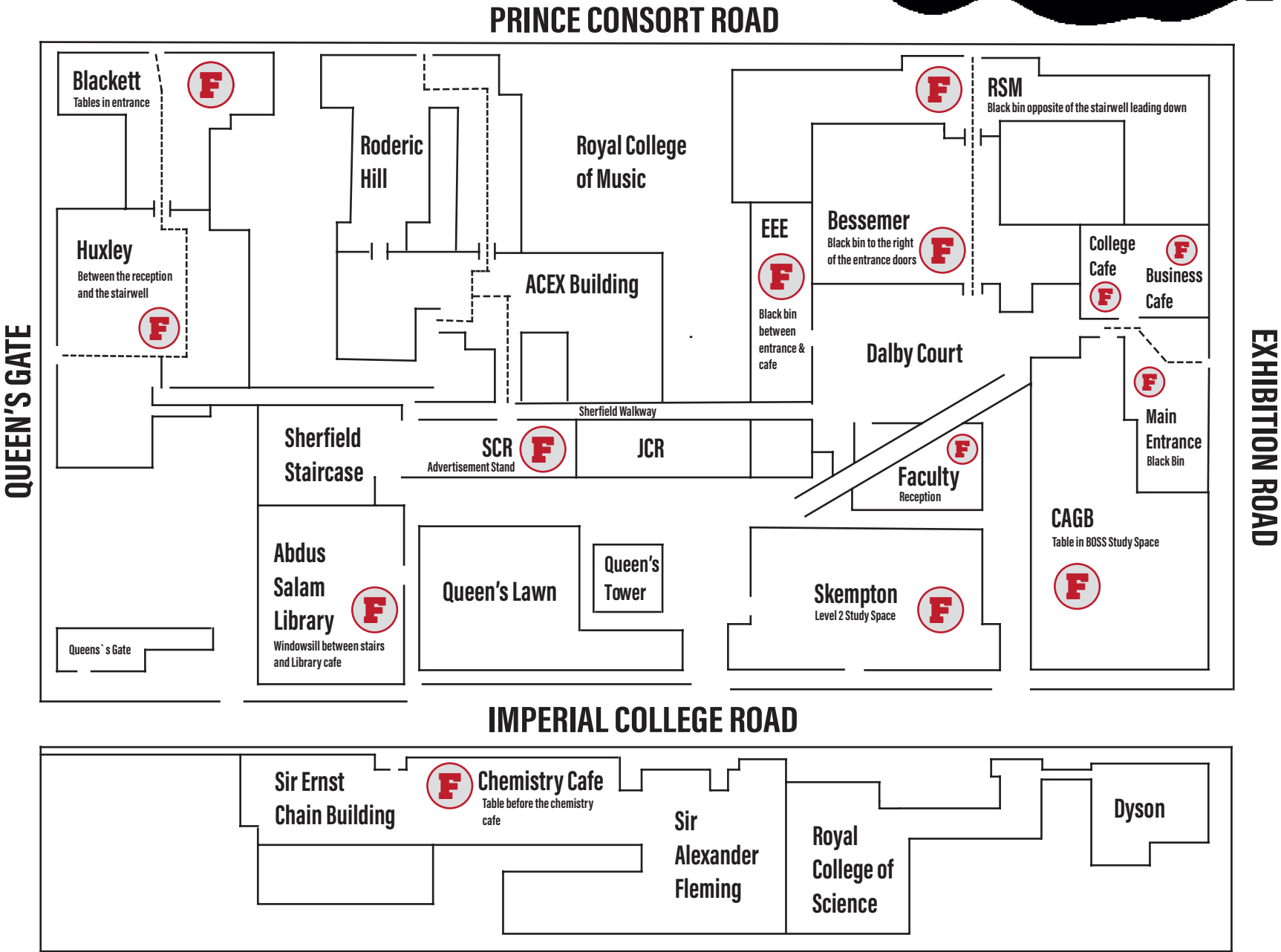
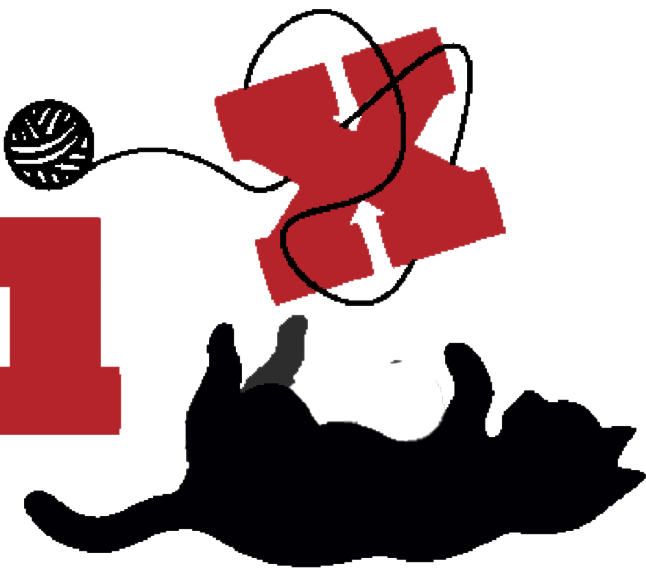


**FELIXONLINE.CO.UK**

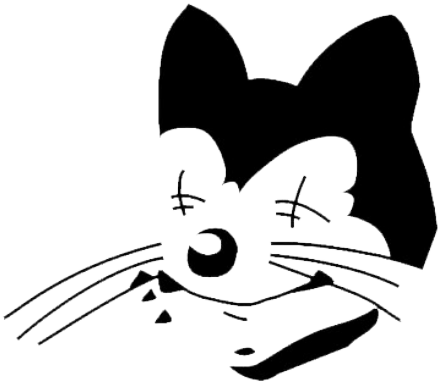




# Find Felix



PICK UP YOUR COPY  
EVERY FRIDAY!



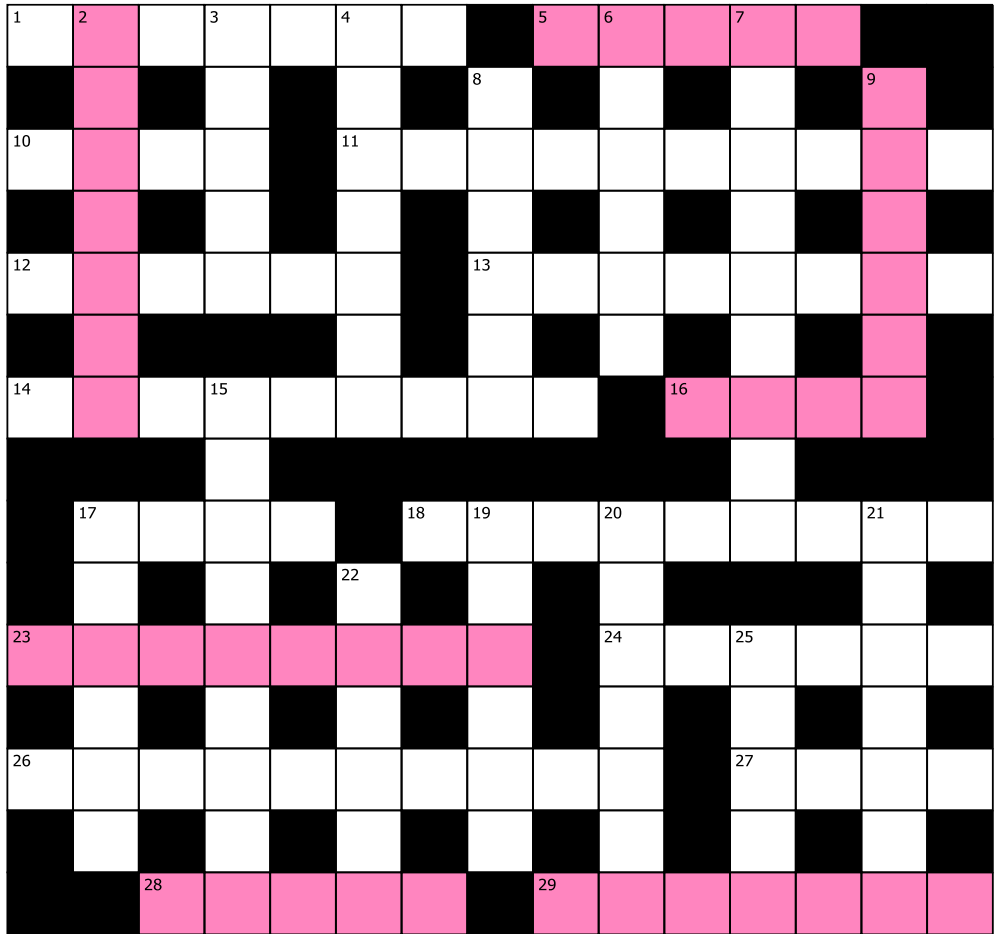


PUZZLES

Puzzles Editor  
IVIN JOSE

CROSSWORD

"Cat got your tongue?" (3 pts.)



Across

1. Flustered when locating inner early self while going down memory lane. [9]

6. Use scalpel to remove end, leaving a close shave. [5]

9. Bird tried to hide itself in different directions from monkey. [5]

10. Periwinkle guts are mashed up, making them more shrivelled. [9]

11. At midday no reflection is seen. [4]

12. Previous partner meddles with French wine and an attractive woman. [5]

13. Originally all notable knights headed to the symbol of life. [4]

16. As the setter is doing currently, though I hear I should be setting things straight. [7]

17. Cut short an essentially bad journey. [7]

19. Leaderless, let down and jet-tisoned. [7]
21. Prone to losing some of the edge of your vision. [7]

22. Tamper with right removal of crook. [4]

24. Awkward removal of the beginning of kid's wrapping of present. [5]

25. To see a blemish. [4]

29. In Latin, I think to include final Roman disguised. [9]

30. At pile of stones, I hear the sea and the frantic rain. [5]

31. Mages are confused by tour-naments. [5]

32. Deliberate how to mislead cigar test. [9]
6. Drink with someone in mind! [4]

7. Artificial intelligence meddles with vehicle going airborne! [5]

8. Greek wonder at equal score that the French rejected! [9]

14. Emergence of ship bunk wasn't clearly stated. [5]

15. Initiating fast jet of red dye from inlet. [5]

16. Violently uprooting with spanner to start immediately neatening gutter. [9]

18. Decompressing is your undoing! [9]

20. Marriage gifts are very confusing-so weird! [7]

21. Ship container used to hold grudge. [7]

23. During havoc camera turns on razor owner. [5]

26. Morrison's short chapters are a stimulant. [5]

27. Encourages spawn. [4]

28. Northman reaches Cotswolds by bridge. [4]

Down

1. Material stretches from New York to London. [5]
2. Be so slimy! Confused? What does this mean? [9]
3. Begins alright, when rapidly you go wrong. [4]
4. Looking gobsmacked. [7]
5. Beast takes ring, gutting replica. [7]

Across

1. A juicy orange yellow colour. [7]
5. Grey or brownish, mottled or streaked with dark stripes. [5]
10. You can do this with paper, scarves and tortillas. [4]
11. What's left after deforestation. [4 6]
12. Conversation between people in a novel, play or movie. [6]
13. What the London Underground and Overground run on. [8]
14. Settled in a such a comfortable, cosy and safe place. [9]
16. Best known for being entirely tailless. [4]
17. Musical notation at the beginning. [4]
18. Fell straight down. [9]
23. Adorable with their short legs. [8]
24. 2018 Mitski song. [6]
26. Destitute, homeless or knocked down and unable to get up. [4 3 3]
27. Biscuit that comes in mini, thin and double stuff. [4]
28. A beautiful silvery blue-grey. [5]

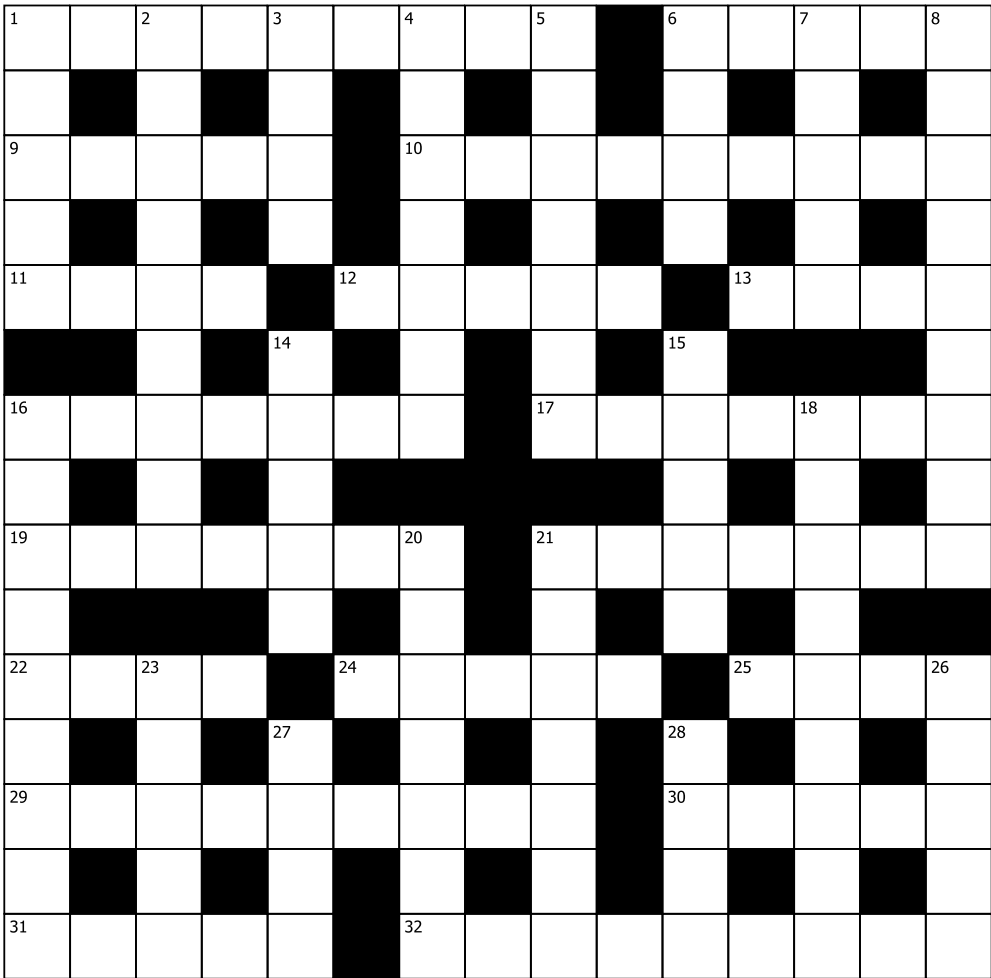
29. Distinctive blue almond shaped eyes and a triangular head. [7]

Down

2. Mr Tinkles in Cats & Dogs. [7]
3. Drive or urge someone to do something. [5]
4. The headquarters of the Egyptian Ministry of Defence. [7]
6. A person from down under. [6]
7. The largest animal to have ever lived. [4 5]
8. The vehicle that takes people to their final resting place. [6]
9. Hairless. [6]
15. < but musically. [9]
17. A voucher for a discount. [6]
19. The setting of 2012 Summer Olympics. [6]
20. Italian-American composer, director and playwright known for his operas. [7]
21. Destiny, Death, Dream, Destruction, Desire, Despair and Delirium in Sandman. [7]
22. 2023 Indian Telugu movie directed by Boyapati Srinu. [6]
25. Vehicle used by witches and wizards. [5]

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

Submitted by Ester K. Mirra (5 pts.)





SUDOKU

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

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

Medium (1 pt. each)

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

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

Hard (2 pts. each)

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

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

Extra hard (3 pts. each)

GROUPING GRIDS

Submitted by William West & Vittoria Dessi

Banshee	Exorcist	Backwards	Grinch
Tribute	Obselete	Manhattan	Forwards
Old fashioned	Retro	Godfather	Homage
Queen	Sour	Birds	Up front

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.

Compass	Free	Mature	Blue
Hut	Round-house	Goat	Plier
Shack	Cottage	Trouser	Goat
Bicycle	Back	Teepee	Cabin

Hard (4 pts.)

1.

2.

3.

4.

Connections

1.

2.

3.

4.

Connections



Clue: AI Lemons (anagram, 1 word)

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!

(3 pts.)

(1 pt.)

(1 pt.)

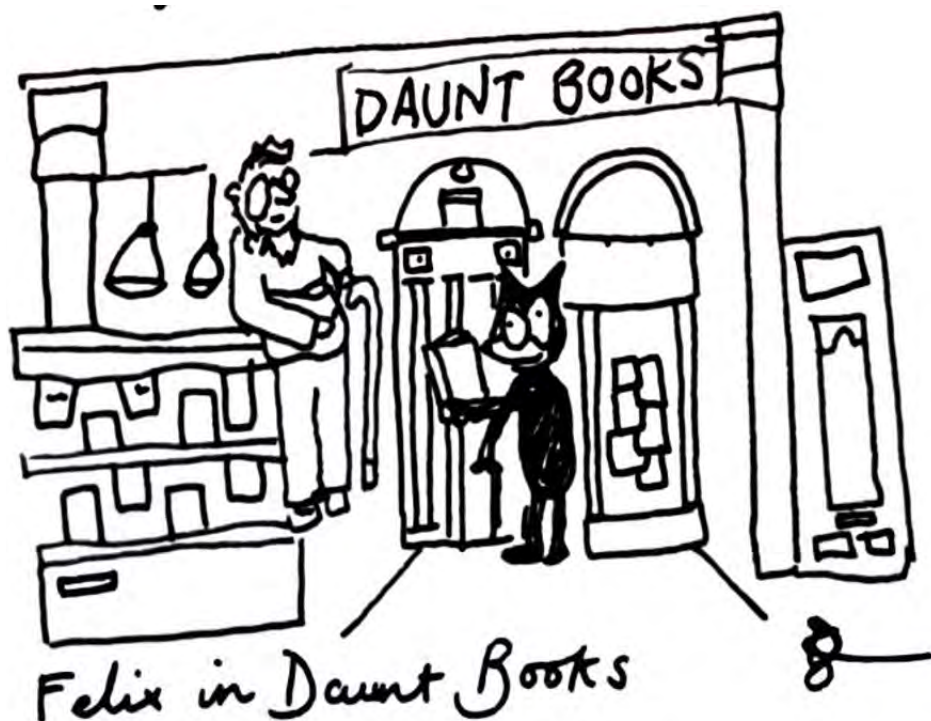
Pos.	Puzzlers	Points	(Last week)
1.	The Menu	241	215
2.	Team GuineaPig	189	189
3.	Team Experial	139	139
4.	Tactless Tony	56	56
5.	Team Jasmine&Hursh	33	33
6.	SAD	18	-
7.	ATGPIE	8	8
8.	Team X-Sharon	6	6

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



## Puzzle Editor's Note

Dearest Puzzlers,

Another week, another puzzles section to chase away the boredom and add some puzzling fun to your days! Since we've already had a crossword dedicated to man's best friend, as a disciple of Felix, our cat, I thought it was only fair to give our feline companions some attention. Enjoy solving the purr-fect, cat-themed clues!

In the leaderboard this week, not much has changed. The Menu continue to cruise ahead at the top, while their closest competitors remain frozen in place. Hopefully, Team GuineaPig and Team Experial will soon escape their coursework prisons and join the chase. A warm welcome to Team SAD, the newest contestant on the block, who have quickly climbed into 6th place.

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

## Previous Puzzles' solutions

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

Regular

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

Cryptic

Snake	Rat	Grass	Snitch	Betray
Fish	Search	Probe	Hunt	Seek
Bird	Sling	Long	Mug	___ Shot
Chase	Seek	Beat	Keep	Quidditch actions

Medium grouping grid

Jack	Flag	Banner	Colours	Emblems
Two	Bye	Four	Threw	Homophones of prepositions
King	Guys	Bell	Hut	Second word of fast food chains
Fox	Circus	Visit	Ace	Flying ____

### Hard grouping grid

“Here’s to the ones that we got. Cheers to the wish you were here, but you’re not, because the drinks bring back all the memories and memories bring back, memories bring back you.”

Anagram: Fiona Mover = Maroon Five

Quote from: Memories by Maroon Five

## Cryptogram



SPORT

# Arne Slot! La-La-La Madristas!

The Reds finally get it done in Merseyside. Liverpool beat Madrid for the first time since 2009.

Sport Writer  
LILA HARRISON

Wed 27 Nov 2024,  
UCL Matchday 5

Liverpool 2 : 0 Real Madrid  
Anfield Stadium

Alexis Mac Allister 52'  
Cody Gakpo 76'

Arne Slot was a happy man on Wednesday night, as he has been most nights being Liverpool's coach. He welcomed yet another manager to his penitentiary – this time Real Madrid's manager Carlo Ancelotti.

Liverpool's star right-back, Trent Alexander Arnold, was out injured – the very same player in deep links to move to the opponent for the evening, Real Madrid. But, he was replaced by a valiant man of the match performance from young Irishman Conor Bradley, who assisted the first goal of two to win the game for Liverpool.

It was a massive night for the club. Especially for Virgil Van Dijk, Mohamed Salah, and Andy Robertson, the third who had played Madrid six times together in the Champion's League, losing five and drawing one prior to this, including two defeats in two finals. The stakes for this game weren't particularly high - the new champion's league group stage is a table format, and Liverpool did not require a win to qualify for the next round – but vengeance is sweet.

It was a big night for former Liverpool

manager Jurgen Klopp, too. Alongside the two finals he lost to Madrid, he had targets from Bellingham, Tchouameni, and Mbappe swiped from him. It seemed at one point, that every time Liverpool wanted a player, Madrid beat them to it. But really Liverpool's owners, the Fenway Sports Group, is to blame for this!

Klopp can be proud. Though he was never able to beat Madrid, he gave the debuts and rebuilt the team that went on to beat them on Wednesday. The line up included players from Liverpool's academy: Bradley, Jones, and backup goalkeeper Kelleher. Bradley had an outstanding game, taking home not only an assist but Mbappe in his pocket, displaying a challenge against him celebrated like a goal! Jones was arguably

the best midfielder on the pitch, again exemplifying his tempo control, ball retention, duel winning, and passing ability. He passed with aplomb, equally distributing over the pitch, creating chances and securing possession.

Kelleher, countryman to Bradley, saved Mbappe's penalty and had an overall outstanding performance. Klopp's most recent signing Mac Allister – TNT's Man of the Match – scored the first goal. Gravenberch turned like an ice skater through Modric and Bellingham, and Szoboszlai – who came on adding energy and assurance to the midfield – was not bad either.

Slot is, well, slotting right in on Merseyside. Ever since a pesky loss to Nottingham Forest on the 14th of

September he has not put a foot wrong. Overall with Liverpool, he has picked up 17 wins, one draw, and one loss. First place in Premier League with eight points above second place. First in the Champions League, and still in both cups. For a team most people predicted would be “just comfy” this season, he is doing phenomenally. Virgil is again the best defender in the world. He has got Gravenberch playing like Busquets. Salah is... Salah.

There are contracts to sort for Liverpool in Salah, Virgil Van Dijk and Trent, but the Reds should ride this high for as long as they can and enjoy doing so. With a weakened Manchester City to play at home this Sunday, Anfield truly awaits.



Cody Gakpo scoring the second for Liverpool, sealing the win for the Reds. This is Gakpo's second goal this year in the Champions League, and his seventh in all competitions. FMT (CC by 4.0)





**FELIX SEX SURVEY**

**24/25**