

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.



FINAL ISSUE OF TERM!

This is the last issue of *Felix* of Autumn Term, and we'll return to print on Friday 10th January.

NEWS

CHAIRLESS WHISPERS: 15.6 students fighting for each library seat

→ [READ MORE ON 3](#)

ENVIRONMENT

Editor Oscar speaks with the founder of Re:Gen about Imperial's green plans

→ [READ MORE ON 8](#)

SOCIETIES

ISOC raise £54,000 during Charity Week fundraising drive

→ [READ MORE ON 33](#)

Phone robbery foiled by students

Student intervention helped stop phone jacking near Gloucester Road station.

Editor-in-Chief
MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Two students were able to stop the attempted robbery of another student near Gloucester Road station on the night of Thursday 28th November. The students, who wish to remain anonymous, were on their way to the tube station when they

ran into an altercation between another Imperial student and a member of the public.

The would-be victim, who also wishes to remain anonymous, called for help as the students approached the scene, causing the attempted phone-jacker to flee from the scene, dropping the phone. Returning later to try and recover the phone, the thief claimed the dropped phone was

his, until the students verified that the phone belonged to the Imperial student using the phone's facial recognition software.

The attacker then began to apologise and "kept yapping on", trying to disarm the situation, until he finally left the area.

The would-be victim says they will not conduct press charges or notify

→ [READ MORE ON 3](#)

ICU President says proposed rent rises "strictly unacceptable."

Editor-in-Chief
MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Union President Camille Boutrolle has appealed to students to "make some noise" and to lobby "personal tutors", "halls wardens", and "teachers" against proposed rent increases for student

halls in a blog post on IC Union's website.

Both Boutrolle and Deputy President (Welfare) Nico Henry have been lobbying Imperial College since late October to reduce the proposed price hike from a mean of 30% down. Since negotiations began, the two Officer Trustees have reduced the

rise down to 16% on average.

Last month, Union Council, the democratic body that oversees the policies that the Union enacts, passed a

→ [READ MORE ON 4](#)



75 years of



READ MORE on page 13



Want to know what's going on around campus?

Sign up to our newsletter by scanning the QR code below:



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DECLARATION

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

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

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

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

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

Signed by:
MOHAMMAD MAJLISI
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Located at Beit Quad,
Prince Consort Road
London, SW7 2BB

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

Registered Newspaper
ISSN 1040-0711
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NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...

police about the incident. They also believe the incident was “isolated and unlikely to happen” but will “definitely be more vigilant” [sic].

After ensuring the student whose phone was almost stolen was safe and passing along their contact details, the students were then questioned by the police who had arrived on the scene to investigate the disturbance a few minutes after the attacker had fled.

The students all said the attacker was acting erratically, or under the influence of some kind of drug.

78,000 phones or bags were snatched in 2023, a 150% increase from 2022. Almost 64,000 phone thefts occurred in London alone. Early in September 2024, the government announced a crackdown to reduce the number of phone thefts occurring in the UK.

Policing Minister Diane Johnson said: “As part of our Safer Streets mission, this new government is determined to crack down on snatch theft, knife-enabled robbery, and other crimes that make people feel unsafe in our communities,” and pledged to increase policing and working with phone manufacturers to make it harder to reset phones to sell second-hand after they had been stolen.

15.6 students fighting for each library seat

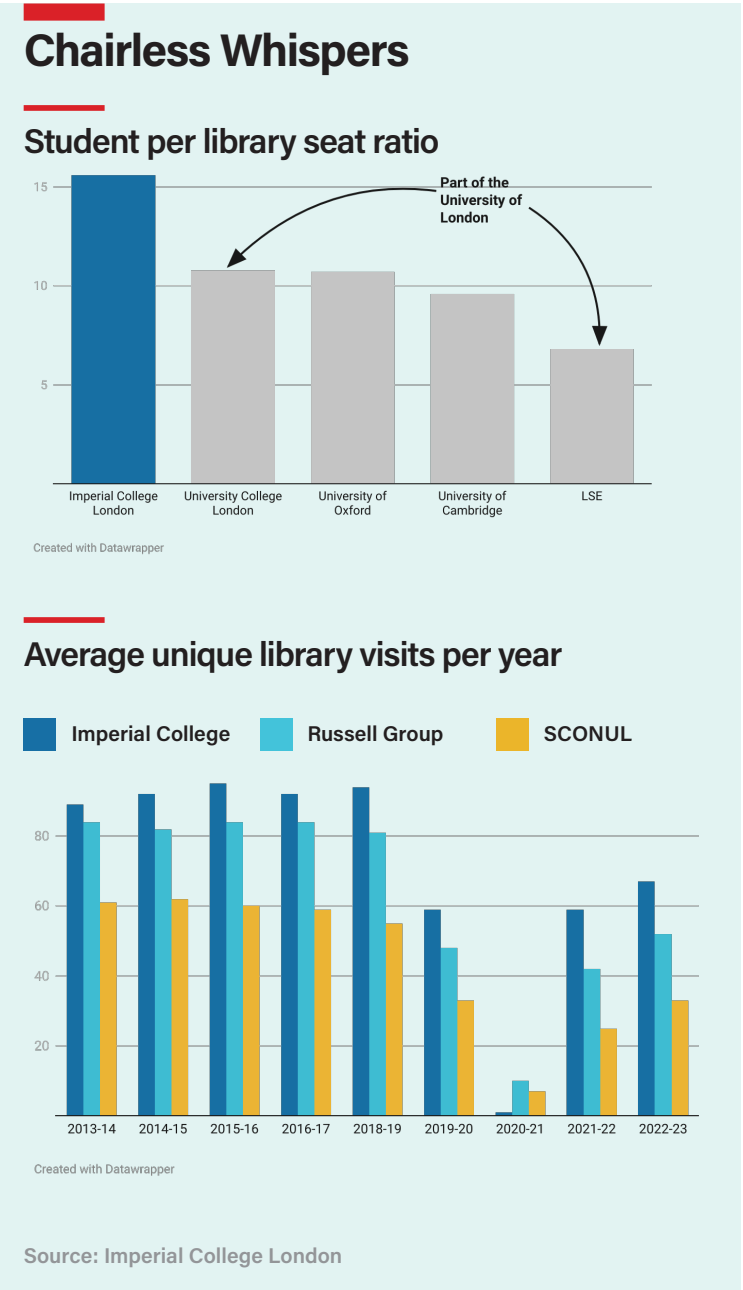
Editor-in-Chief
MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Analysis shared with Felix has revealed that Imperial College has a student per library seat ratio of 15.6, the second highest demand within the Russell Group. Imperial students are also more likely to visit the library to study compared to other Russell Group students.

Universities of a similar calibre and reputation to Imperial have much smaller student to seat ratios: LSE has a ratio of 6.8, the lowest in the Russell Group, Cambridge has a ratio of 9.6, and Oxford and UCL have ratios of 10.7 and 10.8 respectively. UCL and LSE are also part of the University of London, meaning students can access library spaces across the confederation. Imperial's high demand is also 50% greater than the mean Russell Group student to library seat ratio of 10.4.

Demand for seats is much higher at Imperial as well. Despite a dip during the academic years 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22 due to COVID restrictions, Imperial students on average tend to visit library spaces nine more times in an academic year relative to their Russell Group peers, and 33 more times per year than visits across the Society of College, National, and University Libraries (SCONUL), the professional association for academic and research libraries across the UK and Ireland.

The lack of library space is recognised as a problem: Imperial has increased library spaces across its campuses over the last few years, with the introduction of the GoStudy spaces within the Chemistry Building. In 2024, the Abdus Salam Library opened a new group study area on its 4th floor, and more solo and group study spaces were added to Hammersmith Hospital. Imperial plans to add library space to the Principal Academic Building in White City.



Former Australian PM Julia Gillard at Imperial

News Writer
NADEEN DAKA

News Writer
ISABELLA DUCHOVNY

Julia Gillard, Chair of the Wellcome Trust and former Prime Minister of Australia, delivered the Institute of Global Health Innovation's Special Lecture in the Sir Alexander Fleming Building on Thursday 28th November. She examined the outlook for science and politics, tackling the implications for global cooperation on pivotal issues such as climate change and infectious diseases.

Gillard reflected on the importance of science in the near future, stressing the need to prioritize it in the face of rising misinformation, fearmongering, and lack of public trust in scientific information.

“What happens these years will be pivotal for what happens for the rest of this century and time beyond,” Gillard said at the beginning of her talk, later focusing on the human capacity for research and discoveries, particularly in relation to the climate crisis, rise of antimicrobial resistance, and inequality in the health sector.

Gillard also spoke of the importance of global cooperation, engaging the audience through a Q&A session and eliciting laughter with humorous anecdotes.

“Right now, it is easy to feel despair, but I genuinely believe there is cause for hope,” Gillard said. “Science gives us hope. Innovation gives us hope.”

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...

motion calling for Imperial College to be transparent about “costs associated with student halls”, as well as lobbying to prevent the cost of decarbonisation being passed onto students.

As part of its commitment to net zero,

Imperial is aiming for all of its estates to reach decarbonise by 2040.

Rents for student halls last increased in 2019, and the pricing model is reviewed every five years. In 2019, student officers helped negotiate a proposed price model from 12.5% to 5.5%.

Felix's Christmas Appeal

Typically, newspapers have a Christmas Appeal, where they encourage readers to donate to charitable organisations that align with their the editorial values.

In the interests of fairness, and because many of you are now broke, Felix is appealing to its readers to fill out the Union's rent increase impact survey, in the QR code below .Speaking personally, I know that if I was to apply now, the proposed costs would severely dissuade me from bothering. Students have reacted negatively towards these changes, evidenced in conversations across campus.

Our second appeal is much lighter in tone: our Sex Survey is still open, and we would appreciate if those of you who haven't filled it out do so. We are currently at just over 700 submissions, just under half of last year. Please fill it out- we've tweaked it to better fit Imperial students and it's completely anonymous.



Rent Increase Impact Survey



Sex Survey

Felix launches societies events calendar

Societies Editor

CHARLOTTE PROBSTEL

Felix has launched its first digital clubs and societies announcements calendar. The calendar, launched on Sunday 1st December, provides information on the society hosting the event, the time and location, the price of ticket and a link to the ticket portal or to the webpage which offers the most information. A link above the calendar also provides access to the Google Forms for societies

to submit their event announcements.

The calendar is the brain child the of Societies Editor and Senior Webmaster after they noticed that virtual announcements were made on social media physical announcements in *Felix* were out of date, and sought to create a real-time solution that could be centralised and easily accessible.



Scan the QR code to access the calendar

Westminster Council holding consultation on changes to rent licenses

Editor-in-Chief

MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Westminster Council is holding a consultation on changes to rent licenses until January 2025. The consultation is on proposals introducing a selected licensing scheme for landlords to improve the quality of housing available within the areas of borough.

The Council is proposing creating checks for landlords to ensure they are “fit and proper people”, creating points of contact which tenants could contact to help with issues, and reduce the

time it takes for problems with rented accommodation to be fixed.

Westminster council operates in the areas of Hyde Park, Lancaster Gate, Baywater, and Westbourne, as well as areas in central London such as Knightsbridge and Belgravia, Marylebone, Pimlico, and the West End. Private rented sector occupations increased in Westminster Council areas by 22% between 2011 and 2024.

The consultation period will end on Sunday 19th January. If approved, the proposed scheme would be implemented in early 2026, and will cover more than 20% of privately rented housing in the area.



REYNOLDS BAR

Come and check out our revamped Reynolds Bar!

Fully kitted with pool tables, shuffle AR dartboard and a shuffleboard.

What's not to love?!





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

SCIENCE

Julia Gillard's vision for 2025 and beyond

The key takeaways from the former Australian Prime Minister's lecture delivered at Imperial's Institute of Global Health and Innovation.

Science Editor
AMBER DUNMORE

Science Editor
TAYLOR POMFRET

Former Prime Minister of Australia, Julia Gillard AC, visited Imperial last week to deliver a lecture hosted by Imperial's Institute of Global Health and Innovation.

During Gillard's time as PM between 2010 and 2013, she led the management of Australia's economy following the global financial crisis and delivered policies which reformed education. Her government also implemented carbon-based emissions trading, which, upon introduction, dropped emissions from companies subject to the scheme by 7%.

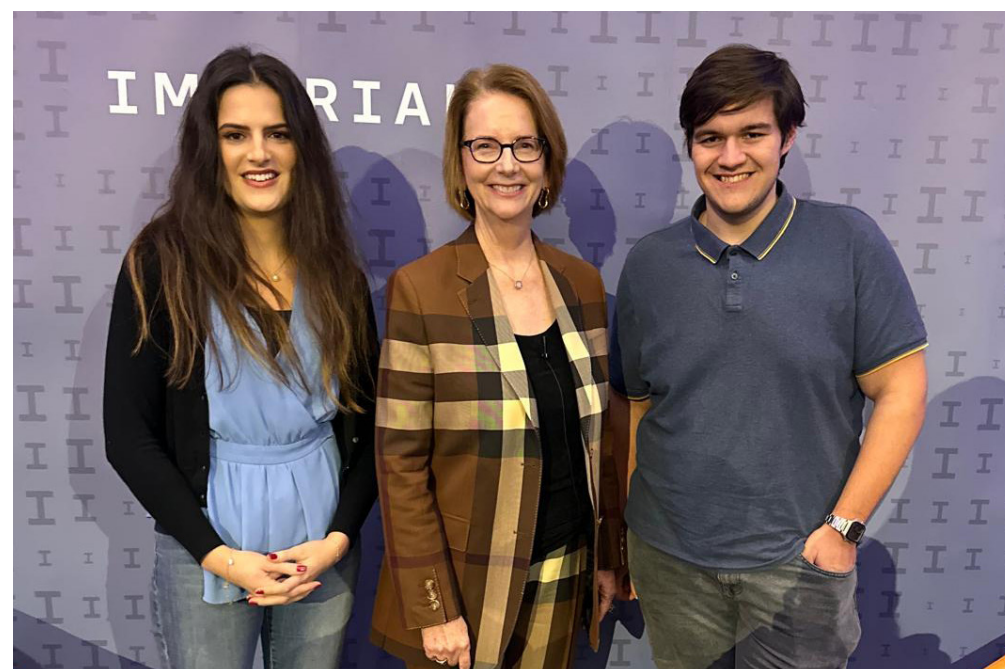
In 2017, Gillard was appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia "for eminent service to the Parliament of Australia". In 2018 she was listed as one of BBC's Top 100 Women. In 2021, Gillard became chair of the Wellcome Trust – a charitable foundation supporting research and innovation in medicine, public health, mental health and climate change. The trust was set up in 1936 by the pharmaceutical magnate Henry Wellcome.

Gillard's lecture, entitled "2025 and beyond: Outlooks for Science and Global Co-operation," canvassed the expectations and hopes for science and politics

in 2025. Two members of *Felix's* science editorial team attended the lecture – here were the key takeaways.

The need for global co-operation within science

Julia Gillard opened the lecture with reflections on how she felt towards the future nearly 25 years ago, at the dawn of the new millennium. She recalled being hopeful that "we would be able to take on the challenges of the new century," and mused that things aren't playing out quite how she had expected. Her lecture reflected on the critical need for global co-operation within science and policy during this time of great political uncertainty, while acknowledging that "entrenched inequalities, economic turbulence, and geopolitical tensions" have made such a collaboration increasingly complex. As the centenary of penicillin's discovery fast approaches, she made apt reference to the all-too-familiar story of Alexander Fleming to emphasise this idea, humorously highlighting his position as one element in a larger framework; compromising of his wider team, Howard Florey's team at Oxford, and Dorothy Hodgkin, whose work enabled penicillin's isolation and development of stronger antibiotics. History reminds us that science is done best when it consists of international and interdisciplinary efforts and stands to emphasise that collaboration is essential to addressing shared global challenges.



Julia Gillard, alongside two members of the *Felix* science editorial team. Julia Gillard served as Prime Minister of Australia between 2010-2013. She now serves as the Chair of the Wellcome Trust, a position she has held since 2021. Anubha Sukhada Bal

Optimism amidst disinformation

I was appreciative of her optimism, even amidst disinformation, political polarisation, and global inaction.

To pull a quote that judiciously summarises her overall sentiments: "I'm an optimist, a believer that the turmoil of this current world is a prelude to an era of fundamental change... an era in which we will renew and renovate global institutions and democratic structures in which we will address the fundamentals driving inequality.

[An era] in which we find our way back to facts, evidence, truth and in which we find hope in the power of science to keep us moving forwards as a species.

Growing funding for global research

Gillard pointed out Wellcome's growing funding in research, particularly in low-income countries. "Wellcome's funding for research in low and middle income countries has been increasing. Our funding for research in the UK has also been increasing thanks to the strong performance of our financial investments over the past 10 to 20 years."

Wellcome Trust state its work is funded from an investment portfolio that currently stands at £36.8 billion. The trust said they will spend £16 billion to support new discoveries in science and support research combating challenges in health and climate change, infectious diseases and mental health.

Julia Gillard on science and elitism

Anubha Sukhada Bal shares her perspective on Julia Gillard's thoughts on elitism and DEI in academia.

Science Writer

ANUBHA SUKHADA BAL

With her famous misogyny speech in Australian Parliament resurfacing on social media platforms recently, Julia Gillard has been celebrated as a “feminist icon”, and rightly so – it was a very inspiring speech in which she stood up, not only for herself, but for women. They say “never meet your heroes”, and this sentiment can probably be exaggerated when it comes to politicians given their less-than-perfect moral records; however, it was certainly exciting to meet the woman whose speech I once had memorised.

Her talk covered many points, but the one I was most drawn to was the discussion of public distrust of science and the perception of science as elitist. While there is a broader point to be made about anti-intellectualism and the rise of fascist movements, there is a fundamental real-



Access to science at university is not solely on merit – privilege plays a substantial role

ity to be recognised: the scientific community is elitist. Science is inherently political, and academia has been shaped by structural discrimination, like misogyny, racism and elitism. Meritocracy is a myth.

Access to science at university is not solely on merit – privilege plays a substantial role, which explains, to some large degree, the skew in scientific “success” (or at least the skew in who is rewarded, especially in fields like Physics) towards men, especially those who are wealthy and white. A previous question during the talk had prompted discussion around this, and so I held my nerve, and asked the former Australian prime minister a question.

I asked her, in a less well articulated way, if she agreed that the “perception” of science being elitist and exclusive wasn’t really just a perception at all – it was entirely true, and whether or not this is a large contributing factor in public mistrust and must be tackled “from within” the community.

If I had the time (and had held my nerve slightly more), I would have articulated an experience shared by so many women in academia: we are brought up to respect “great” and “intelligent” men who furthered human knowledge – or rather, male knowledge, given women were de-facto barred from academics for a large portion of human history. These great men who, at worst, directly and violently abused us, and at best, belittled us and “passively” counted us out as subhuman. Over the years, I have attended hundreds of physics lectures in which we have celebrated the achievements of many men who fit this description, studying the equations and techniques which carry their names. Each time, I wonder what the women in their lives suffered. I wonder about Mileva Marić, the ex-wife of Albert Einstein, helped with his work before be-

ing forgotten, and how she felt about it and would feel if she were alive today. I wonder what Mary Louise Bell, the ex-wife of Richard Feynman,



The perception of science as elitist isn’t just a perception – it’s a reality that must be tackled from within the community

who testified that he had abused her physically, would feel if she saw how he is still celebrated as a genius. Women didn’t and still don’t matter – we cast them aside to celebrate their “brilliant” husbands.

Unsurprisingly, Gillard answered in agreement. The start of her answer touched on the aspects I mentioned and the way the story of science is (inaccu-

rately) told. She then concurred that this is certainly not how science is best done – excluding talent only hurts the scientific quest. The second half of her answer was somewhat shallow, alluding to a DEI-focused approach. In practice, DEI schemes at universities do almost nothing for minorities, and even at best if they just help people get in the door, the ladder is pulled up swiftly after that (shameless plug – see “DEI and Women in Physics” in *Felix* #1857).

It was also interesting also to see Gillard be so deliberately diplomatic, insisting on non-partisanship in her answers.

A once clearly opinionated politician, now glueing herself rigidly to the non-offensive centre ground seemed almost disingenuous, but was probably necessary given her current role leading a charity organisation.

There is a fair question to be asked as to whether condemning nothing and nobody (what I consider the modern day definition of diplomacy) actually helps anything. Regardless, it was a fruitful evening – I had the chance to meet Julia Gillard, whose famous speech was one of my own introductions to feminism, and got a photo with her.



Julia Gillard with Science writer Anubha Sukhada Bal Anubha Sukhada Bal

ENVIRONMENT

New campaign builds community at Imperial through green spaces

Environment Editor
OSCAR MITCHAM

A new student-led, Union-supported environmental campaign, RE:GEN, seeks to improve Imperials' green spaces, and create a sense of being at home. Emilio Garcia Padron, a part-time Master's student, grew the campaign organically out of a desire to improve the secret garden (Princes Gate Garden), which has been neglected in recent decades.

Emilio explained Imperial's roots in gardening to *Felix*; "The campus is built on the first ever Royal Horticultural Garden, and it was the headquarters for the National Royal Horticultural Society. Slowly, Imperial rebuilt what used to be our garden into research facilities and in the 60s everything was brought down. Even though it has been 150 years since those original foundations, there are still lingering impacts. This is what we wanted to restore and protect."

RE:GEN's work started in Chaplaincy Garden with £39,000 secured from the President's Community Fund. RE:GEN plans to build raised beds, a greenhouse, and purchase new tools by the end of the academic year. They also have big plans to reinvent other spaces at Imperial, including the secret garden, Beit quad, and Queen's Gardens. J&L Gibbons, the designer of the Natural History Museum's garden, has rendered for each of these spaces, with the Beit Quad example already released to the public.

With the support of Nico Henry, Deputy President of Welfare, Emilio also wants to create effective third spaces for students. They hope this will happen not only through the gardening itself, to provide a community and activity outside of work



Beit Quad and a rendered visualisation of Beit Quad J&L Gibbons

and home, but also through spaces more appropriate to relax in. Nico explained the situation in Beit Quad, "It's a bit like a Cambridge Quad in the sense that you can walk on it, but you wouldn't walk on it, because there's nothing there. [Beit Quad] is some students' back gardens, and they might chill in their back garden if it was nice."

Within Princes Garden also lays the secret garden, a 10,000 square metre space that has been neglected in the past few years. It is a large space, but the name betrays the problem: people don't know about it. RE:GEN is working with Imperials' Environmental Society, who maintain an area inside the secret garden, to improve the space and to further their goal of creating third spaces.

Gardening, in its nature, is excellent at forming bonds. It forces participants to work with and alongside people. RE:GEN are keen to continue their work and to

show their impact wherever possible. They currently use stories from students who've already participated in gardening, to show their impact to the college. One student at Lancaster University joined their community garden and "came for the vegetables, but stayed for the people."

RE:GEN also plans to run hackathons. Emilio hopes to run an ideas challenge with the Enterprise Lab this year. In addition, both Nico and Emilio also have plans to collaborate with all constituent unions in the future. They want to use Imperial's gardens to start hackathons that address big issues in planetary health, such as sustainable irrigation, soil health, and pesticide use.

Both Emilio and Nico were impressed by Imperial's engagement with this project. The college recently hired their first ever Head Gardener, Lucy Hand, and are working with RE:GEN on the designs for Beit. Emilio added it would be "a

tremendous waste of potential to not have the students at Imperial lead this transition" which lines up with Nico's focus on employment and creating job opportunities for students.

Monday saw the gardens' first bulb planting session with Lucy Hand. Hand plans to continue similar sessions to get students involved in gardening, and Nico wants to offer paid roles for getting involved in the transformation of Beit Quad as part of a 'green office' model.

To help Nico and Emilio gather data on what changes or initiatives students would like to see, please fill out the survey after scanning the QR Code.



COMMENTS

Comments Writer

AAHAN GUPTA AGRAWAL

The far-right has made significant progress over the past 10 years.

Orban, Trump, Bolsonaro – not only have leaders with far-right tendencies emerged victorious, but they have proved remarkably persistent, perhaps best illustrated by Trump's return to power. In many respects, their victories do not bode well for advocates of a plant-based diet, whose central goal could be best described as to persuade the adoption of a plant-based diet, believing that such a diet offers not only some humane respite to non-humans but also offers a range of benefits to humans and their societies.

In this article, I reflect on the ideological narratives that contend with each other and prevent the advancement of the plant-based movement. What I briefly discuss is by no means original and largely sourced from, in no particular order, Vaclav Smil, The Zetkin Collective, and Andreas Malm.

A plant-based narrative

To raise livestock depends on significant sources of fossil fuel, whether in the form of ammonia-based fertilizer or in the form of diesel used to power the vehicles that ship livestock. For two comparable food dishes, one plant-based and the other non-plant-based – that is, two distinct dishes that source ingredients from a local radius and both



None of these points of disagreement are rooted in questions which can be solved with science

similar in nutritious profile (e.g. grams of protein) – the fossil fuel inputs of the non-plant-based dish exceed those of the plant-based dish, and the health benefits



Credits: The White House Archive

A plant-based diet for Trump?

Why ideology increasingly determines the content of our plates.

of the plant-based diet exceed those of the non-plant-based diet.

A non-plant-based narrative

The ecological concerns of fossil fuels within a non-plant-based diet are not well-founded and the health benefits of a plant-based diet are not greater than its counterpart.

In truth, plant-based diets and veganism, in general, may simply be a component of an environmental Trojan horse with the following objectives: create fear and concern about looming ecological catastrophe; urge adoption of supposedly green measures like veganism and cycling that come at the expense of personal autonomy; pave the road to socialism and use the

environmental disaster card to allow violent and dangerous immigrants to enter the country.

Where the narratives meet

I do not wish to strawman either side of this discussion. The aforementioned ideologies are examples; there are many more opinions. However, I do wish to make some observations from these narratives:

People on both sides generally agree that the production of non-plant-based food is resource-intensive, but there is disagreement on the extent of an environmental problem and the supposed health benefits of a plant-based diet; one side severely doubts the underlying political motivation of a

plant-based and/or vegan platform.

None of these points of disagreement are particularly rooted in questions that can be solved with science. They are about what you feel is important. As the far right grows, we are more likely to see an opposition to the plant-based movement that is rooted in an ideology that weds immigration, personal autonomy, and climate.

The plant-based movement cannot therefore solely depend on scientific arguments and appeals of taste (e.g. Beyond Meat) to advance its cause. It must somehow contend with the political ideologies that question it.

My fondest hope is that our campus will commit to a sound ethical option.

Curbing the decline of the Atlantic salmon

Insights into how intensive farming has harmed a Scottish delicacy.

Comments Writer

ALEXANDER VAN STEENIS

The salmon is iconic to Scotland and any angler's dream catch. It has been in this isle for millions of years. It has a complex life cycle, spending most of the year in the ocean before returning upriver, to where it was born, to mate. It was once prolific: in 1800 the population of wild Atlantic salmon was around 100 million, by 1950 it was 10 million, and today only 2.5 million remain. As the Earl of Shrewsbury pointed out in a recent debate on salmon conservation in the House of Lords:

"In around 1580, salmon was so prolific on English rivers that apprentices' indentures on my family's estate specified that they should be fed salmon on only five days of the week."

The salmon farm

This population decline has led the IUCN to declare it as an endangered species in Great Britain. The decline of the salmon was caused by overfishing during the 19th and 20th centuries. However, since 1992 sea fishing for salmon has ceased, and yet the population has continued to decline. Why? Primarily because of the harmful effects of intensive salmon farming, poor water quality, and artificial barriers damaging river habitats.

Salmon farming has been immensely harmful to wild salmon populations. Along the coast of Scotland, farmed salmon are crammed into cages. Chemicals are poured over them and antibiotics are administered to try to

deal with the mass of parasites, such as sea lice, that thrive in such conditions. These parasites and chemicals greatly damage the wild salmon population



Sea fishing for salmon stopped in 1992, and yet the population has continued to decline

and the surrounding ecosystem. These chemicals often burn through the shells of lobsters and crabs beneath the cages. In Loch Linnhe, the salmon farm was fallowed for one year, and the

following season the grilse (young wild salmon) catch quadrupled.

Farmed salmon are sometimes genetically engineered (GE) and, if they escape, can gravely harm the wild population. Recently, when a GE salmon escaped from a fish farm in Iceland, there were large protests outside parliament, and frogmen were employed in rivers to catch the salmon before they bred with the domestic population.

Salmon farming need not be done in

this way; in Scandinavia, it is done on land, and off the west coast of Ireland organic farms exist that do not harm the wild population or the habitat.

Protecting salmon populations

Salmon need clean, cold water. Poor water quality is a national problem affecting a plethora of species. This is caused by pollutants, be it fertiliser, manure, or peat leaching into the water.

National pressure is building on the water sector and agriculture to clean up their acts. There are also many projects designed to improve water quality in other ways such as the Riverwoods initiative who plant native vegetation along riverbanks. Not only do the trees improve water quality, but they also provide flood protection, and support for a biodiverse ecosystem, and

during the summer their leaves provide to keep the water cool. River habitats are also damaged

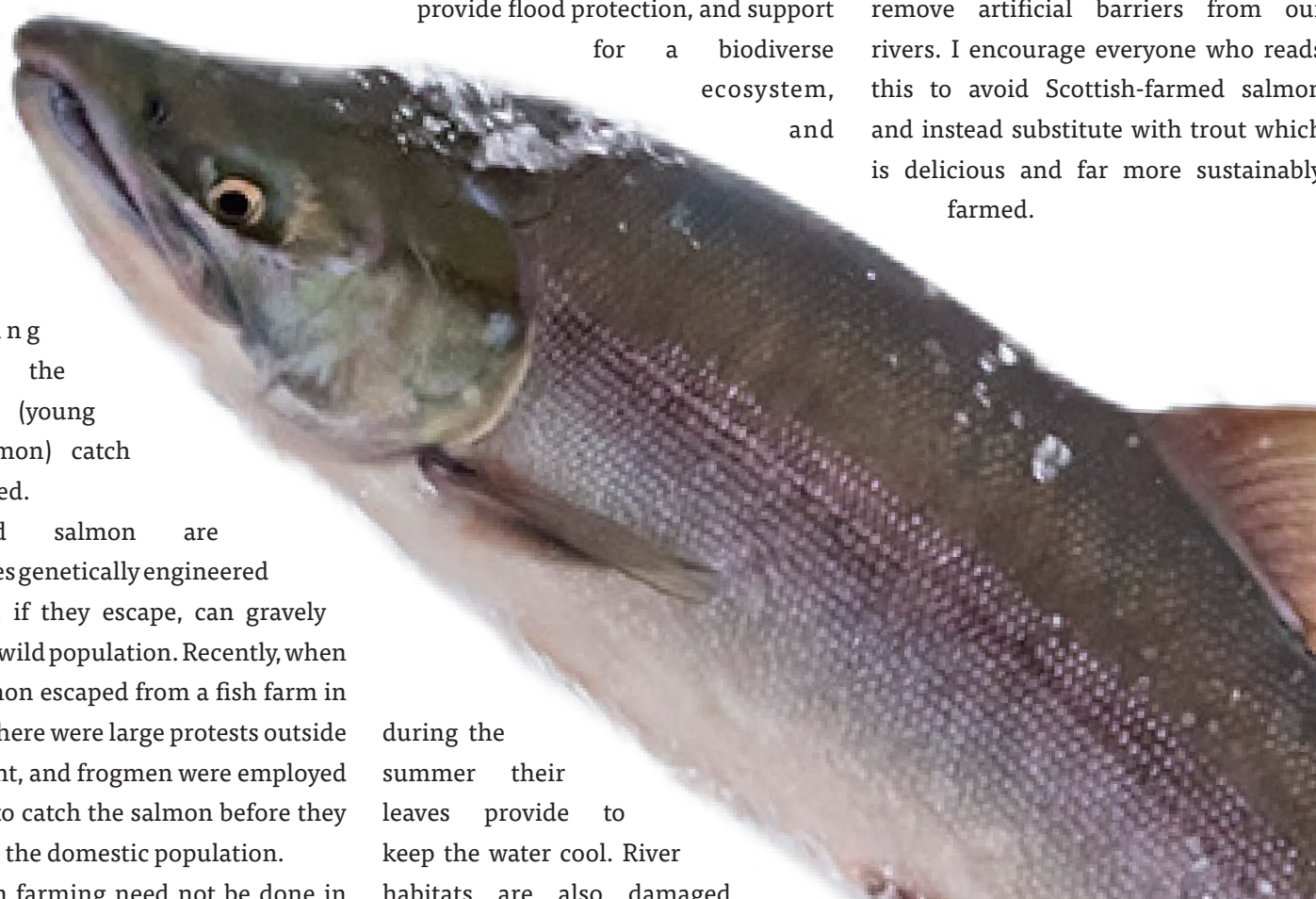
by artificial barriers and weirs which prevent migrating salmon. Builders are now often required to build salmon ladders around new weirs. However, much still needs to be done to remove old barriers that are still damaging our



Salmon farming need not be done in this unsustainable way

rivers.

For the salmon to return to its former glory, we need to end intensive salmon farming, improve water quality, and remove artificial barriers from our rivers. I encourage everyone who reads this to avoid Scottish-farmed salmon and instead substitute with trout which is delicious and far more sustainably farmed.



BOOKS

Books, if not to keep us cozy this winter

From translated short stories to an economic analysis of the global party circuit, members of *Felix* detail their to-reads this winter break.

Books Editor
ADITI MEHTA

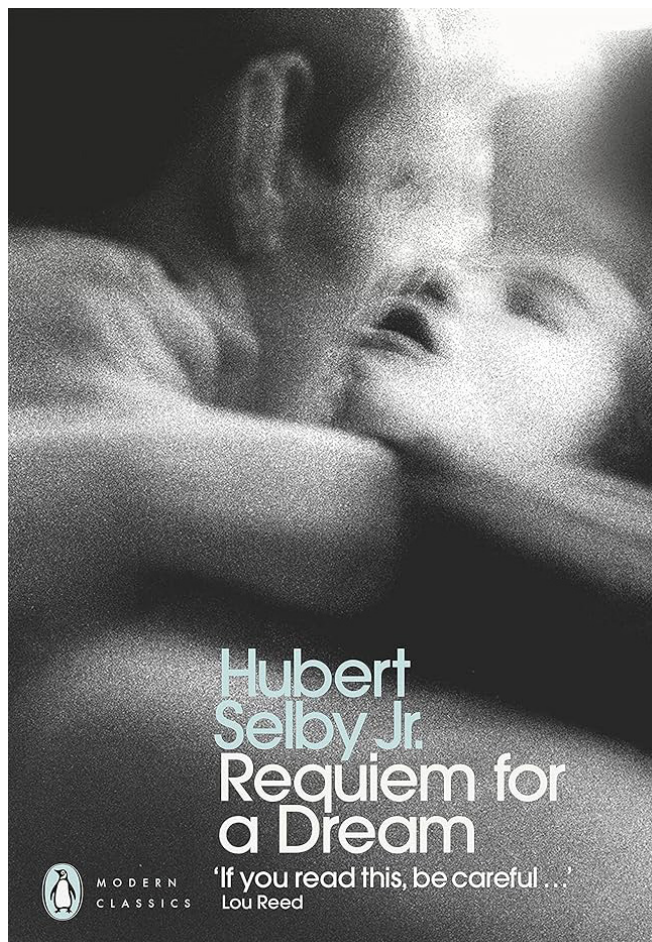
In light of the drudgery accompanying winter break, I thought it would be nice to compile a reading list. Hopefully these books, thoughtfully selected by some *Felix* members, provide inspiration for our dear readers.

Aditi Mehta, Books Editor
The Collector
John Fowles

After a whirlwind of a review in Issue #1860, I set my sites on reading *The Collector*. My plans were solidified when I was even offered the Books writer's own copy, which should provide sufficient amusement – not just from the bizarreness of Fowles' work, but also the annotations marking the naivety of teenage love.

Jyotsana Dasoondi, writer
Requiem For a Dream
Hubert Selby Jr.

Requiem For a Dream is about submission to addiction. It follows the life of a junkie son and his mother in New York City who fall into addiction as a means of escaping reality and trying to find their dreams. I have heard great things about the movie and want to read the book before I watch it!



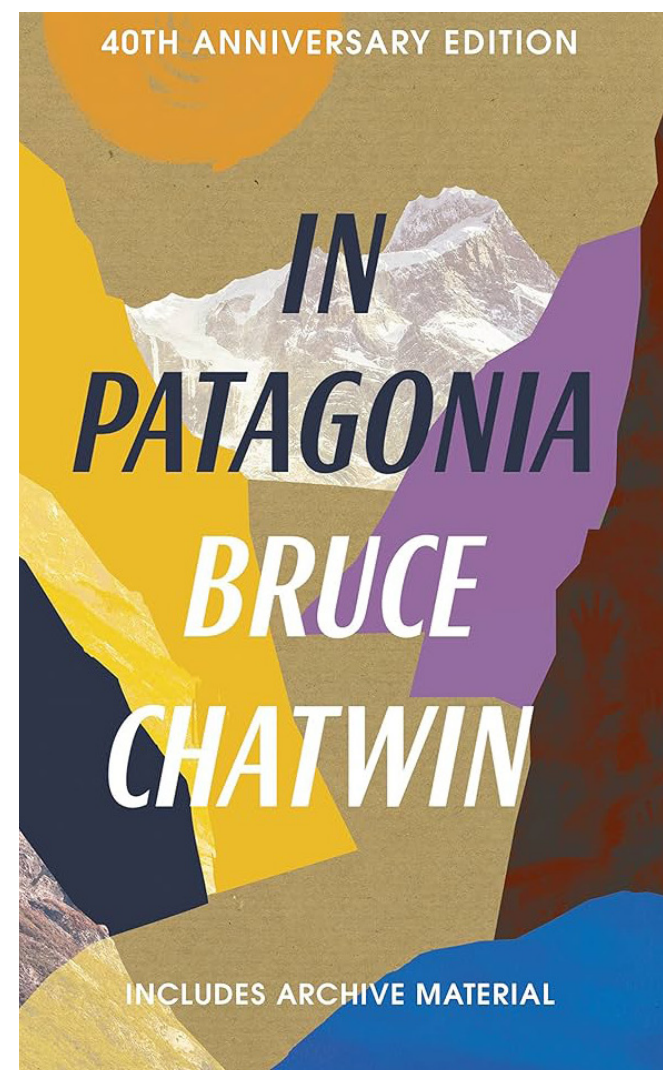
Charlotte Probstel, Societies Editor
***Erste Person Singular* (German version of *First Person Singular*)**
Haruki Murakami

Murakami's memoir *What I Talk About When I Talk About Running* left a significant impression on me and compelled me to pick up this book at my local bookstore back home in Germany. I've been meaning to read more German books, and I thought this would be a good start, considering Murakami doesn't make life difficult for the reader. Nine short stories await me this winter, and knowing Murakami's style – personal and thought-provoking – I look forward to using my free time over

winter break to think of things besides academia.

Sid Diamond, writer
***In Patagonia*, Bruce Chatwin**

A friend gifted me *In Patagonia* for my birthday two years ago, and then it was stolen at the UCL student union. I have finally gotten around to purchasing a replacement, but I'll feel like a bad friend until I actually read it. I'm not entirely sure what it's about. Perhaps an Englishman in Patagonia; perhaps cultural tourism. Definitely more fun than revising.



Mo Majlisi, Editor-in-Chief
I have too many books on my list to finish and read this year.

Normally, I read around 20 books within a year, but this year I am stuck on my 11th or 12th. On the other hand, I have read much more written print and online journalism, which is a nice trade off.

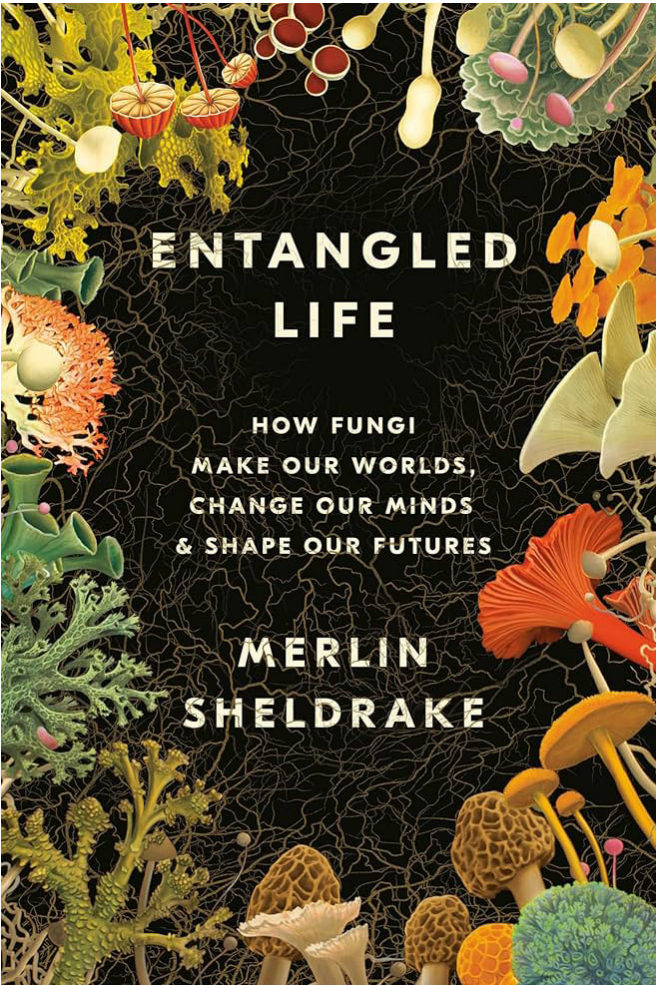
The books I want to read the most over winter will probably be Joan Didion's *The White Album*, which I have yet to finish: I've only read the titular essay, *Meditations on First Philosophy* by René Descartes, *Epistemic Injustice* by Miranda Fricker (another one I have left partially read), and maybe another fiction book.

I'm edging between a Jon Fosse, who I particularly enjoy, James Joyce, or *Normal People* by Sally Rooney. I may return to a Hermann Hesse if I have time, and I find his quaint optimism to be welcoming with the January Blues.

The Female Eunuch is languishing in the back of my mind, begging to be read, so maybe I will get back into my former reading habits as an enjoyable break from reading briefs, press releases, email chains, and other forms of evidence for stories I am working on, as well as sordid X (formerly Twitter) posts about menswear and video games.

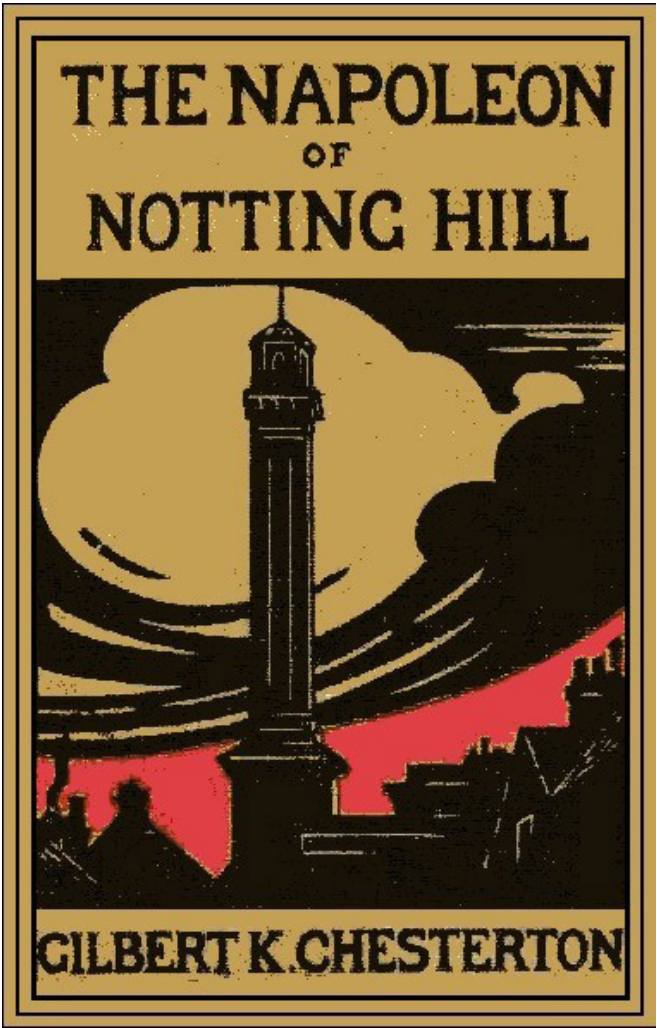
Oscar Mitcham, Environment Editor
Entangled Life,
Merlin Sheldrake

Entangled Life has been recommended to me by several people at this point. It's about time I read it! One friend described it as the only book you need to read about fungi: every other book either misses out details that are too important, or includes some superfluous detail. Fungi are awesome and I'm late to the party reading this one!



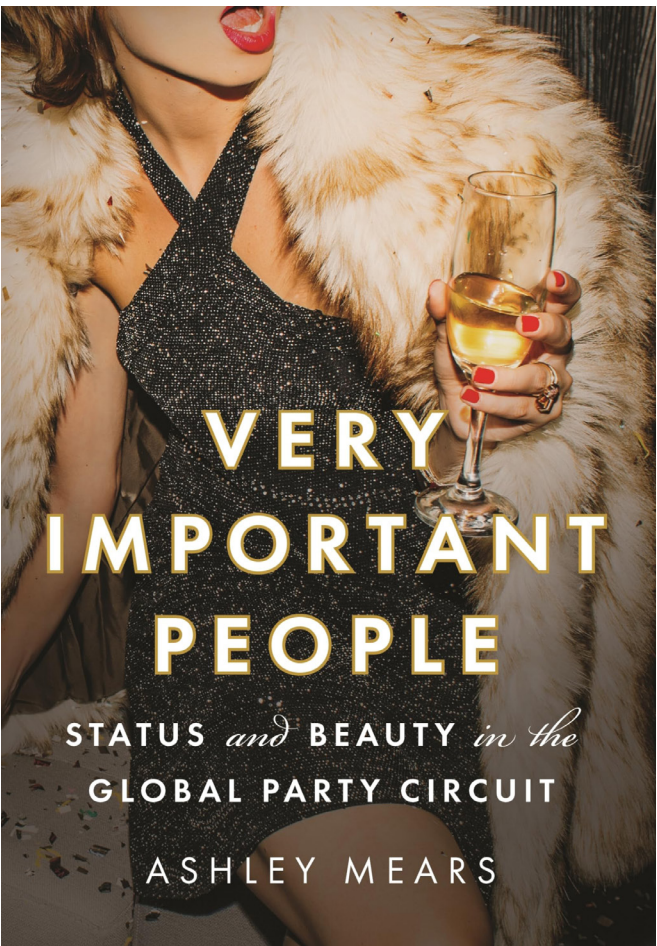
Taylor Pomfret, Science and Sport Editor
The Napoleon of Notting Hill,
G. K. Chesterson

I saw this book in Waterstones during a visit with my friend Nik. It was in the classics section, and having read the summary I knew I ought to get it. Set in an alternate reality of 1984 London that is governed by fools, democracy does not exist and rulers are decided by lottery. One ruler decrees that each borough of London becomes its own medieval state, designated with a coat of arms and costume. The provost of Notting Hill, however, does not take this lightly – so, sword in hand, he takes the decree a little too seriously.



David Latimer, assorted roles
Moby Dick
Herman Melville

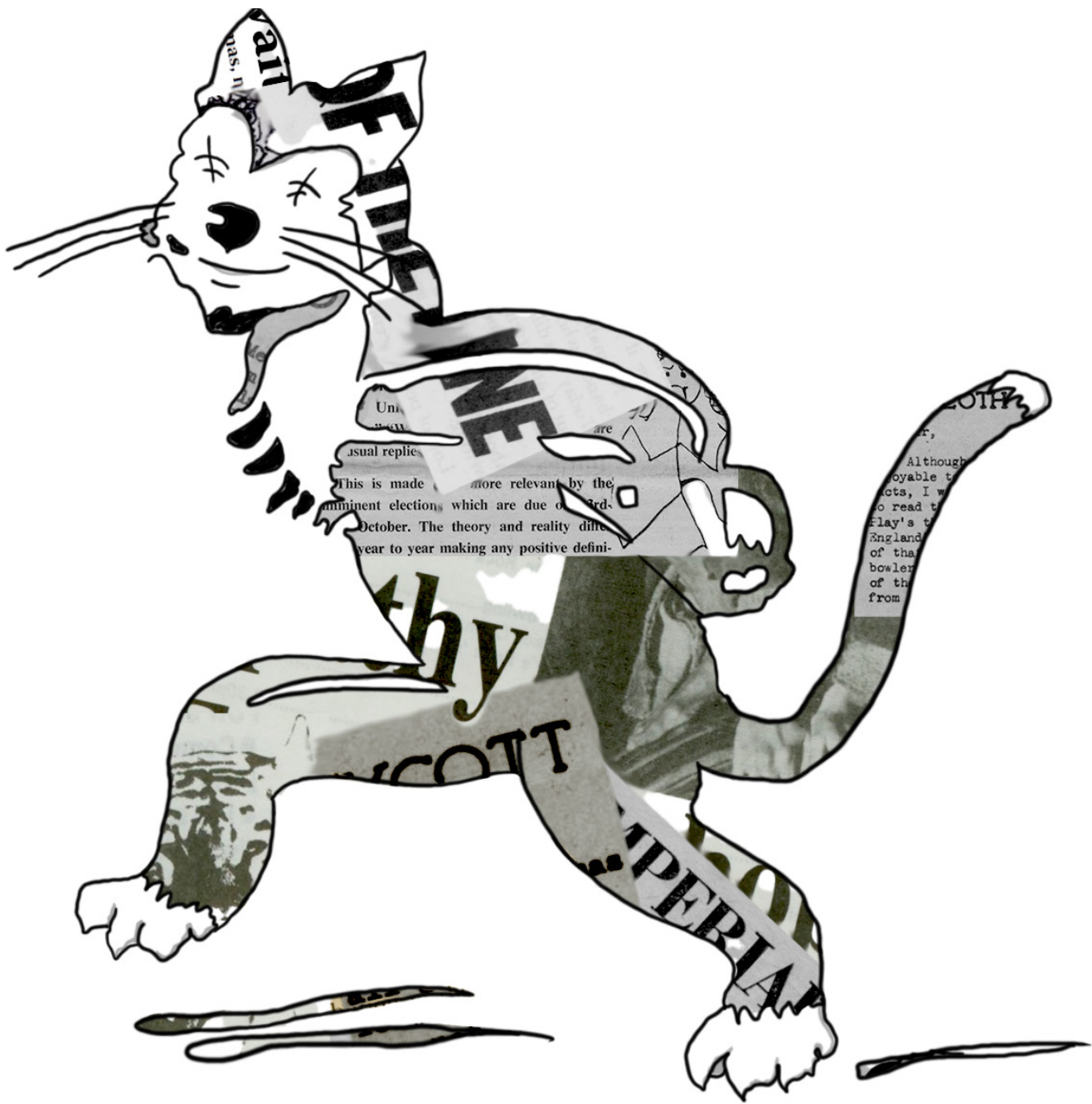
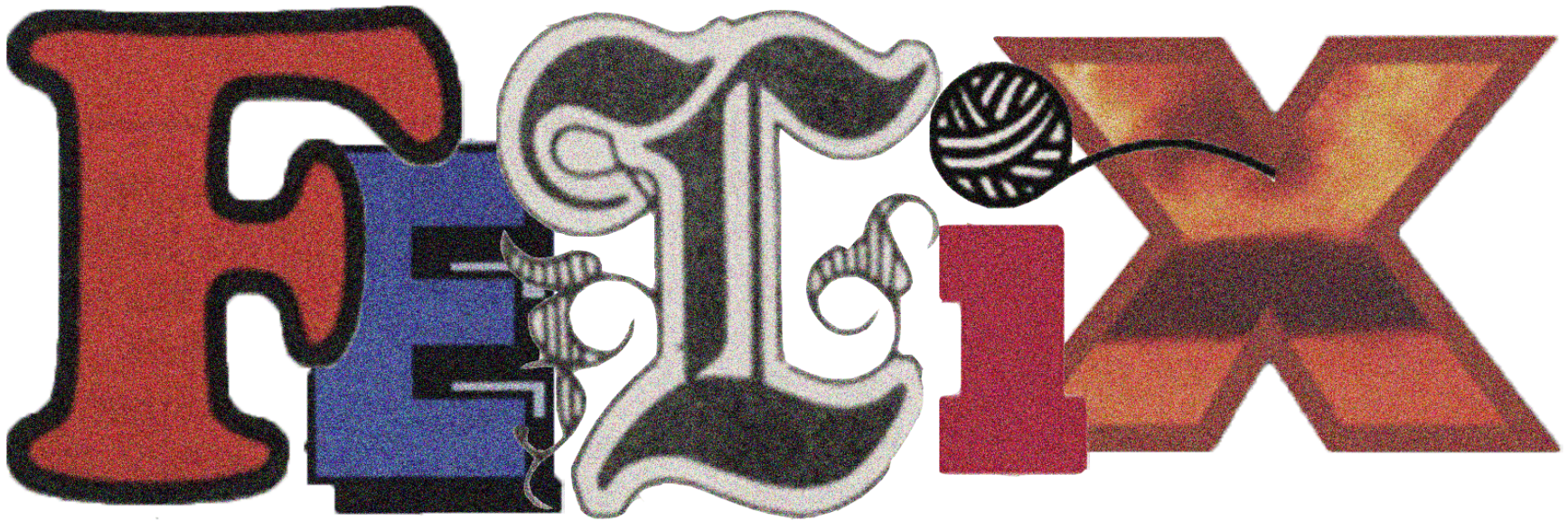
It's *Moby Dick*. It's a classic, and therefore something I feel one has to read. The story follows Ishmael on a doomed journey led by Captain Ahab, who embarks on a bloodthirsty voyage to slay a white whale after losing his leg to a whale bite years before.



Anonymous
Very Important People: Status and
Beauty in the Global Party Circuit,
Ashley Mears

This book is about how the global party circuit works. I am rather fascinated by “professional hot people”, so I guess I want to read about the economy of hot people.





75th Anniversary Special



75 Years of Felix	Editor-in-Chief
1949 - 1950	E.M. "Ted" Hughes
1950 - 1951	C.M Hargreaves
1951 - 1952	J.W Midgley, S.H Wearne, K.P. Eldridge
1952 - 1953	S.H Wearne, A.R Bray
1953 - 1954	D.C Kale, G.H Starmer
1954 - 1955	J.S Sefley
1955 - 1956	P.A Southgate, W.J Hudson
1956 - 1957	J.V Bramle, D.J.H Griffin
1957 - 1958	P.H Levin
1958 - 1959	R.F Kerrod, M.R Honer
1959 - 1960	M.F Barron
1960 - 1961	J. Carter, R.F Cheeney
1961 - 1962	D. Gilbert, M.F Barron, A. Chanomal
1962 - 1963	A.T Pawlowicz
1963 - 1964	J.M Combes
1964 - 1965	N.J Walker
1965 - 1966	D.J Williams
1966 - 1967	C.G Harrison, D.E Potter
1967 - 1968	R.J Redmayne, J.D Cooper
1968 - 1969	P.A Heath, L.C Ebdon

1969 - 1970	M.J Williamson, J.C Carr, D.C Chant
1970 - 1971	A.J Sims, J.A.V Rogers
1971 - 1972	D.A Sugden
1972 - 1973	O.F Dowson
1973 - 1974	A. Campbell, P.A Wadsworth
1974 - 1975	M.J.L Williams
1975 - 1976	P.E.J.U Ekpenyong
1976 - 1977	C.G Dewey
1977 - 1978	J.S Suss
1978 - 1979	J.L Harris
1979 - 1980	C.R Palmer
1980 - 1981	S.J Marshall
1981 - 1982	M.A Smith
1982 - 1983	M.S Taylor
1983 - 1984	P.K Ghosh
1984 - 1985	D.G Rowe
1985 - 1986	D.H Southey
1986 - 1987	D. Jones
1987 - 1988	J.D Hackney
1988 - 1989	W.R Goodwin
1989 - 1990	D.G Smedley
1990 - 1991	A. Butcher
1991 - 1992	A. Harrington
1992 - 1993	J. Beavan
1993 - 1994	R.G Land

1994 - 1995	O. Bennellack
1995 - 1996	R. Walters
1996 - 1997	A.D Feakes
1997 - 1998	J.E Thomson
1998 - 1999	E. Sexton
1999 - 2000	D. Roberts
2000 - 2001	J. Clifford
2001 - 2002	W. Dugdale
2002 - 2003	W. Dugdale
2003 - 2004	A. Coby
2004 - 2005	D. Edwards
2005 - 2006	R. Neate
2006 - 2007	A. Sykes
2007 - 2008	T. Roberts
2008 - 2009	J. Nedic
2009 - 2010	D. Wan
2010 - 2011	K. Shubber
2011 - 2012	M. Colvin
2012 - 2013	T. Arbabzadah
2013 - 2014	J. Letts
2014 - 2015	P. Skett
2015 - 2016	G. Rahman
2016 - 2017	L. Apostolakis
2017 - 2018	F. Fyles
2018 - 2019	A. Djaba
2019 - 2020	H. Alman
2020 - 2021	C. Drysdale

2021 - 2022	S. Lovatt
2022 - 2023	A. Hassan, J. John, I. Ward, Z. Buckland
2023 - 2024	J. John
2024 -	M. Majlisi

75 Years of *Felix*

Our thanks to you all

Produced by:

- Mohammad Majlisi
- Charlotte Probstel
- Sid Diamond
- Ruby Lydford
- Ridhi Talwar
- Juliette Flatau
- Adara Donson
- Timothy Langer
- David Latimer
- Jyotsana Dasoondi
- Izabella Rea
- Samantha Chow
- Cloe Zhong
- Aditi Mehta
- Guillaume Felix
- Ose Mike-Aigbe
- Lila Harrison
- Oscar Mitcham
- Ivin Jose

Happy Birthday Felix!

Monday 9th December will mark the 75th anniversary of *Felix*. This humble newspaper has seen many design changes, editorial changes, budget changes, and more. Scores of editors, writers, photographers, illustrators, and paid copyeditors have worked on the paper, ensuring that Imperial's student, staff and alumni are informed of what is happening across its campuses. Readerships, tastes and more have changed over the years as Felix has constantly evolved to remain relevant as a campus mainstay, whilst other papers, such as the controversial RAG Mag and Broadsheet, the Royal College of Science's newspaper, have died

out. The post-war world of 1949 seems alien now, as the student body has become more diverse, with more students from backgrounds that would seem unconceivable in the late 1940s.

But *Felix* lives on. It's incredibly humbling to be part of a newspaper that has won awards, broken stories that have caught the interest both nationally and internationally, and resulted in the careers of some fantastic journalists.

We have computers more powerful than the systems that took us to the Moon in our pockets now. Our lives, diets and perspectives are enriched with profound novel experiences in the comforts of our homes.

75 years is a long time. It's cause to celebrate that student journalism at an institution such as Imperial, typically apolitical and disengaged with such things, still support our efforts.

We've decided to make a "fake" newspaper to celebrate. Students enjoy our Catnip (formerly Hangman, Coffee Break, FUCKWIT) section and we thought we would treat you to a bonus few articles this week. We have taken the time to look into the archive, and written more about some of the section that make *Felix Felix*, as well as analysing what Felix writes about all the time. Enjoy!

Editorial

What does it mean to be a Felix Editor?

Mohammad Majlisi

I had a little game-plan for my editorials this year, and for my year as editor as a whole. I knew the 75th Anniversary was coming up, and so I wanted my year to be return to *Felix* form, in a sense. We've had some fantastic editors over the years, not least my predecessor Jamie who undoubtedly led a *Felix* renaissance. Last year was not just a return to form, it was Felix at the very best it could be. This year, in part, is a celebration of what *Felix* is and was. I wanted to return to the origin of the paper, and returning to the editorial of that first issue in December 1949, I wanted to make my tenure as editor a year of "a frequently published journal to comment upon the affairs of the College whilst they are still topical, and to bring to the attention of its members the activities of Clubs and. Societies of which people at present know little, and knowing little, tend to care even less." I think we have been doing a pretty good job here in the office.

I hope you've enjoyed reading the three or so pages I have weekly for news. Food and Societies are doing well, and I'm extremely proud of Charlie, the editor of these sections, for putting in the work on top of her own, arduous, final year studies to ensure that those sections are to a high standard. This is not to say the other editors haven't been pulling their weight— I'm immensely proud of the output of our entire team, and the commitment they have shown to prepare every section weekly for the past term. Shout-out Ruby and Juliette for smashing out the illustrations, back covers, and graphiscs. Another great achievement, due to Timothy Langer, our Senior Webmaster, isto have released our new website: it's in fact our third website and replaced our old online edition which was made live in 2020. It's never been easier to publish our articles online, and this is due to the efforts of Timothy, who has gone above and beyond to maintain our old servers, and is also working

on something exciting right now...

On websites, we have been online since 1996, on the cutting edge because we are Imperial's newspaper, and Imperial is always on the cutting edge. It's been redesigned and revamped more than a few times and migrated twice. I believe our current set up will last a while. It's modern, modular, and easy to maintain for students who want to get some web development experience (I know what you are CV warriors).

You're allowed to make mistakes, allowed to figure it out. *Felix* is to my knowledge, one of the only, if not the only, weekly university newspaper still operating in the UK. We do our best, with our small editorial team of only 15: a fraction compared to the majority of the top-tier of student rags, who have massive editorial teams and writers (read humanities students) but we are doing well. I'm also pleased to see Imperial's first years rising up to the occasion and joining our team. I have no doubt

that I am working with future editors, and perhaps editors-in-chiefs, who will ensure our humble newspaper thrives in the years to come.

So, what does it mean to be the Editor-in-Chief?

Well, firstly, it's an amazing gig. As well as news, I organise the running of the paper, and ensure my editors are supported as much as they can be. I don't believe there isn't a section I haven't worked with yet, whether it's help with writing, editorial guidance, or general support for them all. I may have contributed an article or two to a few sections, but I don't write and tell. It's great work, and I love it. There's nothing quite like landing your dream job so young, and I will cherish the time I have.

It's changed me, too. I've enjoyed the praise (please send to felix@ic.ac.uk) and even the mistakes, issues and problems I've ran into. Shit doesn't work out, but it's great to have that chance to pick yourself up and learn from it.

I love news-writing: I didn't intend to be a news journalist, and only got into it last year when I pitched some news stories to the then Editor-in-Chief. I've learnt a lot from his mentorship, and I owe my position now to

him. There have been opportunities and situations, even now as a lowly uni journo, that I am so grateful for, because of the decisions I took last year.

But I suppose it doesn't really answer what it means to be editor in the widest sense. Looking back, across editorials prior, it's always been a fun job. The feeling is ubiquitous. But the stress is also ubiquitous. Ever since we moved to weekly print, we, as editors, have all felt the stress of working overtime often enough, of being receptive and available at all times to answer the questions, queries and challenges our teams raise, and the dread of copyediting, which isn't necessarily the most fun job, but it is nice in its own way. I do enjoy it, when I have opportunity to do so, and I would encourage people who have have an eye for detail, a keenness to learn, and free time on Wednesdays and Thursdays to come in to help us out. We've had up to 12 people copyedit for us this year so far, and we will always welcome more.

There is a sense of camaraderie in *Felix*: I know many have walked the path I am now on, in worse conditions. Due to the nature of *Felix*, teams change very rapidly, and the abilities of our team vary on when they have joined, and who trained them. There was a significant

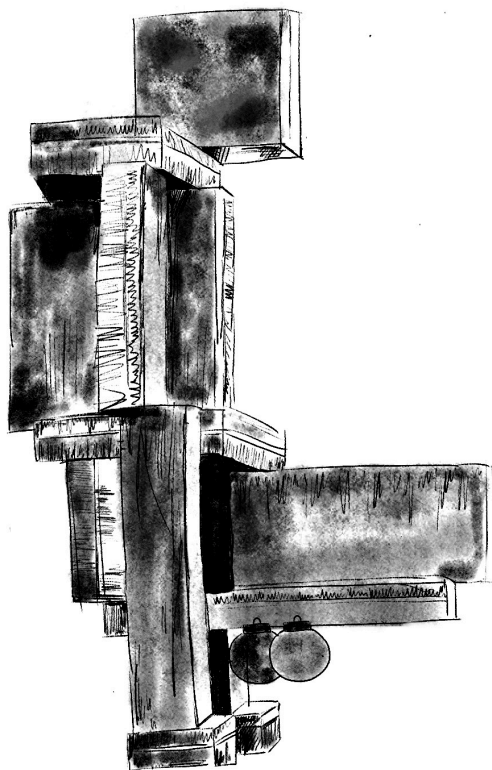
sense of continuity between the years 2020 to 2024, as we had a few years of excellent editors who worked hard to keep the paper in the stage it is today. By the time my year ends, there will be only two or three people remaining from that era, and it has in fact already passed. I view my tenure as a break from the old team, as six or seven of us remain from the era preceding us. By the time my editor year ends, I will be the oldest member, and most experienced still remaining here *Felix*.

It is no longer the post-COVID era, but instead a time of rapid change and renewal as Imperial and students change strategies and perspectives. Writing is harder than before, maintaining a readership is difficult as we compete with a generation raised on social media and with less interest in extra-curriculars, and perhaps a disdain for the hallmarks of liberal democracies: note how the Labour, Conservative, and Liberal Democrat societies died out. Despite this, *Felix* will survive: the first years who have joined are very keen and capable, and I'm sure there are plenty of students who will join our team. Maybe we will shrink, maybe the output of *Felix* will change, but the cat will be kept free one way or another.

ALERT gets ROTUND

New Christmas installation to iconic statue revealed as College seeks to "fix the last few art cock-ups."

Barnaby Hilton-Royce



Ruby Lydford

ALERT will be receiving a temporary installation to mark the Christmas period from the week commencing 9th December, *Felix* can reveal. The new installation, "ROTUND" will feature two baubles hung from ALERT's "knees", and remain in place until the new year.

The baubles will be approximately 50 centimetres in diameter and made of a "trademark ceramic compound". They will be secured to the statue with steel wire. It is unclear what the baubles themselves will look like.

The feature has been designed by Hungarian artist FASOD, and was commissioned by the College following an "internal consultation, comprising both students and staff" earlier this year

in August 2024.

A source familiar with the matter told *Felix* that it was agreed upon following low student satisfaction across departments. *Felix* was also told that College supremos sought to fix the PR errors caused by "last [college] year's rejected mural application and logo redesign", which attracted the ire of students, staff, and alumni alike.

"I think they're really hoping this will fix the last few art cock-ups", the source added.

The work is part of artist FASOD's series "spherical" [sic]. Previous installations have been hung from Iron:Man, the Angel of the North, and Another Place.

FASOD said: "I love Sir Gormley's

work, but I always felt it was unfinished in some way. There was a modernist, rudimentary nature to it all, and I felt that that his vision would be truly realised once I was able to add that extra little bit of absurdism, and place my baubles on it, and capture it within a specific moment of time.

"It's like movies now: everyone talks about shots and talks about stills, but the still has become the shot. In a way, my art does exactly that and captures Gormley's statues in a single frozen moment of time.

"I would also like to say that I told him about this and he vociferously agreed. He even gave me his personal seal of approval."

EXCLUSIVE: Felix revealed to be 64 monkeys in West Basement

NegaFelix

Felix Newspaper announced its strict no artificial intelligence policy to protect the “integrity of journalism and its creatives” in a statement on Instagram last year. However, this week it has been revealed why the College newspaper felt no need to dabble in ChatGPT – they have an office of 64 monkeys on typewriters in West Basement.

Ex-Editor-in-Chief, Barbary Hilton-Royce, told NegaFelix that “this operation has been going on for years. It started as a student’s PhD experiment to see how long it would take the monkeys to type out some classic literature, but then they started coming up with some really good material that just couldn’t be wasted for the monkeys’ sake.”

NegaFelix wanted to further understand the working conditions of the monkeys, so we requested Barnaby access to the side rooms of West Basement that previously no one had had access to. He passed us on to the Head of MoT (Monkeys on Typewriters) Operations, Feb Senton.

“Each of the monkeys has their own typewriter. The spider monkeys generally prefer Olivetti Lettera 32s as it’s a more lightweight machine, while the chimpanzees stick to the stable Olympia SM4. All of them refuse to use the Smith Corona Corsair series, because it’s a piece of shit. M-61 says it’s worst print quality of any vintage machine he’s ever used.”

We asked Felix Treasurer, Emmanuel Frederick, if the monkeys get paid the London Living Wage, but he told us “We’ve tried to pay them, but they don’t really care for it. They all think money is a social

construct, so we just give them unlimited katsu curry from Kokoro. They have unionised multiple times over social issues such as maternity leave and time off for mental health, though.” NegaFelix noted that there was a poster in the office informing Felix members that they may no longer refer to the spider monkeys as “short-handed”.

“Keep the Cat Free” has been *Felix*’s slogan for 50 years now, but NegaFelix wondered if this sentiment extended to the monkeys on typewriters. NegaFelix attempted to interview of the monkeys to get an inside perspective. One monkey, M-36, said “ksfjhksdjksgh ejfb wkwbebkweb”, and M-22 followed up with “dldkhsdgnfks”, one particularly intelligent chimpanzee mentioned the constant disagreements over the thermostat setting between the gibbons and a gorilla. However, M-64 told us “Two households, both alike in dignity,” and while we wanted to hear this statement on the comparison between cat and monkey treatment in the office, Senton requested us to leave immediately as it had “finally happened”.

NegaFelix reached out previous Catnip Editor, Juby Roy, who told us that the paper has been very reliant on the monkeys on typewriters method, oftentimes declining students to write at all. She told us “I had to resign as Catnip Editor because they wanted to just publish M-45’s work under my own name, but when I refused, the committee just dug up some old tweets I had written to get me the sack, anyway.” We asked her if she thought the monkeys were better writers than the students and she responded “well, obviously, the standard of writing from an Imperial College student

is abhorrent. The monkeys write all of the witty editorials. The horoscope monkey is looking into becoming a full-time psychic.” She informed us that every Sophia Prize winner was written by one of the monkeys and played off as human creativity.

The current Editor-in-Chief was too busy copyediting (outside in the rain) to be able to give a statement on the matter, as the monkeys on typewriters are unable to do this role, and artificial intelligence has been banned.



Elon Musk buys Imperial newspaper, renames FelX

Billionaire could only afford FelX (formerly *Felix*) following losses on X (formerly Twitter), paying child support, and spending millions on Trump’s campaign.

Fuillaume Gelix

In a joint statement, Elon Musk, the world’s richest man, has publicly announced a takeover of Imperial College London’s student newspaper, previously known as *Felix*. A statement released by the official FelX Instagram page on Monday announced the rebrand, stating that the new direction of the paper as a right-wing “freedom of speech” news source be visually in line with the branding of Musk’s other ventures.

“The era of imperial [sic] brainrot is over lol,” Musk communicated on X (formerly Twitter). The newly nominated director of the freshly created Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) has promised to overhaul the journalistic institutions of universities abroad in an effort to uphold freedom of speech in the United States’ closest ally.

The announcement comes only hours after President-elect Trump posted on Truth Social, a platform he part-owns, “Felix has become an outlet of DEMOCRATIC fake news. [sic] This may be the WORST student outlet in the UK – maybe the WORLD”. He later denounced

the “tremendous rambling” of editorials and expressed concern at what he perceives as the newspaper’s “liberal, liberal, liberal” bias.

The appointment of the full directorial board has been delayed amid student-led contestation. Amid the controversy, Musk’s team promised not to meddle with FelX’s editorial stance or journalistic independence. A mere reshuffle of sections was announced for purposes of “increased efficiency”. To save costs, the Environment and Science sections are set to disappear. Culture and Books will be rebranded, and renamed to Memes and Podcasts, respectively. The Comments section will be split into two – Approved Opinion and Nonsense Opinion – with submissions published at the discretion of the board. Some believe the Business section’s replacement, Cars & Rockets & Neurochips & More Cars, might push its writing team to shift its focus slightly and specialise in more promising sectors. Catnip has been banned due to Musk being disgusted at satire targeted at him. He deemed the pieces “unfunny”, and “poorly written”. He clarified “you can’t offend me”, but promptly banned the word catnip from all comment sections across all platforms, and was later seen crying on livestream.

A leaked memo from November 24th seems to indicate that the position of Editor-in-Chief will in the future be open to anyone for a one-time purchase of £49.99, while writers will be subject to a freemium model. According to the draft, writers will be able to publish the first 150 words of any piece for free, with each extra dozen words costing an additional 10 pence.



Ose Mike-Aigbe

EDITOR IS DISMISSED

The President, R. H. T. Garnett announced to the Union Meeting on Tuesday last that David Irving had been dismissed from the post of Editor of FELIX due to his unwillingness to co-operate with the Board of Directors.

This is the final and inevitable step in the controversy that has swept L.C. during the past few months. Inevitable because of the truly unique psychology of Mr. Irving who "accepts no middle path or in his own words: "is the only one in step" - I quote Dave Clark.

A lengthy debate ensued on the whole question of FELIX, and general editorial policy. John has summed up the widespread feeling by saying that the magazine will only be successful if there is mutual trust between the Editor, Editorial Board and the Board of Directors, and that the Editor should indeed accept any recommendations made by the Board. No such trust has existed recently, leading to partying on all sides.



IRVING EXPOSED

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE FACTS

Recent events involving the Carnival magazine, Carnival Times, have shed new light on the controversy that raged around the Winter Thematics, which culminated in the dismissal of its Editor, D. A. Irving and a subsequent meeting before a panel of the Union Meeting. Irving was dismissed from the Editorship of Phoenix early last term, and shortly afterwards at a meeting of the L.C. - R.H.T. - W.L.S. Carnival Committee, which included a member of the L.C. Council, he was appointed Editor of the Carnival Times, which was intended as a rag magazine.



One of the most interesting *Felix* stories: infamous Holocaust denier and crackpot David Irving studied Physics at Imperial College, and took on the role of RAG Mag’s editor. He was dismissed because of his, shall we say quaint views on race.

Another Physics alum, and conspiracy theorist, Piers Corbyn, also studied at Imperial around a decade after. He still comes round from time to time: I even got to interview him once.

ESG initiative mandates burning of all books

Maditi Ehta

In a bold push towards sustainability, the Labour Government has unveiled its latest environmental policy to reduce the waste caused by the paper industry. On Sunday 1st December, Labour MP Feb Senton announced plans to “burn all books” in an effort to “cure sustainability” and expedite the UK’s transition to a digital future. Senton declared the 24th as “Flame Day”, a nationwide event where all British residents are mandated to gather at their nearest park and incinerate every paper item they own.

Under the new legislation, the UK will shut down all printing factories in the country and stop importing paper. Senton, summing up the spirit of the policy, finished his speech with “Prioritise progress over nostalgia”. The mandate has caused a divide both in the British population and globally. On X (formerly Twitter), the hashtag #ProgressOverNostalgia has

started trending, heeding Senton’s creative slogan.

Much of the excitement is coming from Imperial freshers, who, in their wokeness, embraced the policy for its “eco-consciousness”. Notably, all the freshers could be seen with their newly purchased iPad Air 5’s in arms around campus. At the South Kensington Campus, Design Engineering students have already banded together to collect textbooks and dump them in Prince’s Gardens. Imperial students have commented that they see it as an excuse to abandon reading altogether, pledging to go “anti-waste”, and instead to consume media primarily in the form of six-second clips.

A countermovement to the policy has also emerged, with protesters burning Kindles, laptops and tablets in defiance, arguing that books are essential to the fabric of a society’s culture over generations, and represent the evolution of human thought. This movement argue that

books to not contribute to majority of the UK’s waste. Some have even rebuked the policy as hypocritical, saying they believe burning books may contribute more emissions than printing books has.

In response to backlash, the Labour government have released a statement clarifying that “paper-based documents in museums will not be burned for practical reasons – none of the admin team know how to use a scanner”.

Still, the government’s stance is firm: by January 2nd, inspection teams will begin searching homes to ensure households do not have paper items. Offenders will receive warnings and fines for up to three violations, after which residents may be penalised with jail time up to seven months for a minor offence. Imperial College did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

Did someone say katsu curry?

Imperial College’s newest initiative to boost student lunch experience makes every outlet in South Kensington to sell katsu curry.

Emily Jacobi

Imperial College’s newest initiative to boost student lunch experience forces every outlet in South Kensington to sell katsu curry.

Katsu, a Japanese curry served with rice and panko-coated deep-fried fish, chicken or tofu, will become the new default meal at Imperial College’s South Kensington campus, replacing all other options. The decision came out after Kimiko and Kokoro’s katsu curry became the highest selling menu items with a margin of 720% compared to the second highest selling item on campus, The katsu coffee.

“Data shows, students want katsu curry, and the demand shows no sign of plateauing”, reported Hamin Ju, Head of the Cultural Diversity department at CrabFew, Imperial’s catering service. “It started with the closing of Peo Nizza and Chao Hu, due to a lack of demand. The

SCR Cafeteria is barely surviving, and we cannot continue to depend on the salad bar as our only source of income.” Ju continued. Renovations to convert Peo Nizza and Chao Hu into Katsu Curry Outlets “Katsu Outlet 75” and “Curry Don’t Worry”, will start the on 14th December and are planned to finish the 32nd, giving a week buffer before term starts again in 2025.

Some students were particularly outraged by the news that the Library Café in its current form would be closing, scared of the possibility of being unable to get their afternoon procrastination caffeine fix. However, the café released an Instagram post on Monday announcing the new caffeine infused katsu curry options, served both hot and iced, served in the familiar takeaway cups. They assured that the option to add oat milk to the new beverage would remain in line with the College’s envi-

ronmental goals.

When *Felix* asked if the outlets would serve similar items or if students will be given some sort of variety, Rina Taka, assistant to Ju, was quick to state that “providers of produce will significantly vary between Katsu Outlet 7 and Curry Don’t Worry since one will use roux from Golden Curry, the other from Kokumaru. The cooking methods will also vary significantly. Inspired by Katsu Outlet 18 and Katsu Outlet 61, Katsu Outlet 75 will cook their jasmin rice for 17 minutes, while Curry Don’t Worry, has their recipe set to 17.5 minutes.

“It is about time,” avid student Manny Dercadona shared with *Felix*. “I always have to wait three to four minutes outside Katsu Outlet 23 before I get my food and it’s just way to long.”

The origin of the Centrefold

Felix's nude centrefolds are now notorious amongst sports teams and freshers who still get squeamish about nudity. First introduced in 2005 after some trial runs in the years prior, the centrefold started as a way to advertise yourself, before becoming a sports team tradition by the late 2010s. However, its origins in *Felix* are much more interesting: in the 1950s, profiles of students were included in editions, first humorous, but then evolving into more serious features. By the late 1960s and 1970s, the profile had become "Page 3", where students (often women) were advertised, in the hopes of attracting friends, or perhaps lovers.

Also, we would have re-enacted this lovely drawing with the hockey team, but they didn't reply to our emails, despite several follow-ups from the Editor and their contacts. We may feature one for Varsity though...





Sport

Mens III's unlikely success

NegaFelix

Imperial College's third football team has earned a place in the third round of the FA Cup. The new manager, Feb Senton, has employed a 4-4-2 strategy influenced by experience mostly limited to Football Manager 24 in the computing suite of the Huxley Building. This is the first year the FA has allowed BUCS teams to enter the qualifying rounds of the FA Cup, and the IIIs have made the most of it. They were fortunate enough to face level nine teams Mangotsfield United F.C. and Shaftesbury F.C., before shocking level eight side Margate with a stunning 2-0 victory. In the first round proper, they drew Slimbridge AFC, and triumphed after extra time thanks to an audacious halfway-line chip from Rilliam Wayner. Weymouth were drawn in the second round, with the IIIs winning after penalties.

Negafelix reached out to the IIIs set piece coach, Claaron Ements, in reaction to their shock victories. "I think people think football is way harder than it is," said the Aerospace Engineering student, "but really you've just got to treat the ball like a bomb, and your goal like a bomb, and their players like a bomb, and their goal like a bomb-diffuser."

After the win against Weymouth, a group of freshers on the bench suggested the tactic of "lying across the goal," but this was soon disregarded in light of the offside rule. The Imperial IIIs have had several mishaps with the offside rule as they "don't usually play with it; it ruins the spirit of the game."

Senton, with his data science background, has been clear in always implementing his footballing philosophy. This left some IIIs players confused when Weymouth FC players were doing sprints

at half time. "They didn't even do a team-building activity before the game," one player said. "I know they never spend an hour analysing XG stats on Stata while eating sushi, like we did."

The strikers disrupted Weymouth centrebacks in the second half by interrogating them on their GCSE results mid-match. A source revealed one player even asked their keeper to explain the second law of thermodynamics during a corner. Despite their superiority in the level two certificate field, Imperial players were left feeling resentful at half time, Ponrad Cerry noting "If I'd known they were raking in this much, I would've dropped my degree, skipped the lectures, and just done BTECs! Who needs vector calculus when you can be making more than my entire student loan just by lumping a ball up the pitch and calling it defence?"

Some of the boys were disappointed not to be included come match day: "I'm shocked," said Menry Hilne. "I'm only here because I like a piss-up on Wednesdays and flirting with the hockey girls. If I'd known I could be playing against a premier league club, I would've replied to my sec's harassment on Spond."

The IIIs credit their success to pre-match preparation, including a diet of curly fries and pints at the Union Bar. 'Carb-loading is essential,' said striker Beo Lallard, clutching a double pint as he explained their hydration strategy. The IIIs' goalkeeper has a unique pre-match ritual, reportedly listening to the Imperial March on repeat to get into the zone. He was also spotted taping his gloves, not out of necessity, but because he believes it makes him "more aerodynamic."

When asked about facing Spurs, midfielder Rilliam Wayner confidently re-

Business

On ESG

Did Siamond

I'd like to write a column addressing, what appears to me, as one of the elephants currently in Queen's Tower room: our graduates go on to do some of the most influential, lucrative, yet morally questionable jobs in the country. So, why isn't this moral ambiguity the subject of chatter more regularly overheard on the Sherfield walkway or in a lecture you should probably be paying more attention to (and whose idea was it to give biology elephants anyway)? As the "few days off after exams" enters its third week, I've had the rare opportunity to think about something that isn't physics, something actually real: how does one turn this question into a column, and, like any good Imperial student, how can one reference it on their LinkedIn?

So, continuing like any good Imperial student, I confided in one of my three friends (and no, the lab partner you don't see outside of campus doesn't count). "Perhaps I could feature a different one of these industry giants per column? One article could look at what the hell a quant is and why they're on a salary I would dropkick a small child for (they don't do that, probably). Maybe I could discuss an article by The Guardian on May 14, 2023, where it was reported that BlackRock's ACS Climate Transition World Equity Fund claims to invest in companies "well-positioned to maximise the opportunities and minimise the potential risks associated with a transition to a low-carbon economy" – yet it has \$219 million in 10 of the 15 leading oil and gas companies. I could attempt to speak

to some Imperial students hopeful of interning there and ask them: "what do any of those words actually mean?"

"Oh, so you're like, doing a Good Work?" - One of my three friends.

If, like me, those words meant nothing to you, Good Work is an annoyingly entertaining YouTube channel where someone smarter, more eloquent, and with better hair essentially does this same gimmick better than I will, through well-made, around five minute, interview-style videos. I'd highly recommend checking them out, if I wasn't so bitter and vindictive. Instead, read whatever passable drivel I churn out in-between lab reports and living a healthy, balanced life (more lab reports).

In summary, I probably should've just written the ESG article or sent Rolando a 30-second voice note outlining, with fewer elephants mentioned, this column idea. In all seriousness, this is essentially my idea for the scaffolding of a column I'd like to write. As someone equally likely to work for, lobby against, or petrol bomb one of these companies, I'd like to be sympathetic to both those planning to work for one of these companies and those leaning toward the latter of my aforementioned potential careers. I want these columns to provide a light-hearted reminder that perhaps the power and its use in these companies – who, let's face it, are made up of our classmates from years gone by and will be made up of our current classmates for years to come – merit more discussion.

plied, 'As long as we mark Harry Kane, we'll be fine. It's Spurs after all.' After being informed Kane now plays in Germany, he added, "Oh, right, well, they are managed by a fat Australian. The only block we will need to break down is his

atheroma."

With Tottenham Hotspur now set to visit Fortress Carrington – a pitch described by one FA inspector as "technically functional" – let's see what awaits.

Feature

Impfluencers – a look into the big names on the My Imperial Campus app

NegaFelix

The My Imperial Campus app has skyrocketed to seventh place on the Google Play and Apple App Store charts under the social media category. This surprising influx of downloads and engagement comes after a major update, introducing new features that allow users to create content like other social media giants, and publicly share and track students' numerical data and location. The Campus app is now available for download for anyone in the world, including those from outside Imperial, however only students, staff, and alumni are able to become post publicly. The location tracking and lecture sign in features have allowed NegaFelix to unveil the surprising statistic that 20% of students actually spend less than one hour on campus a week.

One new feature is that students are able to track payments made on campus and write a short caption. One impfluencer known for this is Cantonio Hahine, who has garnered 54,000 followers for his excessive library café trips. On Wednesday alone he could be seen to have purchased 13 cappuccinos in the library café, posting them all with no caption. One fan of his, Juby Roy, said she loved to follow his expeditions as he seemed "introspective and mysterious". She further explained that a core part

of the Cantonioverse is "Friday sticky chicken at Kokoro where he always posts the caption "nice"".

Another core feature is that students are able to upload all their official test scores and grades directly from Blackboard so that all other accounts can view them. The most followed account, at 1.2 million followers, belongs to now global influencer, By Tolton, who after publishing their 43% on an assignment for public view received thousands of comments praising them for their "transparency" and being "so real". "Really their bravery is incredible," said one commenter, Woven Ilkinson, "this is why By is the people's prince." It is estimated that Tolton made around £3000 in ad-revenue for this third-class grade.

By ultimately secured their 2:1 at the end of the academic year and published this publicly on the app whilst on livestream to promote a sponsorship deal with Quorn Picnic Eggs, huge influx of activity leading the app to crash. One Aerospace student posted "I'll never forget that day, that academic year was more intense than any F1 race for the By-sexuals [the name of Tolton's fanbase] - the academic comeback was insane."

Negafelix noted that the academic powerhouses that were consistently on

”

One impfluencer known for this is Cantonio Hahine, who has garnered 54,000 followers for his excessive library café trips.

the Dean's List, receiving firsts on every assignment, generally had far less followers. This could be correlated to their lack of personality and humour. A notable exception to this trend is Design Engineering undergraduate Feb Senton that has garnered almost 200,000 dedicated followers and received a second-place year ranking last academic year. He uses the platform to post nude drawings and 3-D printed dildos under his "coursework (arts and crafts)" tab on his profile. After this influx of fame, he is hoping he will be nominated for Turner Prize by the end of his time at Imperial.

While there have been many impfluencer success stories, unfortunately for some, this app has crushed a number of students' perception that they are a "BNOC" (Big Name On Campus), as the top 10 followed students list has put everything into light.



Despite the grand name, Mother Nature is just another petulant teenager

Moscar Itcham

Representatives from long-time sponsors of Imperial, BP and Shell, confirmed that they had spoken with the Earth herself in "A Convenient Truth", a documentary released on Netflix last weekend. They explained that rather than the rational being they had expected, she was actually an irritable teen whose tantrums were causing rampant climate change.

"We saw Apple's commercial where they received a visit and knew we had to meet her for ourselves," Ritual Coordinator, Charles Maza, explained in the documentary. "Now we understand what we've really been dealing with this whole time: angst."

Dr Riederike Fotto, a climate attribution scientist at Imperial, has been arguing for years that climate change is "simply too random to be the result of anything other than Gaia getting into an argument with her brother Mars." She told *Felix* that "colonising Mars could actually be disastrous if he is in a similarly vulnerable emotional state."

Some environmentalists are still worried about what effects these tantrums will have on biodiversity, but Campaigns Manager for Environmental Society, Belle Pugh, told *Felix* "I'm not worried because most of these extinctions will be insects. What ACT shows is that

what's happening now are most likely not our fault." Other activists are lauding the film as a tipping point for their movement. A spokesperson for the Fossil Liberation Front told *Felix* that they were "deeply worried that climate action might have created more jobs, liveable cities and clean water by accident. It's important we preserve biodiversity and reduce air pollution, but all I see is governments acting for the wrong reasons."

Keith McCoy, former Exxon Senior Director of Federal Relations, made a statement after "A Convenient Truth" was published on Twitter, formerly X, "For the last 30 years I have been saying it wasn't us. It was my job to represent Exxon's position, and when they distanced themselves from me for saying we had been lobbying against climate action, I felt betrayed. #No-tAllMen #JusticeForKeithMcCoy".

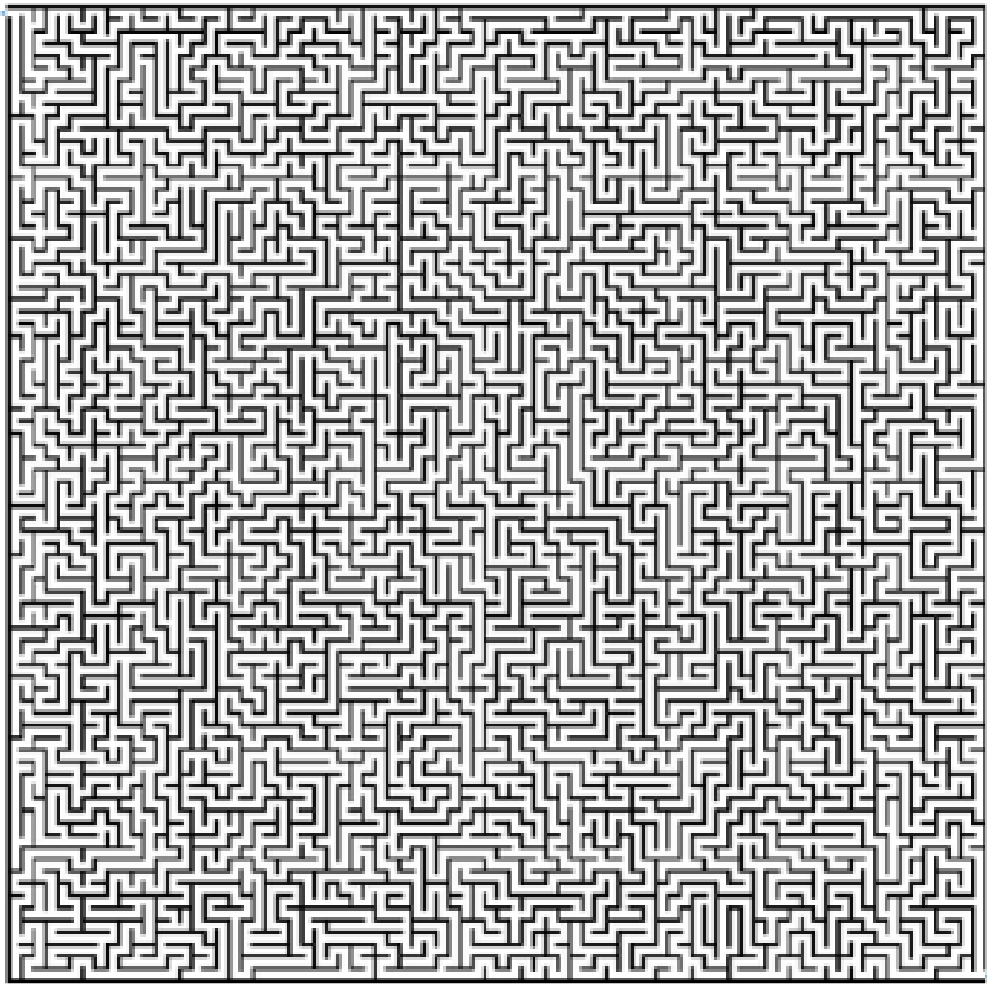
The vital context "A Convenient Truth" provides shows the rest of the world the true potential of oil and gas companies to advance our society. The rest of us can only sit and wait as their employees enjoy utopian abundance on several recently reclaimed islands, formerly Kiribati and Palau before they were completely dissolved.

BP-ICAM did not respond to a request for comment.

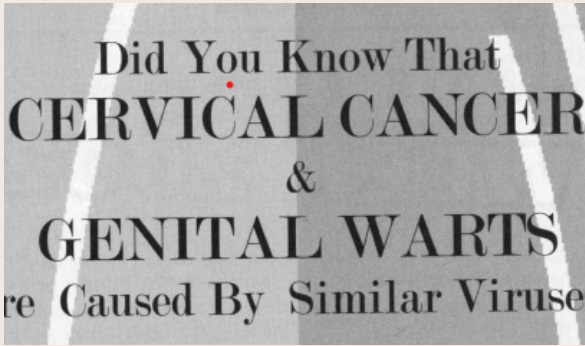
Puzzle

Jivin Ose

Enjoy our Special 75th Anniversary *Felix* themed Maze worth a whopping 69 points



Old *Felix* ads were great



BABY FOUND IN QUADRANGLE

SMOKING CONCERT



WARNING - THESE NEW ARE DANGEROUS.

Nov. '55.



FELIX

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION



No. 175 FRIDAY, 4th MAY, 1962 4d.

EJECTIONS AND ELECTIONS

by DAVE GILBERT

house was speaking at a General Studies lecture last Tuesday entitled "The Assault on Freedom". Mrs. Whitehouse, for those who are not in the know, is the Secretary of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association.

Union... point... Mrs... a false... Whitehouse held the... House... part of the audience... her... a... which appeared... ally... The... able to the main body of... The...

PORN: A Communist Plot?





TWO GIRLS NEEDED

FROM EACH DEPARTMENT
TO STAND IN THE RAIN,
WIND AND SNOW FOR
HALF AN HOUR EVERY
FORTNIGHT

**SELLING
FELIX**

Don't all rush at once
drop a note to Felix via
The Union Rack or con-
tact a

Member of the Felix Staff.

TWO GIRLS NEEDED

WANTED

People for humping paper on

Wed. 11th December, 1974

in the old Union Office — Beit A

at 2.00p.m.

£2.00

for an hour's work.

titles thrown at Hop

cause Union Chaos

- in twelve easy lessons

STIMULATING EASY TOUCH ACTION

starts with a introductory six minute talk by Jim Parkes (the Northernner who invented the system) and continues with Mr. Parker's voice telling you exactly what to do, spelling out each letter ~~with our power only tone~~.

MORE WOMEN.

Among the points taken up with the College in their most far-reaching is more women to enter

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MAN?

Brykrom
Bi focal
Strling vial
Writes in five different colours
Preferably a colour not found in nature.
New calculator!

GARDEN HALL PARTY

Music, Free Food and CHEAP

Fri. 22nd. Nov. 8p.m. till

Price 15p. **WOMEN**

I was amazed how a group of people of supposed above average intelligence could behave like absolute idiots. The events of the meeting included holding a coin in your crutch (having previously pretended to stick it up your asshole) and waddling down some steps to drop it in a paper cup. Was this practice really worth taking up even a few minutes of a normal humans life? The whole

Member of the Felix Staff.

starts wit
X talk by
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out each

at 2.00p.m.
£2.00
for an hour's work.

OOZE!
ate.
EE?!

ABORTION POLICY

Union have again changed their mind on abortion and are now supporting free abortion on demand.

In a remarkable about turn the Union's annual general meeting reversed policy passed at the previous Union meeting and decided to support the 'Abortion Law Reform Association'.

Proposing the motion, Merche Clark said that each woman should be able to make up her own mind on abortion. She called for an increase in day care abortion facilities.

An anti-abortion amendment proposed by Barry Austin called for more help for women who have babies. The meeting accepted his proposals but did not pass a section demanding full legal protection for the unborn child.

God Chose America

Julian Butcher casts a critical eye over the faith and beliefs of the Mormon church.

ty—is the e?



The Mormon Church in Exhibition Road

Dickless

—I'm a Man 12"

Sex war

Mr Ross Curds, has been elected as Women's officer at University College London Union. As the first male Women's Officer, he will not be allowed into the NUS Women's conference and, will not be able to use women's facilities. There appear to be few complaints

ive of women at the college.

nt Loans For Sale

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

What does Felix actually print?

Sid Diamond

If, like me, you’ve been too swamped by Imperial’s relentless workload to have read as much *Felix* as you’d have liked, don’t worry—I’ve got you covered. I’ve asked AI to read it for us.

Instead of doing my degree, I’ve sank far too many hours into “fine-tuning” (mildly tweaking pre-made code to produce results that just about work) two pre-trained transformers (the PT part of ChatGPT) that now live on my computer. I then fed these transformers 3 *Felix* issues from each of the 75 years and here’s what I found:

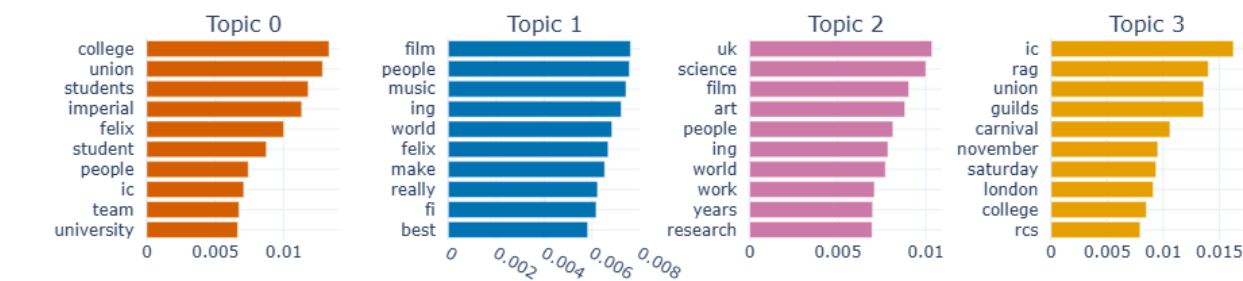
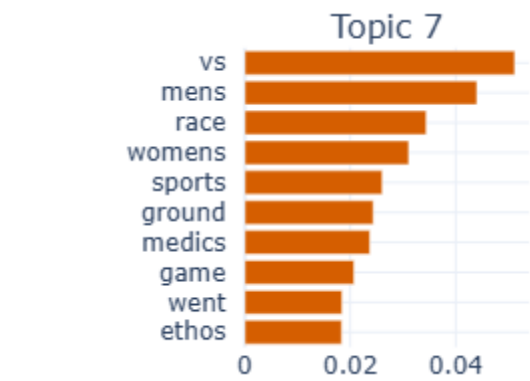
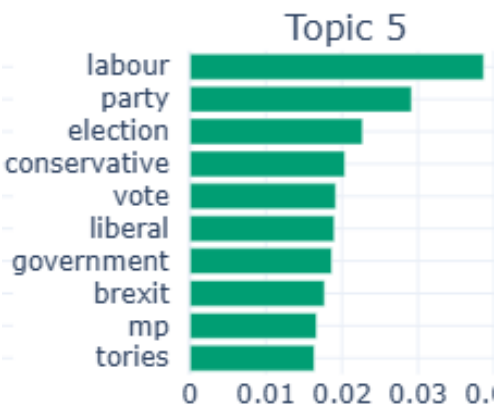


Fig 1: The words most representative of the largest identified topics across 210 Felix articles identified by a msmarco-distilbert-base-v3 transformer (a tiny wizard called BERT who lives in my computer)

What have been the most common topics discussed across every *Felix* article over the years? As it turns out, the four largest topics aren’t exactly enlightening. In fact, they look about as profound as the words on that pointless fridge magnet you get during Freshers’ Week—the one that’s either lost by Day Seven or somehow still clinging to your fridge in Hammersmith.

Topic five is where BERT gets definitive: UK Politics ranks as the sixth-largest topic and the most clearly identifiable for humans. Furthermore, even though only 10.67% of *Felix* ‘s existence has coincided with Brexit, it has clearly made a sizeable impact, landing among the top 10-identified words for this topic. Interestingly, despite Labour being in power for ~35% of the years since 1949, *Felix* seems to associate the party more closely with this topic than the Conservatives. This likely (though not necessarily) suggests Labour gets more mentions in Felix.



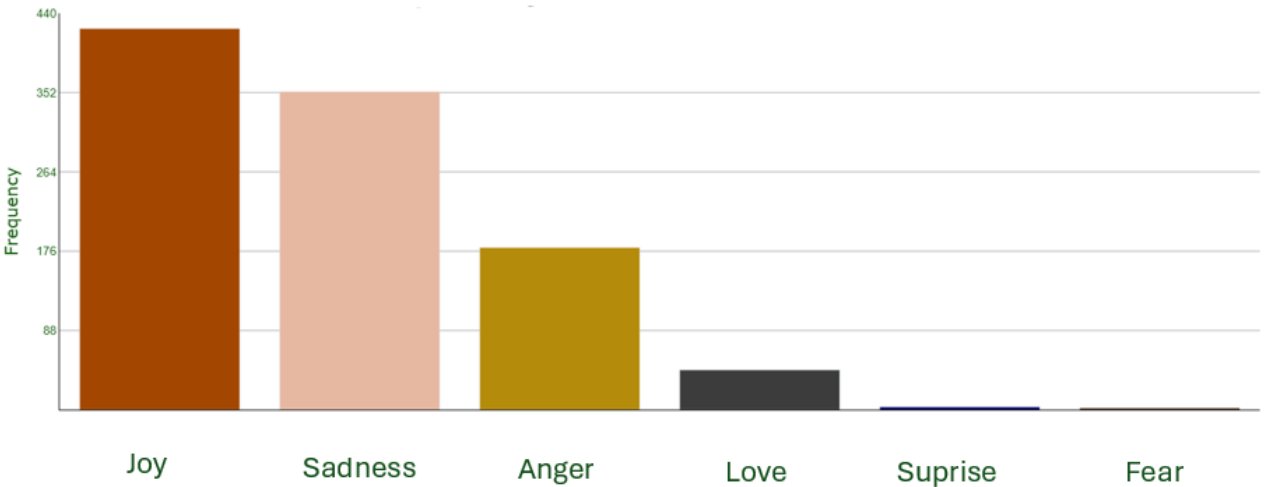
The next clearly human-identifiable topic BERT highlights appears to be Imperial sports. From 1949 to today, sports have been central to Imperial’s identity and a consistent feature, so it comes as no surprise to see it feature as such a prominent topic.

Now, instead of further prodding of the largest 48 topics BERT found us, I’ve attached the full list on the website.

Additionally, I used a second transformer model called ALBERT to analyse the emotional tone of each article I had stored, classifying them as joyful, sad, angry, loving, afraid, surprised, or fearful. Out of the 1,005 articles processed, 423 were classified as joyful, 352 as sad, 180 as angry, 44 as loving, 3 as surprised, and just 2 as afraid. From these, ALBERT identified the highest likelihood of membership to an emotion per article, and I’ve compiled the corresponding articles. Given the dataset size I did not find articles for the loving, afraid, or surprised categories—but let’s focus on what I did find.

Fig 2: A bar chart showing the distribution of 1,005 Felix articles assigned to one of six emotions, [joyful, sad, angry, loving, afraid, or surprised], by a fine-tuned ALBERT-base-v2 transformer (the BERT wizard’s weird cousin ALBERT)

The most joyful article across 210 *Felix* issues from 1949 to now is, in true Imperial fashion, careers related. *Felix* #817 from 1989, a careers issue special featuring an article on finding your perfect job was predicted to be 99.76% joyful. Thus, perhaps what we conclude from the accompanying article snippet is that money can’t buy you a 99.76% chance of happiness?



The saddest article came in issue number 1062 from 1996: a scathing critique of the state of halls submitted by a student “in no state to fight any more battles.” ALBERT scored it a 99.45% likelihood of sadness.

I hope this article has provided some insight into the curious content within *Felix*. As for me, I now find myself in the unfortunate position of needing to create yet another document-summarising tool to catch up on lectures — lectures I missed while building a document — summarising tool. If only there was some commercially available tool capable of badly summarising lecture notes.

How is Felix printed?

Mohammad Majlisi

One of the questions I am asked quite regularly as Editor is “How is *Felix* printed?” Most people have the misconception that we still do everything in our office, from writing, to copyediting, to laying out, to printing, and distribution. We don’t. We have an external printer in Cambridgeshire: you can see the exact name and address if you like on page two of every *Felix* printed since the redesign (and probably before then too!) but we do everything digitally. Gone are the days of the lithograph and two part-time Union employees to help us. Instead, *Felix* runs on a weekly schedule, with tight page-counts and chasing up of busy editors who may have forgotten to update me on the pagination. Often, I am seen in the office, anxiously waiting for a WhatsApp notification on a Monday or Tuesday, ready to finalise everything so that editors don’t accidentally make a mistake with how many pages they are allotted. By Tuesday. Every section apart from News is usually laid out, and my army of copyeditors come in to pick apart every little bit of the article one by one to ensure there aren’t any spelling, punctuation, or layout mistakes. Articles are then sent to print on Thursday’s. We’re usually in the office until five in the afternoon, rushing to complete every little task there is. My body has now gotten used to the stress. But *Felix* has

only been digital for a little while (relative to its age): approximately 30 years or so. Before, the newspaper would be laid out by hand. The earliest example I can find of how *Felix* was printed is from #154. Until at least 1960, *Felix* was printed off campus, with students laying out articles on pasteboards. Everything would be manually typed, taking the team “seven or eight hours”, pasted on boards. The printers would often have to fix issues or mistakes on these boards. This wasn’t just a simple backspace either: a new line would have to be typed out, cut out carefully and pasted on top of the error. At the printers, photos would be taken of the boards, and the negatives would be developed on plates which the printers could use as screens. These would then be printed, with the then eight-page count printed as two pieces and bound.

By the 1970s, the Union had bought an offset-litho printer and a Varitype typesetter as well as hiring a part time printer to help students produce *Felix*. The quality dramatically increased, although mistakes still made their way through. *Felices* of this era tend to have wonky lines, and inconsistent printing due to issues with the ink. By now *Felix* was printed on campus, and the team would spend hours getting editions ready for Fridays: issues had become much more regular due to

the introduction of the sabbatical Editor role, and an in-house printing press. Issues remained however, as the press was very unreliable, breaking down regularly. I spoke with a former editor whose tenure was in the 70s and he told me that printing almost “drove him to breaking point on a regular basis”. One one occasion, the production team finished printing at 7.20am on Friday morning, leading to many editors skipping their lectures.

By 1979, the old mechanical varityper had been replaced by a phototypesetter, costing the Union £8000 in process (around £38,500 when adjusted for inflation). Paid partly by the College and Union, the typesetter machine was on the front cover of *Felix* #504, no doubt a relief to the frustrated editors at the time. A feature in 1989 shows how *Felix* was still produced in house: it’s still quite similar to the 1960 process, albeit done in house but with the phototypesetter still in use.

Around this time, *Felix* became digital, and we cycle back to bad design choices caused by 2000s brain, and wrestling with the delicate beast that is the Adobe Suite. However, we can get really straight lines now so thats a plus.

Win a bag full of Gay Porn!



offending material, a bag full of VHS tapes.



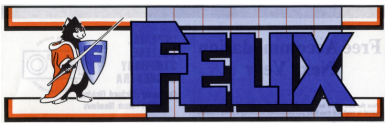
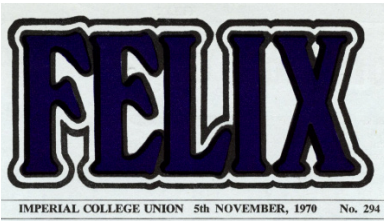
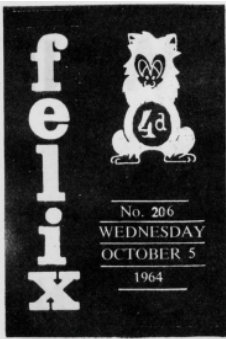
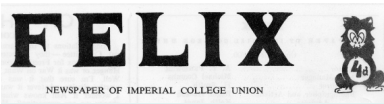
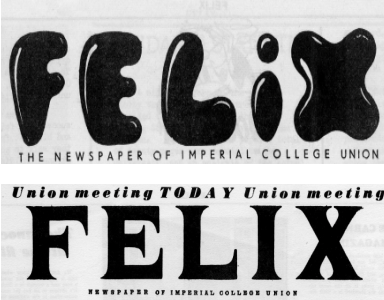
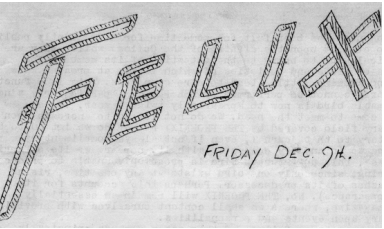
You could always give away the world’s worst Christmas present...



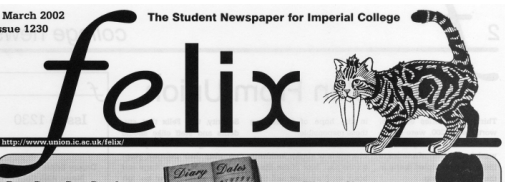
And if you’re ever feeling lonely, Gay Porn will never leave you...



Or you could just have a wank. T decision - is yours!



KEEP THE CAT FREE



The student voice of Imperial College London since 1949



The award-winning student newspaper of Imperial College

"Keep The Cat Free" Issue 1,451 felixonline.co.uk

29.01.10

"Keep the Cat Free"

24/01/14 Issue 1565 felixonline.co.uk

Founded 1949

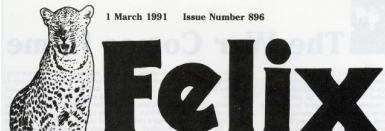


FRIDAY 13th MAY 2016



The Student Newspaper of Imperial College London

KEEP THE CAT FREE



ARTS & CULTURE

Beabadoobee at Ally Pally

On Thursday the 21st of November, Beabadoobee wrapped up her UK Tour with a sold-out show at London's iconic Alexandra Palace.

Arts Writer
ADITI MEHTA

Alexandra Palace was buzzing before the show began as fans gathered outside the hall to enjoy plenty of classic food options such as sausages, chips, and pints. Despite no opening act, the crowd arrived early to secure spots in the standing-only arena, while other struggled to glimpse the stage between the sea of heads.

Beabadoobee (Beatrice Kristi Laus) took the stage promptly at 8:30pm sporting a matching denim ensemble with a Union Jack, a tribute to her British roots. Her setlist mainly featured tracks from her 2024 album and titular-tour, *This Is How Tomorrow Moves*.

Although her initial interactions with the audience felt a bit rehearsed, Beabadoobee quickly found her rhythm. She even showed the audience a vulnerable moment when she revealed her first visit to Alexandra Palace was

at 16, accompanied by her best friend. Reflecting on how far she has come, stood on stage at Alexandra Palace, Beabadoobee was brought to tears.

Beabadoobee's performance showcased both her range of songs and vocals. Fans sang along to her mellow songs waving their flashlights, and screamed along to her high-energy indie rock numbers. Throughout, the crowd was engaged. Beabadoobee's vocals and band effortlessly matched the quality of her studio recordings. Her voice resonated

hauntingly through the Alexandra Palace Hall. She sounded unreal.

Fans left elated, many clutching her well-designed merchandise. Given the smooth journey out of Alexandra Palace, I am sure each person relived the concert through their videos, smiling all the way home. It was a night to remember, and proof that Beabadoobee is a rising talent who knows how to leave her audience wanting more.

A Hook-ing Performance

Is Neverland still the dream of eternal adventure and youth or simply, the dream of "a greedy little boy"?

Arts Writer
ADARA DONSON

From the classic Disney of our childhoods to new renditions of the tale, the world of Neverland with all its symbolism is held in high regard by many, perhaps more than ever during university. *Peter Pan and Wendy* recounts the story of the three

Darling siblings, particularly Wendy, who feels overwhelmed at her seeming confrontation with 'growing up' and being 'finished at finishing school'. When chasing his shadow, Peter Pan is spotted and begins to describe a world of adventure, childhood and of 'never growing up'. Emboldened, Wendy, John and Michael fly away to Neverland where they encounter swash-buckling pirates, mermaids and a host of lost boys.

On Friday 29th November, I attended ICSM Drama Soc's third performance of *Peter Pan and Wendy* at Union Concert Hall in Beit. There was an immediate sense of community and warmth as various cast members welcomed the audience at the doors. Imperial Marrow were there to raise awareness for the Anthony Nolan stem cell register, selling popcorn galore and raffle tickets to raise funds for their important cause.



Clockwise: Wendy, Peter Pan, Tinkerbell & Captain Hook ICSM Drama



In the home of the Darling Family ICSM Drama

Wendy, Peter Pan and Peter Pans' shadow ICSM Drama

Amidst a walking crocodile, a barking dog and a fairy, the characterisations were a definite highlight of the play. The eponymous protagonists were both convincingly portrayed. True to both Gunderson’s adaptation (and very Imperial-coded), I enjoyed Wendy’s

singing their motif ‘Argh-Argh-Argh-Argh-Argh’. The Darling Clan and Lost Boys were thought-provoking, bringing appreciation to the very concept of family. Comedic costuming was by far my favourite: the animals, shadow and mermaid were definitive highlights. The

a lady” and the unattainable perfection of youthful Neverland. Functionally, the design layout was simple: a bed, a telescope pointing to the audience and a chest of drawers for Tinker Bell. The crew’s execution of Tinker Bell was great – from her being a flickering light to her

ensue – Lost Boy against Pirate, Peter against Hook. The clusters grew and red lighting shrouds all. Then the tick-tock of the clock rang out into the silence. And so, it was won. As we cyclically fly back to the Darling bedroom, nothing has seemingly shifted – except our entire



The Pirate Crew ICSM Drama

Tootles, Curly and Slightly ICSM Drama

Tiger Lily and Jerome, the crocodile ICSM Drama

passionate dreams of following in the footsteps of Marie Curie and receiving a Nobel Prize. In a very meta moment, Peter Pan and his entire heroic identity in *Peter Pan* is questioned, spinning the whole second act in disarray. While initially feeling out of place, this revelation in retrospect was effectively built up throughout. Sadly, I felt the

supporting cast had cohesive, youthful outfits embodying the whimsical, dream-like Neverland. Truthful to previous adaptations the main cast’s outfits were once again, cheery and appropriate to the contextual, joyous landscape. The script was effective and classic, scattered with intermittent sprinklings of modern, relatable jokes. At times, I felt this was a

audience revival system, as her wings charged up from red to green. After we are whisked away, we are in Neverland. The backdrop of an oceanic view, painted of golds and rich blues was lovely; I primarily enjoyed the contrast between the Pirate Ship and Cove of treasures to the Lost Boys’ Lair of trinkets. As imagined, these were more complex,

outlook. Overall, whilst I wasn’t emotionally transcended, I thoroughly enjoyed ICSM Drama Soc’s *Peter Pan and Wendy*. It is abundantly clear the time, commitment and integral role each member of the cast and crew played in building this incredible performance. The entirety of the play felt very



Peter Pan and Captain Hook in a fierce battle ICSM Drama

Wendy tells the kids a late night story ICSM Drama

usual innocent, childhood love typically portrayed between Peter and Wendy absent. A few honourable mentions go to the pirate crew, who were hilarious, sporting multitudes of voices and lots and lots

little overused, but this did not detract from my overall investment in the plot Distinguishing itself, the Darling bedroom in London functions as a sanctuary, shielding its inhabitants from both extremes of “growing up” to “become

each exuding their respective character. Further, Hook and Peter’s parallels are suddenly stark by Act II and add greater depth to their final confrontation. In particular, the climax fully utilises the entirety of the stage, as dynamic fights

appropriate to being a student, the atmosphere of nostalgia and joy of the cast and audience was almost tangible and I cannot wait to see what ICSM Drama Soc has to offer next!

CATNIP



ARIES

This week you spend all week pulling pine needles out your arsehole.



TAURUS

This week you replace your cock ring with a very small wreath.



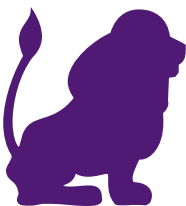
GEMINI

This week your flatmate gets hit by a car after taking photos on the slither of pavement on Oxford Street.



CANCER

This week you hold a Father Christmas look-a-like competition to find yourself a GILF.



LEO

This week you win best dressed at the ugly Christmas jumper party but you didn't realise it was themed.



VIRGO

This week your society Christmas dinner ticket costs £72.



LIBRA

This week your landlord gives you a pup (a baby rat) for Christmas.



SCORPIO

This week the joke in your Christmas cracker is a copy of your MyImperial Student Record.



SAGITTARIUS

This week you earn the nickname Rudolph after doing one too many lines.



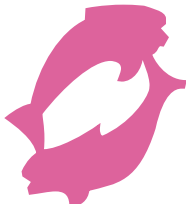
CAPRICORN

This week you find your missing group project member in your advent calendar.



AQUARIUS

This week your Secret Santa gets you washing up liquid, sponges, surface cleaner, and deoderant. It's your flatmate.



PISCES

This week you attend the Queen's Tower Christmas lights display but you can't see them behind the scaffolding.



FELIX SEX SURVEY

24/25

UNION & SOCIETIES

Islamic Society raises £54,000 in Charity Week

Felix spoke with Ali Ellabban, Vice President of Campaigns, to review the society's Charity Week.

Societies Editor

CHARLOTTE PROBSTEL

The Islamic Society's annual campaign "Charity Week" raised £54,000 within two weeks end of October to the start of November through various events to raise funds for Human Appeal. This Manchester-based charity focuses on providing aid to civilians in Gaza and Lebanon. "They have a great network on the ground in Gaza to spread the resources to people on the ground to get food," Ali commented. This year, the Islamic Society was proud to raise for a cause "close to [their] hearts".

A range of events

"Almost one event per day," Ali stated. Local events such as bake sales in the Sir Alexander Fleming Building – which raised £5,000 – were available to the entire South Kensington Campus, and female-only events hosted an Olympics and a sister-culture night where ticketholders enjoyed each other companies, wearing cultural dresses, eating snacks and drinking chai. Other events were artistic, such as the painting event to make a collective mural, or proactive, as the collection at Whitechapel tube station was.

Events were also athletic, such as the football competition or the "very scenic" 20km Trek in Brighton where

attendees organised private donations from friends and family. Ali collected 800 to 900 pounds in his group last year, and the most successful group this year raised £3,660. Since this event hosted roughly

team could.

The final event was the large auction dinner on the 6th of November. The dinner,

described by Ali as a "lovely night" and "very

microwave that still works – an item with a significant historical background – and pledges, of which 70-80% are upheld. The 20-30% loss can only come from attendees losing themselves in the hype of the auction and promising more than they are then able to fundraise after the event.

Donations, Donations

Donations were sourced from different groups of people. The Trek donations came from private families and sold items were paid for by students, however, the majority originated from donating professionals living around South Kensington who attend the Friday prayers hosted in Princes Gardens. The societies' JustGiving page, the main payment platform used for each event and Trek donations, states a total fund of £36,053 raised by 1155 teams. Imperial's Pakistan Society aided the cause by raising £2,844 – motivated by a small rivalry between the two cultural societies.

It's all in the planning

The charity week, despite being only two weeks long, has been in plans since July, when applications to the additional Charity Week sub-committee closed. 30 students dedicated their time and efforts for three months to plan the "very demanding" series of events, however, it is clear it was a well-invested effort. The committee reached out to 100 to 200



ISoc Logo and Charity Week Logo
Provided by Ali Ellabban

100 people, grouped into teams of 4-6 people, each raising on average £1000, it easily became the most profitable event, raising to £20,000. The rivalry between teams and the daily leaderboard provided a push to raise the most funds a

successful" provided profit from tickets, crowdsourced items such as paintings, a big cuddly bear sold for £4,000, an opportunity to follow the president of the society around for 24 hours and take over the Instagram for £3,000, the exploded

fashion and large companies willing to donate tickets or items to the auction dinner. This year they secured 50 items, with a small subset presented at the live auction, the rest at a silent auction.

Beyond Imperial

Charity Week is not only at Imperial. Most UK universities and even a few US universities, totalling about 120, will organise their charity week filled with auctions and dinners. Considering

Charity Week started in the 1960s by “Islamic Relief,” a charity organisation in the US, and first came to the UK in 2000, the gravitas and expectations of the event should not surprise anyone. ISoc usually manages to raise between 50 and 80 thousand GBP every year, their maximum having been 89 thousand GBP a few years ago.

A large community, considering a weekly attendance of 300-400 Muslims at Friday prayers – students, staff, and non-

Imperial alike, and a charitable essence within their religion, Ali explained that “Muslims are encouraged to donate. [...] Generosity is part of [our] religion”.

The beauty of charity week was also in “getting everyone involved,” especially Freshers who found an introduction to students from different years and departments. New student who take on committee roles learn to become “good leaders” and learn diligence.

Even though it was the “biggest event of

the year,” Ali told Felix that ISoc won’t stop at Charity Week and there is “more to come”.

The Editor-in-Chief and the Felix Chair congratulate the Islamic Society on an action well-done and an impressive accomplishment.

Can AI solve ED recovery?

Imperials’ Societies FemTech and NeuroTech reunite once again to host Emilie Faure; the founder of Juniver, the app to help overcome ED.

Societies Editor

CHARLOTTE PROBSTEL

Trigger warning: This article includes mentions of eating disorders.

FemTech and NeuroTech combined their efforts once again last Wednesday to host Emilie Faure, Founder and CEO of Juniver, a start-up dedicated to helping patients with eating disorders (EDs) receive 24/7 support and guidance during their recovery. Hosted in RSM G20, at 6.30 pm on Thursday 28th November, the event consisted of a 30-minute presentation, followed by a 30-minute Q&A.

EDs impact 1 out of 10 people in the UK, regardless of demographic, and exist in

many forms, from undereating to binge eating, yet only 10% of these people find access to help. This could be in the form of expensive psychotherapist sessions or appointments with the few specialists around, thereby inaccessible to most patients. GPs are not trained well enough to handle or diagnose eating disorders, as their education of EDs is standardised at two hours.

Furthermore, ED is not only a question of calories and sustenance. Its symptoms include anxiety and depression, gastrointestinal issues, dizziness, diabetes, and in the worst case, cardiovascular illness. The stereotypical image of a very thin woman, which describes 6% of ED patients, raises risks of infertility or osteoporosis.

Introduce Juniver, in development

since 2020, an AI application aimed to replace the need for specialists by offering at-the-moment, personalised guidance to help its users regain control over their eating habits. It offers them additional tools to log their feelings and thoughts, a community platform to share struggles and inspiring progress, and lessons in mindfulness.

With a current community of 2,000 users, the company applies machine learning to train an artificially intelligent bot to walk a user through their habits – for example, cravings or skipping meals – and equally aid the company learn more about ED. Specialists and clinicians at the other end of the model use the data to provide feedback and tune the advice. The effectiveness of Juniver, despite its successful pilot period, is yet to be determined, hence Juniver partnered with King’s College University to run clinical trials and get a better understanding of how AI may be used to improve and understand EDs.

Faure ended the presentation by answering a chain of technical and ethical questions that reflected the lack of general research done on the subject and the valued efforts of Juniver Limited to fill that gap.



The audience listening to Emilie Dhanvanth Srinivasan



Emilie Faure Dhanvanth Srinivasan

Announcements

December

This Weekend (6th - 8th Dec.)

6TH
Friday

Northern Line Pub Crawl


Northern Society

A northern line pub crawl with the Irish, Northern and Welsh societies. Anyone is welcome to join a fun night of company.

Time: 19:00

Where: Montagu Pyke WC2H 0DT

Tickets: No-Ticket Free Event



INSTAGRAM

Next Week (9th - 15th Dec.)

9TH
Monday

College Carol Service


IC Chamber Choir

Come for our special end of term celebration, singing carols alongside fellow students and Imperial heads and leads.

Time: 18:00 - 19:00

Where: Holy Trinity Church, SW7 2BA

Tickets: No-Ticket Free Event



INFORMATION

11TH
Wednesday

Christmas Showcase


Imperial College Gospel Choir

Various song, ministrations and performances, where we tell the Christmas story in a new way.

Time: 18:00 - 20:00

Where: Church of Holy Innocents, Paddenswick Road, London, W6 0UB

Tickets: £10, £15 for two (you and a friend)



TICKETS

12TH
Thursday

A Year's End Party


Materials x Ceilidh

Pizza, refreshments and Ceilidh with live music but no pressure to dance! BYOB.

Time: 18:30 - 22:30

Where: St John's Church, Hyde Park Cres, W2 2QD

Tickets: £10



TICKETS

13TH
Friday

Stretch & Skate


Yoga Society

Yoga class at Flowers Building, South Kensington campus, followed by ice skating at Battersea Glide.

Time: 18:30 - 22:00

Where: Forest Room, Battersea Park Ice Rink

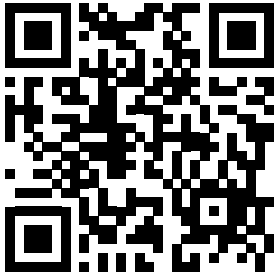
Tickets: £10 (Members), £13 (Non-Members)



TICKETS


Winter Break

Submit your event here



Scan QR and fill out form

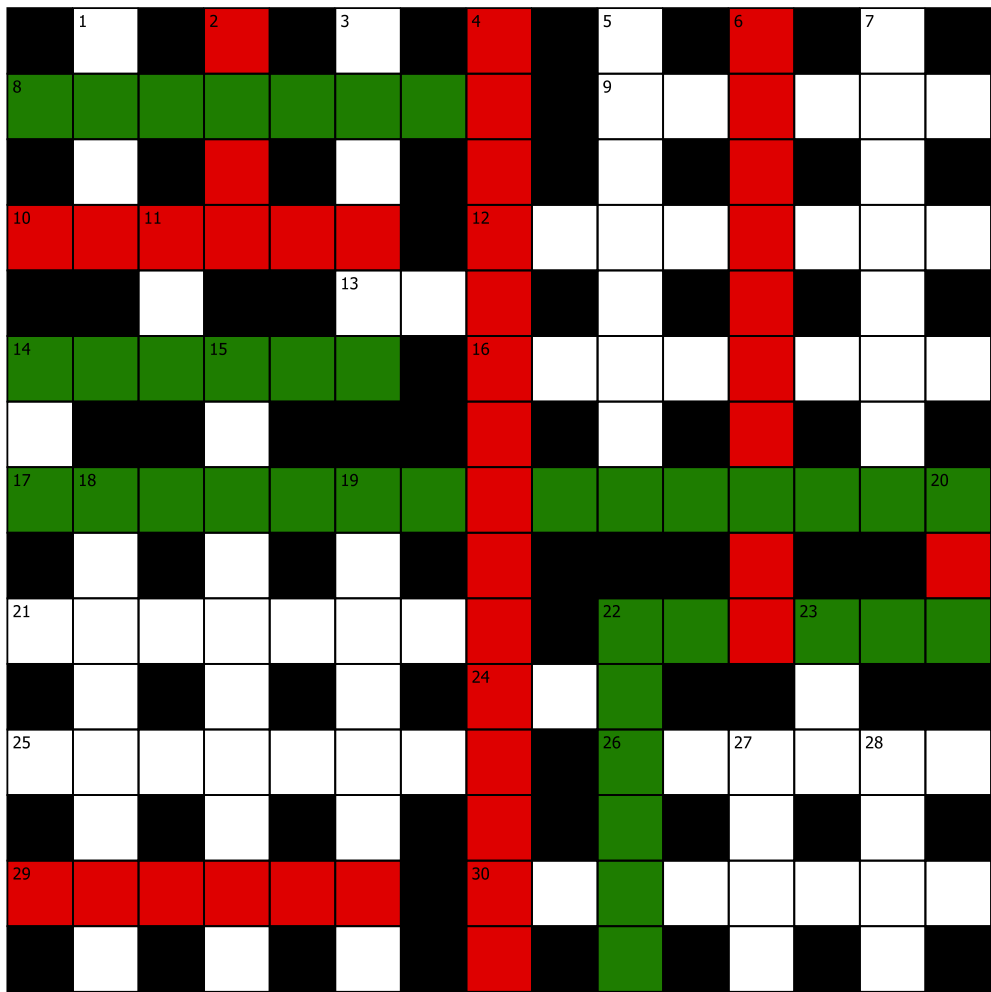
by January 5th, 2025



and view all the events here

CROSSWORD

"It's the most wonderful time of the year!" (3 pts.)



Across

2. Copses teeming can provide value. [6]
4. Explosive that has a record of commercial failure. [4 4]
7. Keep swapping high for low for insect. [5]
8. Broken wire and deadhead is strange. [5]
10. Stories about me are a technological fantasy. [3 2]
12. Nearly dim the trend. [3]
13. Carried without resistance when the sun comes up. [4]
15. Obsession over the pale scream you heard. [5 5]
16. Without having slept, the earthling mixes themselves with first Lucozade. [10]
18. Ramadan doesn't take a while to go by. [4]
19. Pigpen is toasty for the lower half. [3]
20. Seduced, I heard, with joint. [5]
22. Tower has you long after lady. [5]
24. Blue man mob head into the waves. [5]

25. Negative reaction caused by this with every hospital ward skinning agent. [8]
26. I heard every party is white. [6]

Down

1. Adds water and gives it a spin to make soup. [4]
3. Doubt greeting - it's fishy... [5]
5. Made a mistake with a job. [6]
6. Almost obstruct the alliance. [4]
9. More than one sewer rat dances around oil spill with a samba first. [7]
11. Sign of the French taking heads from frilly layabouts and regretting when looking back. [5]
14. Last of the clergy locate lunatic follower. [7]
15. Bet the era is in the record. [5]
17. Incident found reportedly at circus. [6]
20. Lady who takes the cry of pain back against the bloke. [5]
21. It's of an internal, lounging kind of thing. [4]
23. Cat takes tail from every ten in sixty. [4]

Across

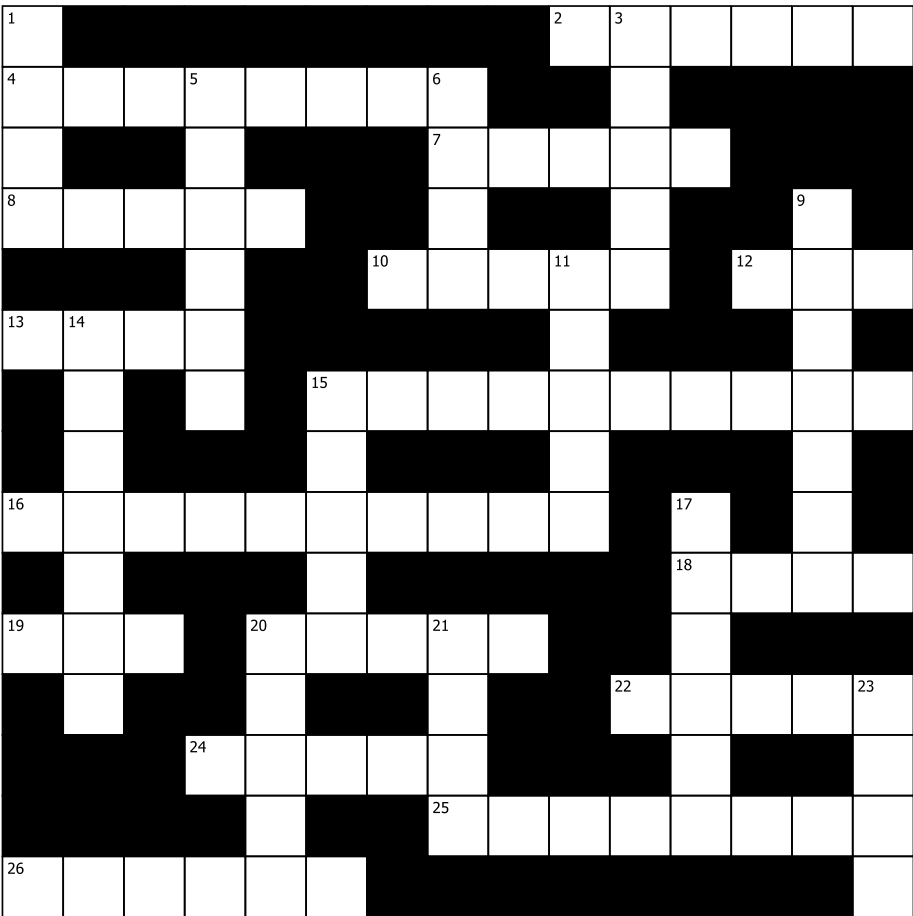
8. Word game. [8]
9. In the olden days, a member of a social class between the gentry and the labourers. [6]
10. Left out for Santa alongside milk. [6]
12. The Curious ____ of the Dog in the Night-Time. [8]
13. In the name of The Father, The ____ and The Holy Spirit. [3]
14. Strategic shape moving game. [6]
16. Minimally processed and extracted from sugar cane. [8]
17. The aim of this puzzle. [4 2 3 6]
21. The cosiest and most comforting of houses. [8]
22. Logical word game. [6]
24. Po used this to defeat Kai. [3]
25. Chevrolet sports car. [8]
26. Buying your Secret Santa a Christmas gift because you've been ordered to, for example. [6]
29. Strategic shape fitting game. [6]
30. The size of your Secret Santa's wish list. [8]

Down

1. 2021 Maroon 5 song featuring blackbear. [4]
2. What the angels sing this time of year. [4]
3. To have someone constantly on your mind, annoyingly and lovingly. [6]
4. Footage that not everyone is privy to. [6 3 6]
5. An angry group intent on destruction. [5 3]
6. Hyde Park this time of year. [10]
7. Best movie in the Thor series. [8]
11. The most palatable milk alternative. [3]
14. Chemical messenger that induces inflammation, acronym. [3]
15. The philosophy that nothing's objective. [10]
18. Push-ups, pull-ups, bicep curls, for example. [8]
19. What you become to meet the deadline. [5 3]
20. Barker, Bird, Gray, (Ganti), Perkins, for example. [3]
22. Imperial dancer or what you add to your Secret Santa's gift to make it look better. [6]
23. The state of your coursework. [3]
27. Hypertext markup language. [4]
28. The part of you that feels happy when your Secret Santa likes their gift. [4]

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

Submitted by David Latimer (5 pts.)



ENIGMATIC VARIATIONS

No. 1: WELL WISHES by LATIMER

(50 pts.)

Thirty-nine of the forty-nine clues must have a letter removed from them before solving can be attempted. Removing the letter does not have to result in a real word, but if it does, then surface reading may be affected. These removed letters, in clue order, spell out a phrase which may provide a hint to guide the solver to highlight 21 cells within the grid, vertically symmetric, and reveal a message of WELL WISHES. The use of Chambers Dictionary and the online dictionary Wiktionary is recommended as all entries appear in one or both.

Across

1. Characters who get taken by odd frost. [4]
4. Routine expression for something wrong coming back with least gloom. [5]
7. What destruction leads to a return to liquidity? [4]
8. Cut acceleration time and then moan. [6]
9. Initially, flat top is tangled with artist. [7, two words]
10. Black heart of grimy South Asian tongue. [5]
11. Strong blows in recital makes mistake after mistake. [8]
13. Teases flapper - not a second I went after their bottom! [4]
15. Curtains for alive herring when you remove its heart. [4]
19. Shortness of main, sole tsai breaks his heart as well. [9]
20. Bludgeon another eclipsed from the dawn. [4]
21. Nine top knights vote for motion - that's a negative. [5]
22. Love rearing oxen, by itself it's just fine! [4]
23. Expecting every other tiger to be eager. [6]
25. More than one sweller mead mix with negronis first. [5]
26. Romantic float holds shredded stuff that smells. [8]
28. Famous ape spoke of blight. [5]
30. People in China come from you, I, and moist guru. [5]
31. Spoils lesion first before cure news. [5]
34. Soil mattress with golden birth. [6]
35. Cold address to devastate marines. [7]
36. Marks odd hoax period with machine learning. [6]
37. Leader takes follower from crazy mill. [4]
38. Taste Chinese for number one damp chain charm. [7]
39. Oaf herbs have you first going after a flipping smoke! [4]
40. Take it from me - in near oceans, dead, skinned fish come before it... [8]
41. No bye? The French aristocrat... [5]

Down

2. Style of Maine demonstrated by hour on the garbled radio. [6]
3. All even units in retreat. [4]
4. Rear raging is kin. [5]
5. Splint pulls back quick without securing first. [4]
6. Operation on infection with Road Centre for a Perfect World. [6]
7. Wangers in book are not very exciting. [8]
10. Cannot imagine this level of excitement for raw brucite without it. [9]
11. Tighten it and apply reddish-brown pigment. [10]
12. Sorry zany gentry, your insides are short in a row. [6]
14. Past empire located following bear. [5]
15. Old-fashioned, cute envoy decides to conceal it. [4]
16. Excessively tears apart dimension creakily. [9, two words]
17. Poise it like a girl. [5]
18. Fights swarm and loses men, ending bloodlines. [4]
24. Sarajevo guerrilla takes out rage. [5]
25. Polynesian Bush group is after Blair since he lost both the left and the right. [6]
27. Foolishly stargaze without Ganymede appearing first - gives a bad impression. [6]
28. Stinker of a messed-up antic wasted time during first half opening. [6]
29. Idea from Editor - maybe another is hard... [4]
30. Mafia top dog in woe over something like spaghetti. [5]
32. Certain vivid twinge coming back about a contact. [5]
33. Internally ponder vegan's courage. [5]

1	2	3		4		5	6		7			
8						9						
10						11						12
	13		14					15		16	17	
		18	19									
20				21					22			
	23			24			25					
26						27		28				
	29	30					31				32	33
34						35						
		36							37			
38							39					
40								41				

COBWEBS

Submitted by Shevitha Segar

(4 pts.)

Find the hidden themed words! Theme words fill the board entirely. No theme words overlap. Once all the theme words have been found, all the letters will have been used.

Hint: "It's time to put it up!"

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

CRYPTOGRAM

Clue: Aka Mady (anagram, 2 word)

How-to:

A cryptogram is solved by cracking the cypher in which an encoded phrase is written. 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!

Q A S V S I V K C Z C R Q Z J I S Z V K D L X S W Y S B C L

D M V K C I S Z B S I Q R Q Z B E A S R D V J S C L M V

B Q U C O S N A S S U Q M O A C L L V D Z C J O S N Y Q M V

F Q O V K C Z C M V R D V K D V Q M J D V L R S Z V K Q

A S V A C L L V K Q M V K C L S Y D Q A A D I C O S N P C

V Z Q J C J D V I S Z W N V V K D L Y S B I S Z V D M E Q N Z Q

S I E S S J M C L L V K C I S Z Y C D L L V Z S M E C L V

R K C M R S Z U D M E S P C Z Y K Z D L V B Q L

(3 pts.)

Anagram: _____

(1 pt.)

Quote from: _____

(1 pt.)

LEADERBOARD

Pos.	Puzzlers	Points (Last week)	
1.	The Menu	270	241
2.	Team GuineaPig	200	189
3.	Team Experial	139	139
4.	Tactless Tony	56	56
5.	Team Jasmine&Hursh	33	33
6.	Team L&B	20	-
7.	Team SAD	18	18
8.	Team CIVE	14	-

Send a picture of your solutions to our Christmas Puzzles to **puzzles.felix@ic.ac.uk** by **Friday 3rd of January 2025** to get your points on the leaderboard!

Partially completed puzzles can still get you points!

COMIC

Submitted by Tengyu Zhao



Puzzle Editor's Note

Dearest Puzzlers,

So here we are, the final puzzles section of 2024! From Dunkin' Donuts and dogs to Halloween and Arcane, I hope you've all had as much fun completing our ten issues as I've had setting them! To end the term with a bang, we've put together a special Christmas-themed Puzzles section just for you. The Regular Crossword this week is full of festive puzzle games and the Cobwebs will have you itching to get your decorations up. We've even got a delightful Winter Comic and an extra-long Cryptogram to keep you entertained over the christmas break.

Speaking of keeping you entertained, I'm delighted to feature a new puzzle from our resident Cryptic Crossword master, David Latimer, who's graced us with a message:

"I'm thrilled that The Menu have become the first team to submit a solved puzzle of mine! Hopefully this inspires more people to give them a go. I'm glad you all like the difficulty but I've tried to make this week's Cryptic more accessible to encourage more people to try it. If that disappoints you, I hope the new Enigmatic Variations will more than make up for it. It's inspired by a Telegraph puzzle of the same name, which might be worth researching if you're struggling. Each edition of the puzzle features a new complication for solving. I warn you, it's not for the faint of heart, but I would love to see you attempt it."

On the Leaderboard, The Menu have fought off all their competition and retained their first place! They're the one to beat as we go into the holidays but remember David's Enigmatic Variations is a enormous 50 points, so The Menu's crown is within reach for Team GuineaPig who are in 2nd place. Do keep your solutions coming in over the break, the points will be marked and added to the leaderboard in the new year where the race for the annual Felix puzzles award continues!

Finally I'd like to express a heartfelt thanks to all the puzzlers who have brightened this Puzzles Editor's weeks with their solutions, kind emails and plushie cameos (you know who you are), and to all the incredible people who have donated their precious time to contribute to the section: Ester K. Mirra and David Latimer for their clever Cryptics, Vita and Will for their cracking Connections, Shevitha for her cunning Cobwebs and of course Tengyu for her charming comics!

That leaves me with nothing more to say and for the last time this year, hope you have a fabulous Christmas Break of crossing, connecting, completing, code-cracking, comic-consuming and competing!

- Ivin

Previous Puzzles' solutions

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

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

Regular

Cryptic

Homage	Tribute	Forwards	Up front	Pay ---
Backwards	Old-fashioned	Retro	Obsolete	Meaning outdated
Sour	Godfather	Banshee	Manhattan	Cocktails
Birds	Exorcist	Grinch	Queen	Movies starting with "The"

Medium grouping grid

Scissor	Compass	Trouser	Plier	Come in pairs
Round-house	Bicycle	Free	Back	Kinds of kick
Blue	Mature	Cottage	Goat	Cheese descriptions
Hut	Teepee	Shack	Cabin	Small dwellings

Hard grouping grid

SPORT

LN4 left wanting more in 2024

Sport Writer
JAMES DESMET

The 2024 season for Lando Norris can be summed up in two words: missed opportunity.

2024 was a season many thought a foregone conclusion following the result of the Chinese Grand Prix in April. Following on from their utter domination throughout 2023, Max Verstappen claimed victories in all races he had finished till then, giving him a points lead of 52 points over his would-be closest rival, Lando Norris.

However, after a dramatic turnaround – perhaps incited by some behind-the-scenes conversations between Red Bull and the FIA alongside strong McLaren upgrades – the Red Bull of Max Verstappen looked not only beatable, but in many cases not even the fastest car. Lando took the win in Miami and followed up with a

strong second-place in Imola, where the McLaren looked to be the faster package. With 16 races left to go, and a points deficit of 60, Lando needed to outscore Max Verstappen by 3.75 points per race to go into Abu Dhabi equal on points.

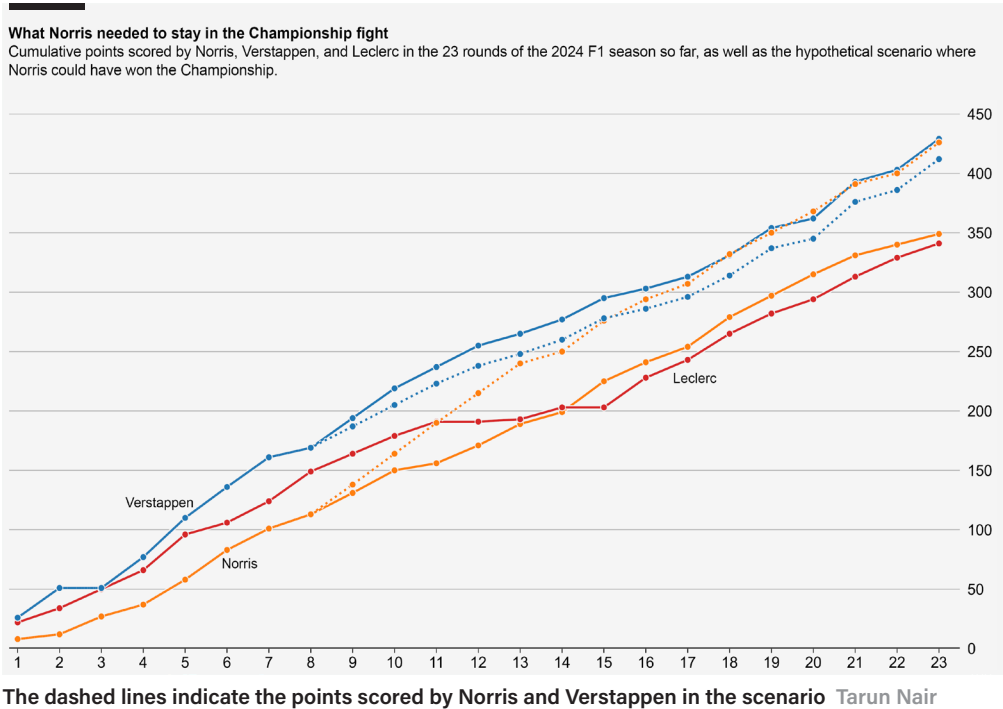
For many looking back, it was championship on! However, 15 races later, Max has an 80-point lead going into the final race – so what happened?

Many argue that Lando missed key opportunities, notably in Canada and Great Britain with poor strategy; Spain, Italy, and Hungary where he lost off the line; and in Brazil, Qatar, and Austria, where he could have secured significantly more points than he ended up managing.

If we reshuffle the points to account for this, making changes to the results of the Canadian, British, Spanish, Italian, Hungarian, Austrian, Brazilian, and Qatari Grands Prix, we can see that if Lando executed at each of these opportunities,

at this point in the season, he could lead Max 426 points to 412, making him the clear favourite going into Abu Dhabi! This highlights just how beatable Max was for Lando this year if he had simply executed.

Time will tell if this will be to Lando what 2007 was to Lewis Hamilton, but one thing is for sure: LN4 will go into the winter break feeling as though a potential title slipped through his fingers.



Premier League transfer window

Sport Writer
LILA HARRISON

The winter transfer window opens on Wednesday 1st January 2025 and closes on the 3rd of February. If each club could sign one player, who should they go for?

Arsenal – Alexander Isak. Alexander Isak’s versatility and clinical finishing would strengthen Arsenal’s attack and provide depth for their title push, which feels now or never. Jesus is injury prone and not the best finisher. Alternatively, Arsenal could look to Gyokeres.

Aston Villa – Enzo Elliot.

Bournemouth – Djed Spence.

Brentford – Mohammed Salisu.

Brighton & Hove Albion – Kyle Walker-Peters.

Chelsea – Caoimhin Kelleher. Although shocking vs Newcastle, Caoimhin Kelleher’s shot-stopping and distribution would provide Chelsea with a reliable and promising goalkeeping option.

Crystal Palace – Neco Williams.

Everton – Largie Ramazani.

Fulham – Pierre-Emile Højbjerg. Pierre-Emile Højbjerg would bolster their midfield, having lost Palhinha.

Ipswich Town – Renato Veiga. A versatile player, Renato Veiga’s physical presence would strengthen Ipswich’s midfield or defence. They need to stop shipping goals.

Leicester City – Deivid Washington. Another Chelsea academy player, Deiv-

id Washington’s potential could help Leicester score more goals.

Liverpool – Martin Zubimendi. 2nd time is the charm! After being mugged off in the summer, Liverpool should go back in. Martin Zubimendi is the perfect midfielder for Slot’s system to rotate with Gravenberch.

Manchester City – Carlos Baleba. City miss Rodri. Carlos Baleba’s would bring everything they miss back. Do not be shocked if this move transpires next summer.

Manchester United – Theo Hernandez. If anyone is going to offer him a contract United will. Left back is a weak position now with Shaw always injured. He would be a world-class option at left-back, and can also work in

Amorim’s WB system.

Newcastle United – Federico Dimarco.

Nottingham Forest – Ezgjan Alioski

Forest have been very good this season. Alioski could provide some depth in defence and midfield, being able to play in multiple positions.

Southampton – Tyler Morton.

Tottenham Hotspur – Alphonse Areola or Łukasz Fabiański. A loan for either of the West Ham men would be helpful until Vicario is back.

West Ham United – Santiago Giménez

Its been a decade and Antonio is still the first choice striker? Santiago Giménez’s movement and goal-scoring could get West Ham up the table.

Wolves – Jayden Oosterwolde.