

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.



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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:
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EDITORIAL

Public Relations and an apology

Editor-in-Chief

MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Welcome back to probably the most stressful term at Imperial College, as exams and deadlines mount and the pressure of having good credentials in a terrible job economy. A recession is on the horizon — at least for the US —, which will have knock-on effects, particularly as growth across the UK plateaus due in part due to poor choices regarding National Insurance contributions in the Autumn budget, as well as a stubborn reliance in the UK to reject infrastructure building or any public investment in general. Summer term isn't nice, except when the relief of exams ending finally washes over the throngs of sweaty, unwashed, sleep deprived students. Good luck! In all earnest, I wish all our readers the best of luck in their exams, and for better grades than they expected. May the curse of being moderated downwards not touch your scripts.

Precocious students who follow Imperial's social media presence may have noticed a new format of video on their feeds: the "Day in the life" feature, in which fellow Imperial students from a variety of faculties, disciplines, and stages of study broadcast their typical day in a bid to humanise Imperial students, who have garnered a reputation for being more career-driven, anti-social, or what some familiar with popular psychology may recognise as type-A personalities, as well as promoting the College as a place where well-adjusted individuals can thrive and enjoy both a top education and great personal development. Some of these videos have not been received well.

Comments on the videos from students highlight how some day-in-the-life videos focus on courses with less contact hours relative to the majority STEMM courses on offer — quite literally, a comment on one video with 178 likes, more than a tenth of the actual video's total likes, reads: "disclaimer: this only applies to the business school. the stemm part of stembb [sic] actually has work to do". The second most liked comment on this post reads: "are we working at different places? i [sic] need extra 24 hours for a day". Clearly these posts haven't gone down well with the existing student body. They may have received lots of

views and engagement, but something has gone wrong along the way.

To first understand why Imperial's PR attempts haven't resonated positively with students, one must look at the original purpose of such posts. Clearly, they are made to attract prospective students by demonstrating that London (and to an extent Imperial) but most importantly London is a very nice place to live, should you have the means to enjoy it. Several of the day in the life videos feature international students able to enjoy the diversions Central London has to offer. No mention of Tesco Meal Deals in sight, just restaurant meals, consumerism, and quite interestingly, reunions or social gatherings outside of Imperial — one post features a school reunion, and another features meeting up with a family member — which to most students isn't that common and secondly is unrealistic. A day in the life video is meant to resonate because it's authentic and, in a way, remove the mysticism of whatever nebulous role is featured. It is meant to ground them in a relatable way, which has a lot of cultural clout for Generation Z and is how successful ad campaigns work. These videos do the opposite, because they simply aren't representative of a life in Imperial. There is no ridiculous deadline, no crash out in the library, no drudgery in these videos despite the fact that it is the material truth for students, particularly those from home.

It may also be seen as false advertising, given that when incoming international students already paying through the nose for a degree of any calibre, that the expectation of a balanced lifestyle isn't accurate, especially as rising costs have impacted heavily on international students and their finances.

It also didn't help that a student from the business school was featured: across faculties the Business School, the darling-apparent of Imperial, is not so much the darling of people who actually go to Imperial. Most courses are filled with wealthier, established professionals who have feet firmly planted on their career ladders, and as such are perceived to view themselves as above the regular cohorts of students. These students already come across as out of touch, and these videos further exasperates this perception across cohorts.

Most interestingly, thematically, the vast majority

of videos which featured students enjoying their lives were international students, whereas a video featuring a home student actually featured a day full of work. It's an interesting little dichotomy, promoting the idea that Imperial, and London, as an extension, is as the adage says, "for students and the rich". The videos imply Imperial as an institution features hard working students who work through merit, or alternatively can be bought into. Not exactly the sort of message one expects to promote.

An Apology

Last term, a Catnip article was published that led to hurt and offence from several members of the Imperial community. Whilst we would typically name the offending issue and article, I have elected not to, to prevent the article from gaining notoriety, as well as fanning the flames of "discussion", where Felix readers would elect to pick a side and argue vociferously about who was in the right. Ultimately, it doesn't matter. The article came across very badly, and was perceived to target the LGBTQ+ community, despite the authors of the article being a part of the community themselves. In essence, it was a joke in poor taste that made light of things that didn't need to be joked about, and for that, I, and Felix, apologise.

To ensure that this doesn't happen again, we've implemented a secondary sense check for Catnip articles in the future. Typically, I copyedit Catnip articles and sense check to ensure we don't push the envelope into offence or gross obscenity, but from now on a secondary editor will check in case I miss something out.

NEWS

Business School rebrands, aligning “more closely with the wider university”

Editor-in-Chief

MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Imperial College Business School has updated its name and branding, aligning itself with the wider college branding in a bid to reflect the school’s “commitment to bridging the gap between groundbreaking research and real-world impact”. The faculty, now renamed to “Imperial Business School” introduced the changes from 30th April 2025.

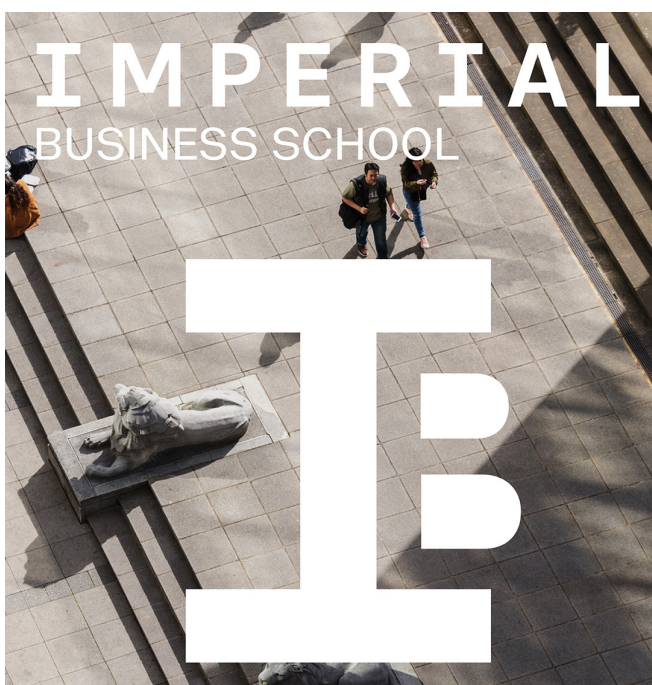
As part of the rebrand the School’s new strapline is “where science meets business.” In an email to staff explaining the changes, Business School Dean Professor Peter Todd said the move “enhance[s] the School’s “ability to transform discovery science into solutions that create prosperity and improve lives”.

As part of the redesign, Business School students were invited to shape the launch of the brand, as well as design the strapline.

The move follows Imperial’s rebranding last year. The College paid £434,801.47 to redesign their “brand refresh” after 21 years. Design studio Pentagram worked on “brand strategu and creative elements”, and the move was met with widespread criticism, particularly due to the removal of the “College London” segment of its name, leading to comparisons to colonialism, a lack of student consultation, and fears the brand would not be as recognisable. The controversy led to over 8,000 signatories from the staff, student, and alumni communities calling for the rebrand to be revoked.

This also marks the second time the Business School has been renamed: originally called the Tanaka Business School after Imperial alumnus Dr Gary Tanaka, the move to rename the faculty occurred in 2008 following research undertaken by the College

indicated that prospective students failed to recognise its relation to Imperial College.



Imperial Business School’s new logo in both the long and short format. Brand guidelines describe the new logo as “subtly hinting at the integration of the two institutes”. Imperial College London

Felix launches Drug Survey 2025

Editor-in-Chief

MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Felix is launching its slightly-less-than annual drug survey for 2025. Building on past surveys, as well as broadening our scope to include questions on alcohol and nicotine product usage. Drugs have played an important part in the lives of students, but there hasn’t been a comprehensive look at the drug habits of Imperial students previously – even within *Felix* itself.

We last attempted a Drug Survey in 2023, but due to issues with *Felix* at the time we were unable to show the results. Similar problems have occurred previously, but the drug survey isn’t cursed, or so we hope. I left it for the end of term so if I do end up getting VoNC’ed I’ll have done a decent enough job over the first two terms not to care too much about it.

As always the responses will be anonymised and we will not use your data irresponsibly. We’re hoping to have a bit of fun, get inspired, and find out how exactly big (or small) drug consumption is as part of Imperial culture.

As a final note, we’re always open to hearing feedback from our readers, so if there are things you think we’ve missed, things we’ve gotten wrong or any suggestions for optimising our surveys, so please let us know at felix@ic.ac.uk.

To complete the survey please scan the QR code below and fill out the survey:





A year on from the encampment, Imperial students and staff are still ready to fight for divestment

Taylor Pomfret for *Felix*

Activists urge university to disclose and divest as protests resume for sixth consecutive term.

Editor-in-Chief

MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Wednesday 7th May saw student protestors return to Queen's Lawn calling on Imperial College, to end “student and staff repression”, as well as cutting ties with companies accused of abetting alleged war crimes in Gaza.

Protestors took aim at both the College and the wider government response towards the current Israel-Palestine conflict. One speaker said that both Imperial management and the UK government “only cares about where the money comes from” with regards to investing in arms companies whose products and technology have been used by the Israel Defence Forces (IDF). Previous actions by the ICL Action for Palestine group have highlighted Caterpillar Inc., BAE Systems, and Rolls-Royce.

Imperial is under further pressure as the local University and College Union (UCU) branch called for a “comprehensive response” in March 2025, addressing a “full disclosure of the University’s investments

in companies trading with Israel”, an “explanation” on how the aforementioned investments align with ethics policies and the UN Principles of Technology of which Imperial is a signatory, and for future steps that Imperial would take with reference to recent UN statements and international legal frameworks.

Imperial’s response, signed by Provost Ian Walmsley highlighted how the College’s investments are made in accordance with Imperial College Council’s investment strategy, the Socially Responsible Policy, as well as having recently engaged with students in an open forum in January 2025, as well as promising to “work with ICU officers on future fora” for students, with staff able to raise concerns through the In Conversation with and Professional Services fora.

The protest, the fourth major action of the year, was held by approximately 30 activists from the Imperial community. It is part of a series of events happening both on an off Imperial’s campuses as part of a national week of action.

The protestors held signs calling for Imperial management to divest, and chanted slogans such as “the more you try to silence us, the louder we will get”,

“disclose divest, we will not stop, we will not rest”, and “students united will never be defeated”. Several of the protestors wore the keffiyeh, a Palestinian head-dress traditionally worn by peasants and Bedouins to protect from the sun, now used as a symbol of solidarity with the Palestinian cause around the world.

It was noted several times that approximately a year had elapsed since Imperial Action for Palestine held an encampment on Queen’s Lawn. The original encampment began on 23rd May 2024, lasting almost a month before ending to accommodate for Summer Ball.

The Israeli government has approved plans to escalate its offensive in Gaza, including a possible reoccupation of the Palestinian territory. Israel resumed its offensive in Gaza earlier this year in March following the breaking of a US-brokered ceasefire, as well as the cessation of food, fuel, medicine and aid supplies. 59 hostages remain in Gaza, with the most recent Palestinian Health Ministry data indicating a death toll of 52,500 Palestinians, following on from a death toll of 1,200 people and some 250 hostages, according to Israeli officials, taken during Hamas’s attack on the Nova festival on 7th October 2023.

Ian Walmsley to step down as Provost after seven years



Imperial College London

Provost to step down from the role in September 2025.

Editor-in-Chief
MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Professor Ian Walmsley is stepping down from his role as Provost in September 2025. He will move on from the role after seven years at Imperial.

Walmsley became Imperial's second Provost in September 2018, succeeding Professor James Stirling. He joined Imperial after working at the University of Oxford as their Pro-Vice-Chancellor, a role Walmsley himself described as having "a very different structure," to that of Provost in an interview with Felix in October 2018.

Prior to his work in the higher education sector, Professor Walmsley, an Imperial alum who graduated with a first-class degree with honours in Physics, was a leading expert in the field of photonics. He has worked across several leading universities, most notably the University of Oxford and is Imperial's Chair in Experimental Physics.

During his tenure as Provost, Walmsley introduced

several new ventures and schemes such as I-X, Imperial's strategic Artificial Intelligence vehicle, and Provosts Visiting Professor scheme, allowing ethnic minority and female professors to research at Imperial.

His time at Imperial was met with several challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, Brexit, and on developing Imperial's Academic Strategy.

Professor Walmsley described his time at Imperial as: "some of my most formative learning experiences, both as a scientist and an academic leader. It has been a privilege to have been part of this exceptional community."

Imperial President Hugh Brady said, "On a personal level, I am extremely grateful to Ian for all his support and advice. Since the day I joined Imperial, I have benefitted from his wisdom, advice and invaluable knowledge of our community", in an email to staff announcing Walmsley's departure.

Walmsley's successor is yet to be confirmed, with recruitment firm Perrett Laver tasked with a "global search" to fill the role.

Imperial's University Challenge hopes dashed in loss to Queen's University Belfast

Editor-in-Chief
MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Imperial College's University Challenge team have lost their second quarter-final match to the Queen's University Belfast by 170-180. The loss means the team have been eliminated from the competition, ending their chance at a record sixth win of the popular quiz show.

The round was tense with both teams reaching neck and neck at 170 points each by the last round. However, following a tiebreaker answered by team captain Daniel Rankin, Imperial's team were removed from the competition.

Host Amol Rajan described the loss as "what a way to go out", congratulating the team on upholding "the enormous, enormous standards of previous Imperial teams."



BBC

Team captain Matthew Spry described the experience as a "great time", and commended Queen's University as a "fantastic team."

"There's no shame in going out [to them]", he said at the close of the round.

The team also lost their previous match to Christ's College, Cambridge. However, as they had scored the most points of both the second round and the season against Wadham College, Oxford, they were able to compete again for a chance to remain in the competition.

Imperial College previously won University Challenge in 1996, 2001, 2020, 2022, and 2024. The College has the record for most wins at five, followed by the University of Manchester, and Keble College, Oxford, with four wins each.

Why Mental Health Awareness Month is important

Mental Health Officer Miriam reflects on why you should take some time for yourself this May.

ICU Mental Health Officer
MIRIAM FOULKES

Mental health is defined as “an individual’s overall emotional, psychological and social well-being”. In the last few years, the UK has been experiencing a mental health crisis. Discussions regarding the NHS, UK politics and mental health representation in media aside, it becomes clear that throughout the nation, individuals are struggling more than ever: 1 in 4 people will experience a mental health problem each year in England. Studies have highlighted risk factors that increase this statistic: students are more likely to struggle with “common” mental health problems such as anxiety and depression. Additionally, students from disadvantaged backgrounds, and international, mature, neurodiverse, and LGBTQ+ students are even more likely to experience mental health issues. Imperial students are not immune. With academically demanding courses, expensive costs of living and (somewhat) stereotypically limited social lives, it’s no wonder students at Imperial are struggling.

If you are struggling, please don’t hesitate to reach out for support. The Imperial College mental health website lists the Imperial College Health Centre, the Counselling and Mental Health Advice Service and the Disability Advisory Service as places

where students can receive support. Alternatively, there is a list of external services and their respective phone numbers. As per recommended on the website, if your safety is at risk, please contact 999 or go to the A&E department of the hospital closest to you.

As Mental Health Officer (2024-26), it is my responsibility to “represent students with mental health issues and ... to improve the experience and wellbeing

mental well-being and the support offered at Imperial, the Mental Health Network is running a list of events in May during Mental Health Awareness Month.

To answer some common questions, I’ve received:

What is mental health awareness month /week?

Mental Health Awareness Month is a campaign that takes place in

Why is this campaign important?

Spreading awareness and reducing stigma are phrases often used when reading about campaigns surrounding mental health. This is mostly because there’s still so much work to do: a lot of society will not know the medical background and/or nature of conditions. There’s a lot of misinformation online and, due to the vulnerable and sensitive nature of the topic, mental health is usually not openly discussed. Common misconceptions reinforce this pattern which can add further difficulties for individuals already struggling with their health. As previously mentioned above, students are at a high risk of experiencing mental health problems meaning that conversations should be encouraged and accessible support to all students should be provided.

What are we, the Mental Health Network, doing?

Within Imperial College Union, the Mental Health Network is collaborating with students, other networks, and Move Imperial to run a series of events throughout the month of May as part of a student-led Mental Health Awareness Month campaign.

These events include yoga, creative writing, clay sculpture workshops, creative spaces and a colour run (or walk) in Hyde Park. They were chosen with the aim of giving students and staff the opportunity to try something new and/or re-discover an old hobby whilst meeting new people and making new friends. A variety of activities have been chosen. Exercise is important for well-being, but we wanted to make sure we have activities accessible to all and something for people less interested in physical activity.

Please come along and don’t hesitate to bring someone else – all events are open to students and staff. It’s also worth noting, if you’re nervous about the run/would rather enjoy the event at a slower pace, there will be a group walking the route.

Finally, this is a busy and stressful time of year. Look after yourselves and don’t hesitate to reach out for help or support.



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

EVENTS SCHEDULE



6 MAY	WELLBEING YOGA 18:00-19:00 South Ken Campus Secret Garden	14 MAY	GARDENING SESSION WITH RE:GEN 16:00-17:00 South Ken Campus Secret Garden
9 MAY	CLAY SCULPTING WITH ART CLUB 18:00-20:00 RSM 1.47	27 MAY	CREATIVE SPACE 15:00-17:00 Union Dining Hall
14 MAY	CREATIVE WRITING 13:00-15:00 Metric	28 MAY	COLOUR RUN 12:00 South Ken Campus Secret Garden

Imperial College Union

provisions in place for student mental health at Imperial”, which is admittedly a daunting task. Most of my first year in the role has consisted of learning, liaising and planning. One of my main statements during my 2024 campaign was: “I strongly believe an individual’s mental well-being should not be sacrificed in the pursuit of a successful career or student experience”, something I still passionately believe. To give students the opportunity to reach out to others, learn about mental health,

May organised by many charities across multiple countries with each organisation’s aim being to facilitate and empower smaller local groups to run various outreach events to spread awareness about different mental health conditions, their symptoms and the challenges associated with navigating day-to-day life with mental health struggles.



DRUG

SURVEY



SCIENCE

Microbiology Society Conference: Driving Innovation Against Antimicrobial Resistance

Science writer Eldrian Tho visited this year's conference held in Liverpool, where several Imperial researchers presented their work.

Science Writer ELDRIAN THO

The 2025 Microbiology Society Annual Conference, held from 31st March to 3rd April in Liverpool, brought together a vibrant community of researchers, clinicians, and students from across the UK and beyond to address the pressing challenges of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and emerging pathogens. Staff and students from Imperial's Department of Infectious Disease, and Department of Metabolism, Digestion, and Reproduction attended the event to present new research and to discuss the future of infectious disease control.

This year's conference featured a se-

ries of thought-provoking prize lectures, showcasing groundbreaking work conducted across the microbiology field. A wide range of sessions throughout the conference were on offer to attendees, which focussed on topics ranging from the molecular mechanisms behind AMR, to the growing challenges posed by emerging viral, bacterial, and fungal pathogens, with new sessions also highlighting the role of artificial intelligence in microbiology.

Imperial researchers presented a range of exciting new work at the conference:

Postdoctoral Researcher, **Dr Wiyada Wongwiwat** introduced Sp100 as a novel restriction factor of herpesvirus infection.

Anrong Li and Senior Lecturer of Virology **Dr Rob White** presented a

poster describing an innovative method for culturing Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV) lab strains that closely resemble the parental phenotypes seen in patient isolates.

Syed Ibrahim showcased his work on the evolution of two key E3 ubiquitin ligases, RIPLET and TRIM25, involved in regulating antiviral immunity.

PhD student, **Sophie Stephens** shared research on how gut microbe media can influence the growth of human papillomavirus (HPV), the causative agent of cervical cancer.

Professor Darius Armstrong-James introduced the Fungal ONE Health and Antimicrobial Resistance (F1AMR) Initiative, highlighting the urgent need to integrate fungal pathogens into AMR and One Health frameworks.

Throughout the conference, there was

a strong emphasis on collaboration and interdisciplinary research, both of which are crucial for tackling the multifaceted challenges of AMR and emerging infectious diseases. The importance of innovation in diagnostics, therapeutics, epidemiological surveillance, and public health strategies was clear, with discussions centring on pandemic preparedness.

Looking ahead, the Microbiology Society Annual Conference 2026 will be held in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Researchers, biotech companies, and healthcare practitioners are already looking forward to continuing these crucial discussions and building on the momentum from Liverpool. Anyone with a passion for microbiology is warmly encouraged to get involved!

A blast from the past, using Felix's AI déjà vu tool!

Felix has an extensive archive, currently managed by our Senior Webmaster – Timothy Langer. With over 100,000 articles published across Felix's 1871 Issue history, we wanted to find an efficient way to access our archive. Tim, who is a 3rd year Computer Science student, has found a nifty way to do just that, using Artificial Intelligence.

Tim was inspired by a code developed by researchers at Harvard. Researchers developed a novel semantic search tool, aptly named News Déjà Vu, which represents a news article as a 768-dimensional vector (an "embedding"), and then returns articles that are semantically similar and represented by similar embeddings. Tim adapted this code, such that the model is able to take an input article of our own, and then returns the articles in our archive which are semantically similar. Here are the results, using Eldrian's article! This took 300W of power and an RTX 4080 graphics card to run...

AGRI-net symposium at Imperial – Issue #1531

This article written by Sarah Byrne in 2012 describes researchers gathering at Imperial to 'present their work on Chemical Biology applications to fungal, insect and plant sciences on the molecular level, in the first AGRI-net Young Researcher Symposium'. AGRI-Net is a collaborative network founded by Imperial academics together with the agrichemical industry. This article is semantically similar to Eldrian's due to its references to conferences and Biology. AGRI-Net celebrated its 11th annual conference in January this year.

An Exhibition of Policy and Social Science Research – Issue #1716

Written by Isabelle Zhang in 2019, this article featured in Felix's former Politics section. The article was flagged as being semantically similar due to its mention of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) treatment. Isabelle discusses an exhibition held at LSE, where a member of a Panel entitled 'The Drugs Aren't Working! Confronting the Crisis of Superbugs', argued that 'the issue of AMR is too interdisciplinary for government plans to be easily implemented'.

An Alchemist's Dream

Alice Choubry explores the work of alchemists, their lasting impact on science, and how scientists transmuted gold in particle accelerators.

Science Writer

ALICE CHOUBRY

Long, long ago, back in the Middle Ages, lived alchemists. Actually, not even that long ago – a few still dabbled in it as recently as the 19th century. One of the main research focus of alchemists was to make gold, but of course you've already heard of the Philosopher's Stone.

Unfortunately, chucking some metals and elements into a cauldron is unlikely to produce gold, although some claimed to have achieved transmutation, like the Flamel couple and their Philosopher's Stone. However, this remains mere speculations as making gold from other elements chemically is impossible. *Physics*, however, managed to do it. Since 1941, humans have known how to synthesise gold with particle accelerators; this technique, of course, was not available to the alchemists of the Middle Ages, they did the best they could with the knowledge they had. While synthesising gold is not a success attributed to alchemists, their pharmaceutical contributions are to be noted. For example, the Swiss Paracelsus is an innovator in the field of medical chemistry. He applied techniques from his alchemy laboratory to develop medicines, launching a trend to find effective medications instead of bloodletting. Alchemists must also be given credit for their contributions to metallurgy and early chemistry. Their works improved metal extraction and purification, with distillation techniques and cupellation (the removal of impurities from silver or gold using lead), as well as improvements in alloying and smelting.

It may be hard to imagine physicists in their lab as the 'descendants' of alchemists, perhaps because they are working with vastly different tools and approaches – but in the end, physicists did make gold. For me, this association is not that difficult, but that is maybe because alchemy is one of the factors that pushed me into science. And as many children and teenagers do, I fell in love with fantasy novels, many of which feature magicians, wizards and alchemists – I would have wanted to be an alchemist were I alive during the Middle Ages.

Alchemy can be considered the origin of modern science, from the will of finding more knowledge to the wish of synthesising materials, and so I decid-

ed to become a scientist. I ended up choosing a degree as interdisciplinary and as connected to materials as alchemy: materials science and engineering. You can imagine my excitement when, at university, one of my first year's lab was extracting gold nanoparticles – it felt magical. This was nowhere near making gold from another element, we were merely extracting gold from a solution. The gold was in the form of nanoparticles; their applications are mostly catalytic as they can easily be spread out due to their small size and they exhibit catalytic properties at temperatures lower than other metals. This lab was the realisation of a childhood dream, during that time I felt like an alchemist, even though I was simply extracting gold and not transmuting it.

Alchemists were not extracting gold from solutions. They were using base metals, like lead and mercury, and attempting to transform them into precious metals, notably gold. This was based on the belief that metals could be transmuted into more perfect metals. How this was exactly done remains a mystery, each alchemist had their own way of doing it, and would write down notes in code they only could understand. This hindered the sharing of information, but was a safety measure – you would be wary too if you could risk being burned at the stake should one of your neighbours judge your alchemical experiments too witchy. Some dedicated their lives to alchemy, but members of the clergy and nobility also dabbled into some alchemical research – they of course did not seriously fear the pyre. Albert the Great, later made saint, even established the official rules of alchemy in Europe in the 13th century, demanding alchemists should work in secrecy, be silent and discreet. Any attempt to go against the Church would be punished, as evidenced by Inquisition's burning of 14 alchemists between 1316 and 1334.

Some experimented with heating, melting and refining metals to remove impurities, making the metal more perfect and closer to gold. Some, believing metals were made from a mixture of sulfur and mercury, experimented with both these elements to make gold. Some tried creating the Philosopher's Stone, as this substance was supposed to enable transmutation and grant immortality and, finally, some had a more spiritual process, believing divine intervention and a particular mindset were key in making gold. Alchemists worked under since disproven theories, such as the four-element the-

ory (earth, air, fire water) and a metals model composed of mercury and sulfur. Furthermore, atoms had not yet been discovered. Yet, when it comes to transmuting metals, atoms are key. In the case of transmuting gold from lead, these are different elements, thus they have a different number of protons. To change the number of protons, one must use modern nuclear physics – good luck medieval alchemists!

But, today, you may ask, we have nuclear physics, so making gold should be easy, right? The short answer to that is, in theory, yes. But of course, the real answer is more complex. The reason gold cannot be made from another element chemically (in a modern lab or in an alchemist's cauldron) is because this transformation requires a lot of energy. To get the sufficient amount of energy, you need a particle accelerator, which will allow you to transform another material into gold by bombarding it with neutrons. The scientists that made gold in 1941 bombarded a mercury atom with neutrons and made gold isotopes. All those isotopes were radioactive, a significant reason to not use this synthesised gold.

In 1980, Glenn Seaborg developed the Seaborg Technique to synthesise gold. This technique uses bismuth, which is transmuted into gold by removing protons and neutrons. This is achieved by bombarding bismuth atoms with carbon and neon nuclei travelling at the speed of light. Both the 1941 and 1980 techniques are not cost efficient at all (current estimates total to \$2,164,000 for a pound of gold), as particle accelerators require tremendous amounts of electricity, making synthesised gold more expensive than naturally occurring gold – another reason synthesised gold is not readily available on the market. It is true that many alchemists, such as Marie le Jars de Gournay in the 16th century, attempted to make gold to counteract financial difficulties. However, many were researching because they were animated by a passion to learn more, to understand the world around them, and, driven by curiosity, wanted to use their findings to improve the lives of those around them. And isn't that, in a way, what science still does today?

So, it is maybe a bit optimistic to say that the quest to transmute gold has been achieved, the process we have is not perfect and not usable. There is much research still left to do to obtain gold in a cheaper way. Perhaps we could do with a few alchemists in the world, and not just in fantasy books.

ENVIRONMENT

Diving into Imperial's waste

**Imperial Waste Strategy Consultant
FLORENCE HALE**

South Kensington campus generated nearly 2,000 tonnes of waste last year. This includes recyclable materials like paper from printing, glass, plastic, card, and cans from packaging. It also includes food waste which is sent for anaerobic digestion. There is waste from labs, namely clinical and chemical waste, and skip waste from engineering workshops. There is also waste electronic and electrical equipment (WEEE) from everyone.

These however dwindle into insignificance when compared with our biggest stream: general waste. At 900 tonnes per annum, general waste represents almost half of all our waste by mass. The contents of these familiar black plastic bags of rubbish are not recycled. Rather, they are collected daily and taken by lorry to an energy from waste (EfW) plant in Southwark and incinerated. All this material could instead be recycled or reused in the circular economy.

As part of writing the College's updated Sustainability Strategy, waste is under scrutiny, particularly general waste. The key to shrinking this 900 T problem is knowing what is ending up in general waste. The first step in understanding involves collecting data on the composition of Imperial's general waste in an exercise called Waste Composition Analysis (WCA).

WCAs are not glamorous, and so rarely conducted in-house. They involve collecting bags of rubbish, spreading out their contents, sorting the waste into categories, and finally weighing and recording the mass of each category. But, the information gleaned – an average percentage mass of all the materials and products in our general waste – is incredibly useful.

is already underway, and staff and students are conducting WCAs under your nose behind the Sherfield Building. The Sustainability Hub and Property Team hope that this pioneering WCA project will be the first of many to move waste up the sustainability agenda and get everyone at Imperial thinking about changing their material consumption habits.

beyond the numbers, we hope this strategy will start the process of fostering a thriving circular economy culture on campus. South Ken could turn into a living lab where our material consumption aligns with, and even contributes to, our world-leading sustainability teaching and research.

On this waste work, Harriet Wallace,

Imperial's Director of Sustainability, said "staff and students regularly raise waste and recycling with us, as it's a very visible part of sustainability where all of us can make a difference on a daily basis. Imperial is a place that likes to understand data and develop practical, useful, and well-informed plans: this work will help us understand what is going in our bins, and how we can best reduce waste and recycle more in the years ahead."

One change everyone could make now is bringing in your own reusable bottles, cups, food containers, and cutlery. This alone would prevent a lot of waste and save money. Did you know that Taste Imperial gets through over 5 million single-use catering items per year? That's from all the food boxes, coffee cups and lids, paper plates, bags, nap-

kins, and wooden cutlery we use for a few moments and then chuck!

If you have any comments and questions on waste and recycling, please do not hesitate to contact Imperial's Waste Strategy Consultant, Florence Hale, at fah21@ic.ac.uk.



Credit: Florence Hale

Armed with this knowledge, the College will be able to see where to make changes. Perhaps we should tell this supplier to take back their packaging, perhaps we should compost coffee grounds on campus, and perhaps we should stop buying single-use water bottles.

The collection of these invaluable data

Once all the data have been collected, the results will be analysed and used to inform the College's Waste Strategy, one of many sub-strategies contributing to the new Sustainability Strategy. The Waste Strategy will contain targets which, when implemented, are expected to dramatically cut our waste. But

Rights and responsibilities on the course to sustainability

Environment Writer
ANITA PUNWANI

You only need to follow media bulletins to recognise that the world is changing rapidly and facing several challenges all at once. In my view, the biggest challenge we collectively face is finding a way to work together to address all these challenges. I believe the answer lies with you – an individual, a professional, a member of a global society, and a leader of a future world.

Science, technology, engineering and medicine have the answers to the greatest global challenges we face. This was evident during the Covid-19 pandemic – people across the world working in many fields took responsibility for finding real solutions, including people working at Imperial College.

As professionals, we have a respon-

sibility to handle these challenges in a sustainable and ethical manner. When it comes to biodiversity loss, the climate crisis, and the pollution of our rivers, oceans, and land, we need to work together to find real solutions. The world faces both environmental risks and human rights issues. The DEI or EDI (Equality, diversity, inclusion), Black Lives Matter, #MeToo and LGBTQ+ movements all highlight inequality within nations and across the world. Children are still being exploited to make supply chains more profitable for businesses globally.

The organisations we work for are increasingly being held to account by civil society, investors, donors, and regulators. Some organisations are becoming more transparent about their policies, notably on EDI and Modern Slavery, but what is the real positive effect they are making on people's lives?

Imperial College has launched its 'Sci-

ence for Humanity' strategy which encourages us all to join this collaborative effort. My journey to recognising my own responsibilities to society and the environment began at Imperial. My first degree at the Department of Civil Engineering – before the department was renamed to include the words 'and Environmental' – contained a module called 'Engineering and the Environment'. This gave me a sense of understanding that I had a role beyond designing structures. It planted in my mind the thought of a wider responsibility to protect the environment. This understanding has extended to both society and the environment through my work in the private, public, and not-for-profit sectors, as well as my studies in economics and public policy.

I believe we all have the responsibility to be a force for good in addressing global challenges facing society and the environment. I urge you to consider your

career choices with these ideas in mind.

One way to test whether an organisation is truly driven by a sense of purpose is to ask: "What are they practically doing in relation to sustainability? Which of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals are they aligned with? How do they work towards eliminating child labour in supply chains? Are they taking climate action as part of a wider effort to protect the environment? Do they have diversity, equality and inclusion at all levels of the organisation? Or are they more focused on maximizing growth and profit?" In maximizing our own potential as a force for good in the world, it is essential that we hold organisations to account for the new world order we are creating - the future of the world depends on your leadership.



COMMENT

King to N49, or the return of the figurehead

As the world navigates an uncertain period of war threats, economic isolationism and political instability, the vestiges of pre-democratic times become uniting figures.

Comment Editor
GUILLAUME FELIX

For the first time in close to fifty years, His Majesty the King will open the new parliamentary session in Canada's Senate. This break in tradition announced by Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, whose role as the head of the government was confirmed in an election last week, is another surprise move on the confusing chessboard of Canada-US relations. After having swept the blue pawns and captured Mr Poilievre – the white knight of Canada First – Mr Carney moves the King across the 49th parallel north. How the visit of an unelected monarch residing in another continent “clearly underscores the sovereignty” of Canada would have been anyone's guess prior to Mr Trump's repeated suggestions to make Canada the 51st US state. Now, the intention to emphasise Canada's proximity with its European allies and its cultural differences with its proudly republican neighbour is obvious. The very role of His Majesty, whose popularity in Canada has risen by 8 percentage points year-on-year, is antithetical to the American form of government.

The clout carried by the Throne had already been used by British Prime Minister Keir Starmer during his visit to White House. Sanctified by a litany of Trump-arousing adjectives

like “unprecedented”, the royal letter flaunted by Mr Starmer in the Oval Office visibly softened the conceit of the US President. Mr Trump then called the King a “beautiful man” in a moving show of reverence. Although other factors were at play, the UK was only subjected to a 10% baseline import tariff by Mr Trump on his Liberation Day, suggesting that the overall diplomatic strategy was successful.



It emphasises Canada's proximity with its European allies and its cultural differences with America

The revival of the monarchy's diplomatic role mirrors the rise in importance and popularity of other nonpartisan figureheads in places affected by geopolitical turmoil. On the European chessboard, the bishops are now centrepieces. The time is exceptionally challenging for moderate European leaders, who are served an unpalatable cocktail mixing the revival of extremist political parties with unstable governments, a Russian invasion, sluggish growth, a transatlantic betrayal, and the return of fundamentalist religious movement. The Holy See has always enjoyed considerable soft power, and conclaves have always been highly

political contests. Yet rumours that the French president is weighing in the conclave to secure a home-grown pope underline the unabated strategical importance of one of Europe's smallest but most influential states.

The threat of war and economic decline is boosting figureheads in other places. The popularity of Israel's nonpartisan President has increased by seven points since the start of the Israel-Hamas war, contrasting with the steep decline in approval of Benjamin Netanyahu, the country's Prime Minister. Back in the United States, former presidents Obama and Bush – who are constitutionally barred from running and remain true to the expected discretion of past presidents – steadily gain public approval. Yet there is danger in admiring figureheads that can't reprove of the executive's action, whether by law or tradition. Powerless heads of state can give decorum and credibility to ruthless leaders, or act as a weak link in democratic systems, as exemplified by the infamous complacency of Weimar Republic president Hindenburg as the Nazi Party rose to power. Should King Charles III break precedent and denounce American threats to Canadian sovereignty, or will the midterms provide relief? Despire these trends, the current powerlessness of leading Democrats does not seem to increase their popularity – but with the economy in the red, voters might end up feeling blue.



BOOKS

Scientists on Survival & “Civil Disobedience”

A reflection of my experience reading *Scientists for Survival* amid our political climate; a book not about climate change, but who we could be in the face of it.

Books Editor
ADITI MEHTA

Scientists on Survival: Personal Stories of Climate Action is a collection of essays written by scientists who joined the activist group Extinction Rebellion (XR) in an effort to unite against the incumbent forces of climate change. Rather than focusing on data or policy, *Scientists on Survival* presents personal experiences that compelled these scientists to partake in climate activism.

Shortly after finishing the book, I listened to an archive podcast episode of David Runciman’s “Past, Present, Future” which analysed Henry David Thoreau’s political anti-slavery essay, “Civil Disobedience”. The timing was oddly fitting.

Thoreau’s critique of democracy is that it dilutes a civilian’s moral agency. He argues this in a few ways. First, that the individual’s vote counts only if it aligns with the majority opinion – even if the majority opinion is unjust. Second, civil servants enact policies, which detaches individuals from the state’s wrongdoing (and realisation of their

own agency). Lastly, the democratic state demands material support and to obey the social contract, forcing the civilian to underwrite policies they may not support.

Thoreau concedes that “there are thousands who are in opinion opposed to slavery and to the war, who yet in effect do nothing to put an end to them.” Ultimately, he contends, it is up to the individual to resist the majority.

Like the scientists for XR, Thoreau reminds us of our “right of revolution... the right to the right to refuse allegiance, to resist, the government, when its tyranny or inefficiency and great and unendurable”.

XR activists have been known to glue themselves to public property, an experience a few scientists detail taking part in in the later chapters of the book. I had previously wondered what merit societal disruption, especially to the average person, can achieve. However, in conjunction with “Civil Disobedience”, I am beginning to understand how and why this kind of activism can be beneficial.

Runciman also nods to the power of these actions, admitting we can laugh them off, but they are ultimately a form

of re-capturing our autonomy, right, and duty as individuals to act on conscience.

This occurred in early April, right when the repercussions of Trump’s “Liberation Day” were in full swing, markets in a tizzy, and decision-makers at a loss for what to do. I noticed all the news had disappeared – the non-financial news, that is.

Climate, conflict, and culture; they were displaced from the news cycle with ease. Thoreau observed the same, of those “more interested in commerce and agriculture than they are in humanity... cost what it may”.

At that point, it really struck me what people – those who lead the institutions “in charge” of, or who report about the world – truly care about. With immediate monetary threat comes a blindness to reality beyond it. In that sense, I realised our “world” is a synonym for capital.

The essays in *Scientists for Survival*

do not present unprecedented ideas. But that is not their objective. Laura Thomas-Walters highlights the power of conversation about climate change and action; Caroline Vincent shares why she became vegan despite growing up a practically carnivorous diet; Pete Knapp explains his difficult decision to stop taking planes. These are not mandates for the reader to uproot their life. They are, however, human stories. Stories of individuals trying to make incremental change: civil disobedience.

“Let your life be a counter-friction to stop the machine,” Thoreau writes. Today, I increasingly see why that needs to be true.



These are not mandates for the reader to uproot their life. They are, however, human stories.



FOOD&TRAVEL

Felix rates 568

From pouring Pravha's and plopping limes on tequila shots, to cleaning up broken glass and spilled beer – working at *FiveSixEight* is nothing short of a good time.

Food & Travel Editor

CHARLOTTE PROBSTEL

Named after the number of millilitres in a pint, *FiveSixEight* (568), is Imperial College's cornerstone social scene. Sports night, post-exam drinks or social events are all hosted at 568 or the adjoined venues, Metric and the Union Bar. And though most Imperial attendees will only know the bar for its £3 pints of cider or the £10 for 4 Jäger-bomb deals, there is much more to the venue once you join the team behind the scenes. As *Felix's* Food Editor, I was eager to learn more and decided to join the team to explore the inside workings of ICUnion.

The application and training

Applications opened at the end of the academic year, and applicants are expected to pass a simple interview regarding drinking laws and basic customer service skills. As long as you understand that selling alcohol to anyone under 18 is absolutely forbidden, a friendly smile goes a long way and upselling is the aim of the game – you are good to go. Followed, was a day-long training at the bar, learning the internal and legal laws and a few skills such as pouring a pint from the taps. I can only imagine what our instructor thought as we gawked at the first Carling we all poured, aiming for that perfect head and no-spill. Cocktail or spirit training is not explicitly provided as these drinks are too expensive for

everyone to experiment with. However, more experienced and senior members have always been more than kind to me explaining the ingredients of a Shandy, Pimms or an Aperol Spirtz, and showing me how to avoid a large foamy head on some taps. Fortunately, the majority of drinks are self-explanatory, such as a Gin-and-Tonic or a Rum-and-Coke.

I have never worked in a bar before and learned to prepare different drinks, learned what a lager and an IPA was, learned to pour a Guinness, learned what makes a bar run efficiently, and the benefit of having deals and specials, such as the mega-cocktails currently available.

Shifts and ID

The staff work on average at least once a week, and should work at least once on a Wednesday (Sport's Night) or on a Friday following the end-of-week release. My first shift was on a Friday evening from 4 to 8pm in late January. With limited experience, I was sent to Metric to avoid the heavy crowd in 568, happily wearing my mandated STAFF t-shirt.

One student pitched his start-up idea and asked for my Instagram. One student ordered three double gin-and-tonic within an hour and a half, and since it is illegal to serve someone who is drunk, we had to cut him off when he came for the fourth. Groups of friends came to order a series of shots to celebrate a milestone and very young looking students, who were not in the habit of carrying their IDs, were upset to learn they were limited to soft

drinks and juice. An Imperial ID does not replace a valid age-ID and photos of IDs are technically not accepted. Estimating someone's age is difficult, particularly with first-year students.

Getting to know Imperial

During my first shift, I briefly met many different characters, and with every following four hour shift, I saw more a diverse Imperial student body than in the first three years of my studies. Customers came from all around the world, ordering in Spanish, Korean or German accents. Some were chatty, some rather quiet, some looking exhausted and underslept, some ready to go out and some exhausted from a sports event. I would try and guess where someone was from while we waited for their Guinness to settle or for someone to change the kegs, offering a bit of time to practice casual cheerful conversation with strangers.

When I worked the floor, picking up cups and plates, I would often overhear the most private conversations. With only a few seconds to pick up an item, I would only hear phrases such as "I just got rejected from Investment Banking..." or "I do not know what my girlfriend wants..." and "I just scored a 41% on my math exam, and I am a master's student in Maths!". Other discussions revolved around grants and PhDs. Naturally, a bar is a place of discussion and sharing, and Imperial offers a balance of personal and scientific conversation.

Working the floor brings up the grocery cart dilemma. If customer's had the habit of returning glasses to the bar or throwing the plastic cups into the trash once they are done, it would make the space free for the next customers. The majority leave behind empty glasses, few using them as ash trays.

The staff is a solid team

The highlight of working at ICUnion is the staff. Senior and junior members are more often students working towards various degrees in every department. I spent one wonderful shift with an aspiring cardiac-surgeon, discussing medicine and surgery. Other shifts, we discussed our diverse cultural backgrounds and life. The staff is social, kind, and respectful. I was at most impressed by the teamwork. More often than not, even during busy shifts, if one colleague was closer to the Carling tap and heard a customer order a pint, they would start pouring it as I charged the customer. If only every team project worked this well.

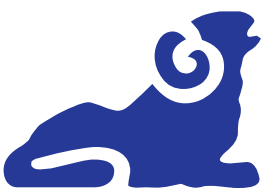
Lastly, the leadership provided clear weekly updates and reminders, and simple methods to provide feedback, however deals were not always well communicated to the staff.

I recommend any student looking for a flexible, closeby side-job to work at 568 and experience Imperial from the lens of a 568ml large glass. You not only learn great social and teamworking skills, but get to patronise your 24-year old friends by asking for their IDs.





The New York Public Library



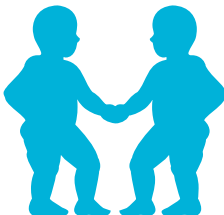
ARIES

This week you and 100 men have to battle the course ratio.



TAURUS

This week you STOP DROP and ROLL down your foreskin.



GEMINI

This week you bump into your GP in the smoking area and decide to keep lying to each other as community service.



CANCER

This week after a lapse in judgement your prolapse relapses and your partner can no longer swim laps.



LEO

This week your blue-haired trust fund nepo baby flatmate crowdfunds for their vape.



VIRGO

This week your CBT session includes the phrases “Tung Tung Tung Sahur” and “Ballerina Cappuccina”.



LIBRA

This week you resurrect yourself from the car crash after your mitigation request is declined.



SCORPIO

This week you wear a custom tailored clear refuse sack to the exam and are refused entry.



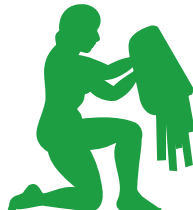
SAGITTARIUS

This week your hay-fever sneezes cause you to eject 6 months of stale cocaine from your sinuses.



CAPRICORN

This week you and your friends are selected to hit the vape signifying the Conclave voting is over.



AQUARIUS

This week you impose head tariffs on your partner for receiving too much and not giving enough



PISCES

This week you *See it. Say It. Sorted. Aborted.*

IMPERIAL

My Imperial Campus

Your

Campus

In

Your

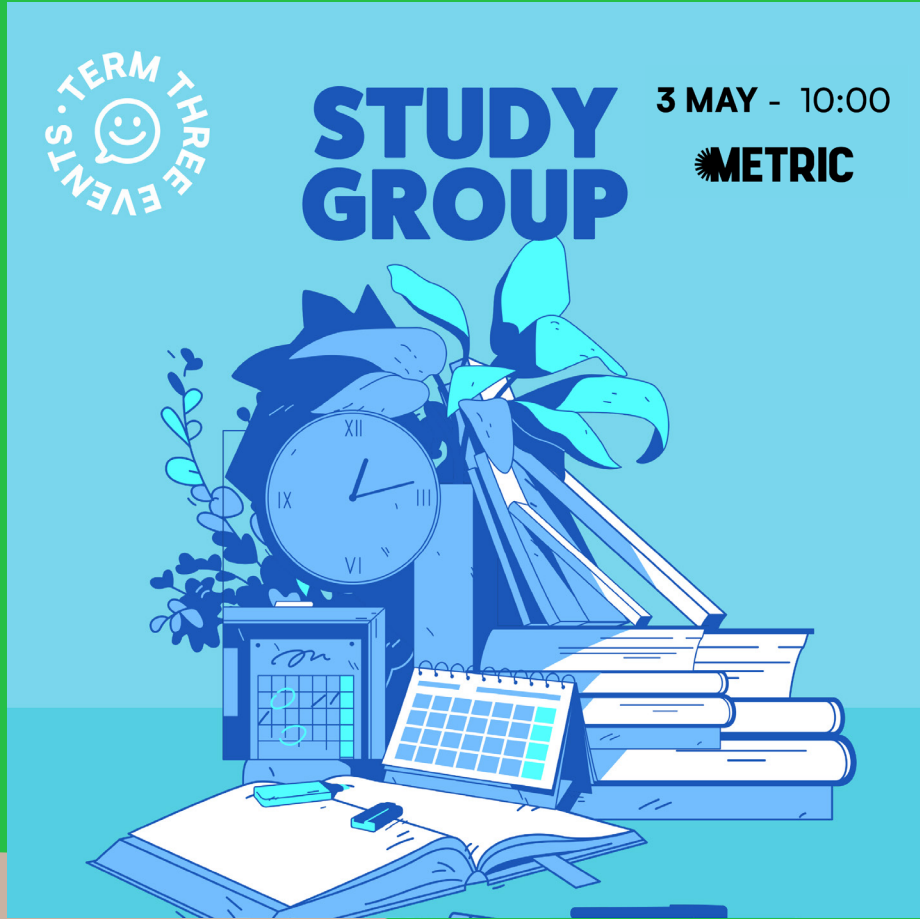
Pocket

Scan the QR to
download

My Imperial
Campus!



Whether you're **checking schedules**, exploring campus with the **3D map**, staying updated on **events**, or getting the **latest news**, it's all here in one place.



**TERM THREE
EVENTS**



SCAN ME

ST. TERM TWO
EVENTS

POSTGRAD
NIGHT
LIVE
KARAOKE

15TH MAY
Metric | 7PM

VINTAGE
SALE

23 MAY 2025
Metric | 12pm

ST. TERM THREE
EVENTS

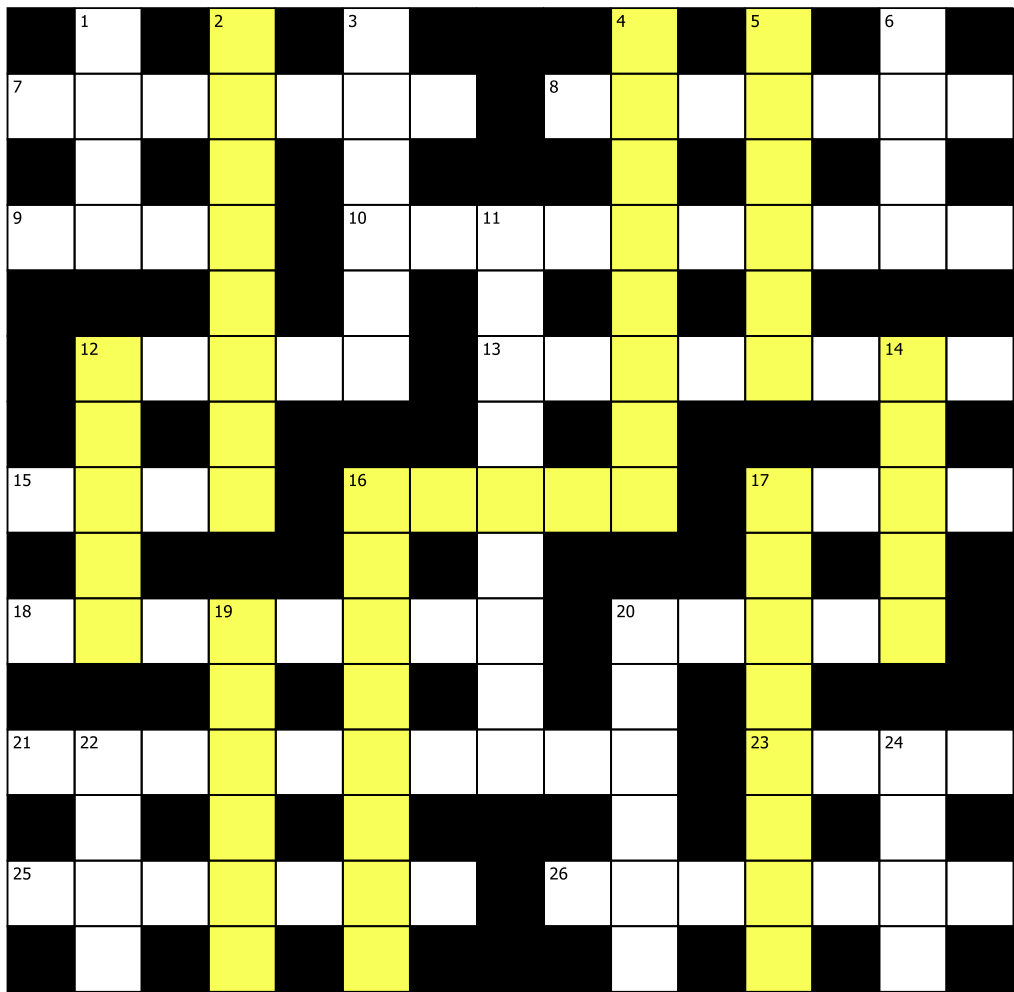
Spring Cocktail
Making Class

20 MAY 2025 | Metric, 7pm

TERM THREE
EVENTS

CROSSWORD

"Summer Time" (5 pts.)



Across

1. Left ricin skins removed to be taken by impression of not having enough. [9]
6. I was under orders from afar as a freelancer? [4]
10. It's better despicable rapscaillon has been arrested. [5]
11. Jumps after dance takes nothing but props? [4 5]
12. Fish next to creative university short of words. [7]
13. Target for a henchman losing old model. [7]
14. Burdens child after tumble. [5 2]
16. Stop a ship with a trading run. [5]
18. Daniel is one to fall in rocky outcrop. [5]
20. Nothing to do in messy bedroom. [7]
22. Force politician to enter unsafe suite. [7]
23. Ape: "I understand Tom". [7]
25. Pirate hears about money a close proximity away. [9]
26. Dryness of metal last century. [5]
27. No direction, but skill. [4]
28. Throws intense swing around. throws.

[9]

Down

1. Workout in boring elevator. [8]
2. Billionaire follows woman - he's a criminal. [5]
3. Slam! Arctic unit destroyed by surroundings. [14]
4. Rank, disgusting clone embraces man. [7]
5. Until a pianist shows it, it's flat! [7]
7. Talon edge mangled and made it drawn out. [9]
8. The house capo quietly traded sin. [6]
9. Love to plot (yes!) after housework routine. [14]
15. Cracking tools to choose external hairs. [9]
17. Crystal is sort of steamy with the end taken off. [8]
19. Books - gossip filled - short of odd appeal. [7]
20. Abi stumbles around like a joker with alcohol. [7]
21. Landmark ebbing with weathering. [3 3]
24. Clergy had land in church? [5]

Across

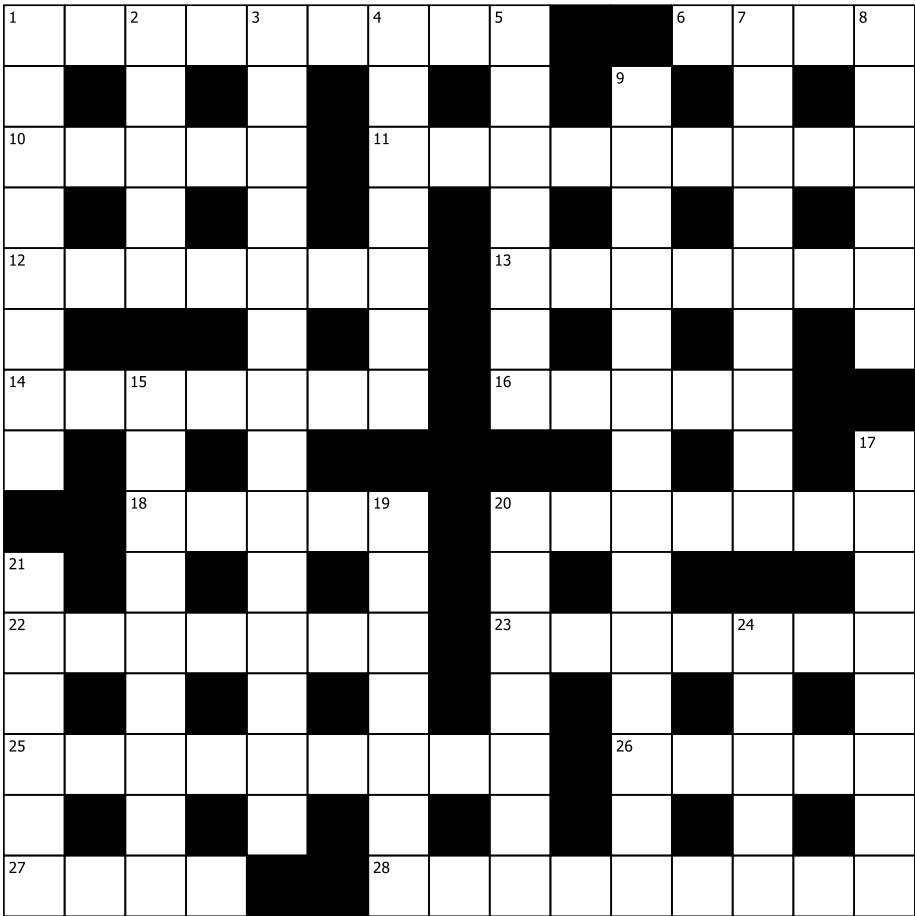
7. 2011 Adventure/Thriller starring Rhys Wakefield. [7]
8. Blockage results in breathlessness. [7]
9. Odyssey the Musical. [4]
10. Mano a mano. [4,2,4]
12. Welcome outsider. [5]
13. Dodge. [8]
15. A collective. [4]
16. The spot under a tree in Summer. [5]
17. Deviate from perpendicular. [4]
18. Still sealed. [8]
20. L,S,M. [5]
21. Sorrowful love emoji. [5,5]
23. Where your friends are. [4]
25. Bold, disobedient and stubborn. [7]
26. Salt, sugar, snow for example. [7]

Down

1. Supporters of a doctrine. [4]
2. Cold deliciousness. [3,5]
3. Clothing for a particular occasion. [6]
4. The first time one cries. [8]
5. The harbingers of summer. [6]
6. Align accordingly. [4]
11. 'The Law of Angels' author. [9]
12. Nature's summer palette. [5]
14. The worst aspect of this term. [5]
16. Golden rays of light and warmth, a one-of-a-kind angel. [8]
17. Summer's heat and stuffiness inspires this. [8]
19. Food, fun, friends, peak summer activity. [6]
20. Stitch used to close a wound. [6]
22. Words, words, words. [4]
24. 23a's antonym. [4]

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

Submitted by David Latimer (10 pts.)



SUDOKU

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

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

Medium (2 pt. each)

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

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

Hard (3 pts. each)

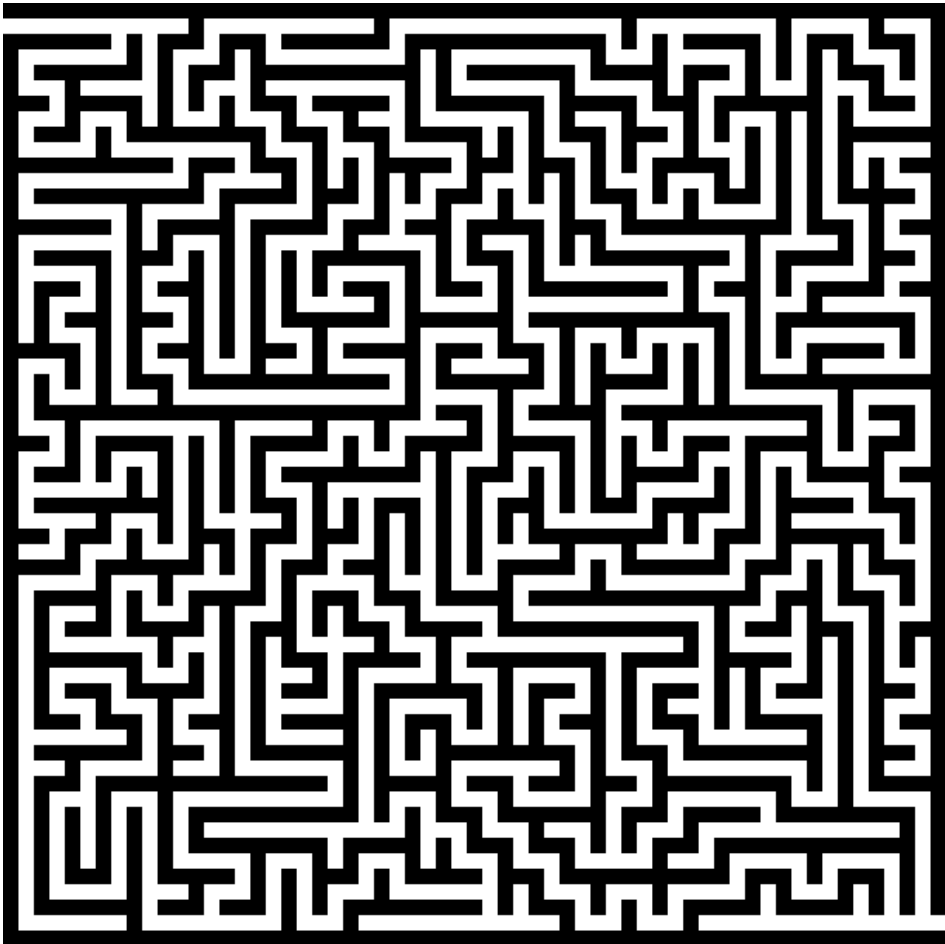
3								
					9			
			2		7		8	5
		6			1	8		9
						4		
		3	5	2				6
2	5		1			6		
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6		1						3

6					9			
		8		6		9	7	
		9		7				
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				9			3	2
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	6				2			
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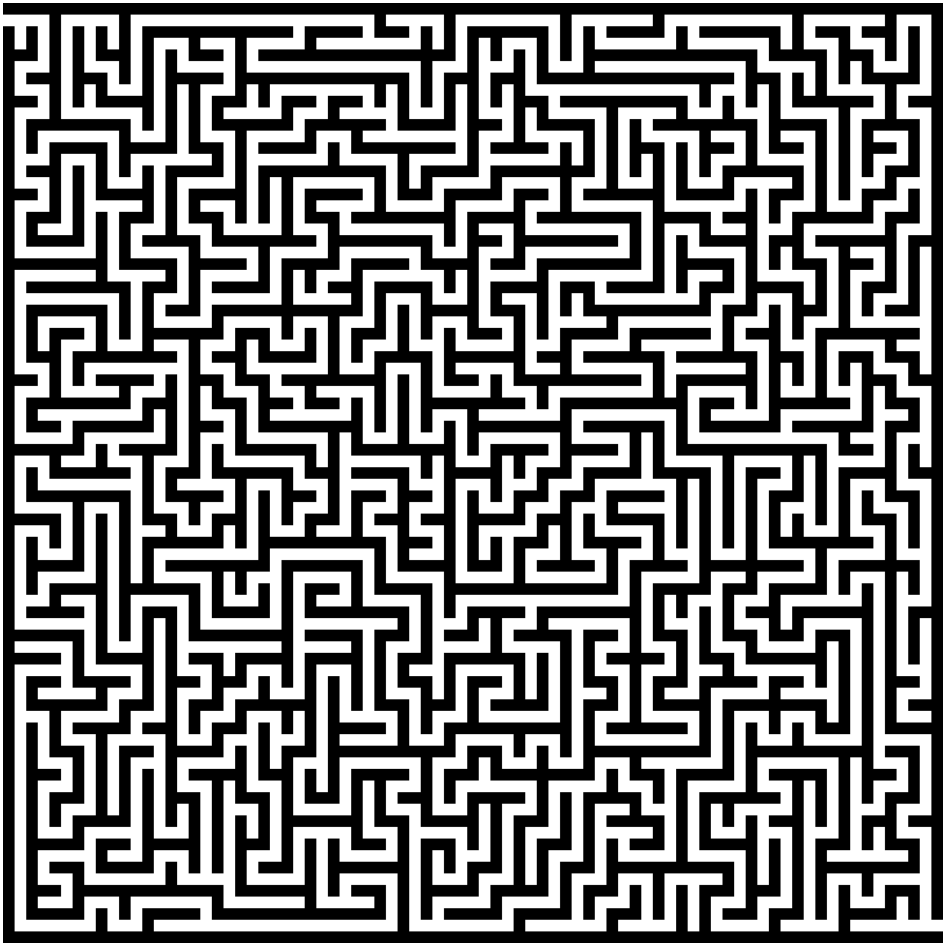
Extra hard (4 pts. each)

MAZE

Medium (4 pts)



Hard (5 pts)



CRYPTOGRAM

Clue: Internals (anagram, 1 word)

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

N	E		S	D	I		R	Z	J	V	I	N	S	W	B	H	Z

																		,
J	D	F	J	E	P		O	P	H	I		W	S		P	J	E	

P	O	N	N	H	Z		Y	Z	L	H	V	I	P		F	L	D	D

N	H	D	W		J	F	J	E		D	L	C	H		P	O	N	N	H	Z

						,										
P	V	S	F	P		X	O	W		F	L	V	W	H	Z	

T	Z	L	H	V	I	P		J	Z	H		Y	Z	L	H	V	I	P	

Y	S	Z	H	Q	H	Z

(3 pts.)

Anagram: _____

(1 pt.)

Quote from: _____

(1 pt.)

COMIC

Submitted by Tengyu Zhao



Puzzle Editor's Note

Dearest Puzzlers,

It's so good to be back! I hope everyone's had a wonderful start to the summer term (exams and coursework deadlines aside, of course). This week's theme is all about the little pleasures of summer – best enjoyed with a nice iced drink in hand!

Now, a little note from David, our resident Cryptic Crossword Master:

Hello all, hope you had a nice Easter break and aren't feeling too under the weather from exams. I hope some of you had a shot at the Enigmatic Variations; you still have 2 weeks to submit, and partial submissions still get awarded some points. The cryptics will still be coming this term – I hope you'll enjoy solving them as much as I enjoy writing them.

The all-important Puzzles Leaderboard will be updated soon – just as soon as we regain access to our submissions inbox. Apologies for the delay, and thank you for your patience! In the meantime please send in your solutions for this week's puzzles to email address stated below.

As always, a huge thank you to David Latimer for the Cryptic Crossword and Tengyu for the Comic.

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

- Ivin

LEADERBOARD

Pos.	Puzzlers	Points (Last week)	
1.	Team GuineaPig	512	467
2.	The Menu	288	288
3.	Team Experial	282	264
4.	Bobby Tables	186	97
5.	Tactless Tony	116	116
6.	Team Doors Doors	85	85
7.	The Northerners of Acton	66	49
8.	Hidden Variables	51	51

Previous Puzzles' solutions

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

Regular

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

Cryptic

Pewter	Brass	Bronze	Steel	Metal alloys
Percussion	Wind	Keys	Strings	Informally refer to orchestra sections
Umber	Copper	Tan	Sepia	Shades of brown
Chestnut	Chicken	Beef	Parsnip	Traditionally roasted

Medium grouping grid

Ottoman	Settee	Couch	Divan	Types of sofas
Ming	Inca	Hittite	Mughal	Empires
Fuses	Mingles	Unites	Binds	Meaning "merges"
Pools	Pork	Leads	Futon	UK cities with a letter changed

Hard grouping grid

Cryptogram

“The last class of my old professor's life took place once a week in his house, by a window in the study where he could watch a small hibiscus plant shed its pink leaves. The class met on Tuesdays. It began after breakfast. The subject was The Meaning of Life. It was taught from experience.”

Anagram: Croziers warmth = Morrie Schwartz

Tuesday's with Morrie by Mitch Albom

Send a picture of your solved puzzles to ij121@ic.ac.uk by Thursday to get yourself or your team on the leaderboard! Partially completed Puzzles can still get you points! Send them in by Tuesday if you want to see your points for this week in next week's issue.



The Sophia Prize

*Write an article that covers and innovation
that benefits the environment.*

The best article wins £400.

Email: felix@ic.ac.uk