

LORDS VINDICATE ICU

Hundreds of overseas students could be eligible for refunds of their fees and back-dated home student grants from Local Authorities, following a ruling in the House of Lords last month. The judgement was the culmination of a five-year legal battle started by Imperial College Union.

The Lords ruled that students who have lived in Great Britain for three years or more (including those who came here on student visas for purely educational purposes and have no intention of remaining in Britain after their courses) are eligible for Local Education Authority grants. As a direct consequence, it seems certain that these people, who have until now paid the high fees imposed on overseas students, will now be entitled to register as home students, whose fees are considerably lower and paid to the universities by local authorities. It is reasonable to expect that the fees paid by the students to the colleges will have to be refunded.

In addition, the increase in the number of Home Students means that College have exceeded the 'Home Student Quota' imposed by the Universities Grants Council. This is the maximum number of students paying the lower fees that a College may accept in any year; one thousand and fifty for Imperial College last year. Colleges are encouraged to accept as many overseas students as possible, because their independantly paid fees (which have doubled in the last three years) are a major source of income to the Department of Education and Science. Colleges that exceed their home student quota face severe financial penalties, although in the case of Imperial and several other colleges which

No. 632



Michael Arthur, whose appeal has been upheld by the Lords.

have received preferential treatment as 'centres of excellence', these may well be waived.

The wording of the 1962 Education Act is that students who have been 'Ordinary Resident' in Britain for three years are eligible for grants. In January of 1978, the Department of Education of Science sent a circular to Local Authorities suggesting that people who had entered Britain on Student Visas to take O and A Levels before going to universities were not ordinarily resident because they were here for educational purposes only, and many intended to leave the country as soon as they had qualified. Local Authorities took this as an instruction to refuse awards, not only to these people but to virtually all students who did not hold a British passport—including one whose father had lived in Britain for seventeen years.

A number of test cases challenging these refusals were taken to court, among them one brought by Imperial College Welfare Officer Michael Officer and Mary Attenborough, then ICU President, on behalf of Shahin Bagha, a first-year undergraduate in metallurgy. For nearly five years Michael Arthur and successive presidents saw the cases go through Divisional Courts and Courts of Appeal until on December 16 last year the House of Lords ruled that any resident with a settled purpose—including that of education—is an 'Ordinary Resident'. In his speech, Lord Scarman ruled that education is a settled purpose, and that Immigration States and future intentions were irrelevant.

continued on page 3



'But I do stand and count them!' Captain Lindley with pocket calculator at his retirement party last month.

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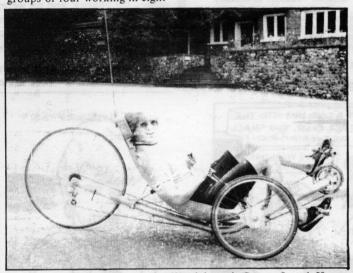
Round Britain Flat Out

A team from City and Guilds College is organising a sponsored non-stop pedal-car ride around the coastline of Britain next July. The participants hope to raise £10,000 for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI), and to qualify for an entry in the *Guinness Book Of Records*.

The vehicle that they will use is the Windcheetah Street Legal Human Powered Vehicle (HPV) made by Burrows Engineering of Norwich, enclosed in an aerodynamic composite bodysheli designed in the College. HPV enthusiasts claim that these machines are more comfortable, warmer and faster over long distances than bicycles-the Windcheetah cruises comfortably at 30mph. It is hoped that the 3,675 mile route will be covered at an average speed of 20mph, taking about ten days to complete the journey.

The team will be divided into groups of four working in eighthour shifts. The groups will be based in fully-equipped Dormobile-type vans in which they will escort the pedaller. Three groups of four will cover the first five days of the journey before handing over to another three groups. On top of the participants' expenses, the team hope to raise enough money to buy an engine for a Brede-class RNLI lifeboat. This they will do by personal and industrial sponsorship, and by selling the twentyfour square feet of advertising space on the bodyshell.

Anyone interested in taking part in the trip (there are still places in the team, and the organisers claim that you need not be an ultra-fit racing cyclist) should be at the meeting at 1:30pm on Tuesday January 18 in Room 342, Mechanical Engineering, or contact John Gilday (Chemistry 3) or anyone in the Guilds Union Office.



Taking it all lying down-the Windcheetah Street Legal Human Powered Vehicle without its body (which has yet to be built).

continued from front page

The effect is that a large number of students not previously eligible for Local Authority grants now are; in many cases, the grant will have to be back-dated. These students will then automatically become home students, which will cause great concern over quotes and next year's admissions. The colleges also have to find a large sum of money to return these students' fees-up to £10,000 per student for a three year courseand no college has easy access to that kind of money. Imperial College's budget this year is officially described as 'tight',

and it is by no means certain that the Universities Grants Council will supply the money. The Registrar of the LSE (the college most likely to suffer from this ruling, and to the heart of the University of London) told FELIX that neither the UGC nor the University of London had given much scope for optimism.

A spokesman from Senate House, the administrative centre of the University of London, told FELIX that Senate House has been in contact with the UGC and DES, and a statement from these bodies is expected by the end of the month. In the meantime, the Government will January 14, 1983

Jezebel Violated

A headlamp and a bearing belonging to RCS's motorised mascot Jezebel are in the hands of Queen Mary College Students' Union.

INEWS

They were stolen on the last Wednesday of last term, but RCS did not discover who was responsible until last Wednesday. According to Duncan Batty, the RCS Motor Club Chairman, three people came to see him at Jez's Garage where he was working on December 15. Two of them pretended to want to join the Motor Club and started discussing the matter with Mr Batty, while the third disappeared behind Jez and took a headlamp and a bearing which was being repaired after damage on Morphy Day. The theft was not discovered until later that evening.

Mr Batty revealed that the equipment, worth $\pounds 600$, was only traced when he personally telephoned the President of QMCU to find out whether she knew anything about it.

QMCU want to exchange the stolen parts for their mascot, Mary, which was violated by RCSU last year. However, Jez is not a violate mascot and QMCU's action is thus against mascotry rules. Mr Batty has asked QMCU to return the missing parts and eventually negotiate Mary's handover with RCSU's Vice-President Fiona Owen.

'The only ones to suffer are the Motor Club members, as the bearing needs repairing and we will not be able to run Jez for at least another couple of weeks,' said Mr Batty, who has also written a letter of complaint to the Principal of QMC.



Duncan Batty

Flowers' Poy

The Rector of Imperial College, Lord Flowers, is to lead a two year investigation by a committee of experts into the British town and country planning system. The inquiry, funded by the Nuffield Foundation, is likely to recommend changes in the system of public inquiries into major building and environmental developments, such as the current controversial inquiry into plans to build a pressurised

be looking for ways to rewrite the regulations for the award of grants, but unless this can be done without passing through the House of Commons, it will probably be left until after the next General Election.

Imperial College Secretary John Smith has published a notice stating that no enquiries can be answered on this subject at present. Meanwhile, the admissions procedure (normally well underway by January) has been thrown into confusion until some policy has been reached on the subject of next year's quotas. An interesting feature of this case is that although it was heard in the summer, the judgement

Powers

water nuclear reactor at Sizewell. Lord Flowers believes that the

present planning system devised to deal only with 'little, local difficulties' is in need of reform. He has previously chaired a government commission which produced a major report on environmental pollution. His work with this new inquiry is not likely to affect his work as Rector.

•was not released until the end of the Christmas term. The grant regulations say that Local Authorities are only under an obligation to make an award where a written application is received before the end of the student's first term at university.

The late publication of the decision means that any student who has not previously applied for a grant will not be eligible. It is strongly advised however that all students who have not applied should do so at once as authorities have a discretion to ignore this stipulation which, in these extraordinary circumstances they may be minded—or compelled—to do.

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Announcements

•Elections for this year's Overseas Students Committee will take place on Wednesday 26 January 1983 in room 408, Elec Eng. Papers have been posted outside the Union Office.

•Want a working holiday in the USA? Find out how in the JCR this Friday lunchtime.

•Caught short? Due to popular demand, the Welare Officer now keeps stocks of contraceptives and can be woken if necessary on int 2292 or call at 388 Keogh.

•For those who didn't read '...but were afraid to ask', copies of 'Getting Married' are now available from the Welfare Officer.

•Attention! Dancing Club is starting a new beginners calss for those of you who missed out last term. There's no need to have a partner just come along and have some fun. Among the dances learnt are the waltz, cha cha, foxtrot, jive and many barn dances. Every Wednesday in the JCR at 7:30pm. All beginners from last term now join the intermediate class held on Tuesdays at 7:30pm in the JCR.

•Budding artist wanted: to design Squash Club sweatshirt. Contact Dave Molesworth, RSMU Officr or 731-6301

•Eat, drink and have the evening of a lifetime. H G Wells Society Annual Dinner, February 16. Contact Geoff Phillips, Physics 3 or Simon Rodan, Physics 3 or ICU or Jo in the IC Union Office.

•Cricket players interested in playing next term or indoor nets this term see Simon Tear, Geology 3 or Steve Bell, Civ Eng 3 for details.

For Sale

•Dire Straits ticket, Tues Dec 21. Contact J Dawson, Maths 1. •Technics ST-CO4L FM/MW/LW Stereo Tuner with auto-scan, 6 pre-set tuning positions, Quartz frequency synthesizer and digital display. Brand new, never used; genuine reason for sale. Open to offers. Contact Peter Dias-Lalcaca, Elec Eng PG letterracks.

•Three-seater bicycle. Appalling construction, hopeless condition, but everything works and it's legal. On view chained to the railings in Watts Way (by Southside). Offers to Martin S Taylor, FELIX Office.

•Dunlop Systemdek, Mission 774, Dynavector Karat Ruby. £340 Tangent RS4 loudspeakers, stands and leads £150. Both ono. Int 4219 GPO 584 8241 morning or evening.

Clearance sale!! Everything has to go by Friday. Lots of ridiculous goods at ridiculous prices. Eg complete hi-fi system £50 (or less), 100s of cassettes (10p each), gaudy ties (free) boxes of junk (buy 2 get one free). Contact S King or J Lay, EE2.

•Squash rackets: Classic 003 £12ea. Also selection of American-made Manta rackets. See Sportscentre Squash Club noticeboard for details or ring Dave 731-6301 late eve.

•Renetly Ladies' & Gentlemen's Hairdressers Discount for students and staff! Cut: first visit £3, second visit and after £2.50; shampoo, cut and blow dry: first visit £4.20, second visit and after £3.85. Equally attractive reductions for lady students.

Sudents. Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm Sat 9am to 12noon Renetly, 154a Cromwell Rd, SW7 01-373 0288 (Next to British Airways Building)

Appointments not always necessary.

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Accommodation

SCORE SCORE •One large two bedroomed furnished flat in Kennington, close to West Road, good site, Ring Windsor 61032, Road, good site, £32.50. Ring Windsor 61032 and ask for John.

•College Accommodation There are currently a number of vacancies in shared rooms in Halls and House. Rent from £12pw. Please contact Student Services, 15 F Gdns for further details. 15 Princes

Personal

•Cossar: NME needs you, anything, anything accepted. ET toilet paper? •The Python would like to know who Amelia is and how she(?) can be contacted.

•You know who Negatives will be returned on receipt of £100 paid into my Swiss bank account. You know who.

•X of Paris. Thanks for everything last weekend. I really enjoyed myself!! Hope the sheep gets better. Love Mike the Bald. PS What's French for wellies?

•Katie (also of Parist) I love your sultry look—it's wasted on the froggies! See you again soon, I hope. Love not the Python.

•£15 for one day's work

•£15 for one day's work Paid volunteers are required by the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme for one day's routine clerical work on Thursday, January 20, between 9:30 and 5:00. If you are interested please contact the Student Services Office. •Red Cross Nursing Course

begins

6:30pm, Tuesday, 18 January in the College Health Centre The course continues for four weeks and leads to the BRCS Basic Nursing Award. It is followed by a more advanced course which lasts for six weeks. All staff and students are welcome!



from the Imperial Society for Pothole Cycling Dear Sir

The above society is contemplating an expedition to a wellknown Lancashire pothole, with the aim of being the first to bicycle (a light vehicle for one person consisting of two large, spoked, tandem wheels, a steering handle and a saddle on which the rider sits to work two pedals which, by making a chain engage in a series of cogs, drive the back wheel) to these eerie underworld caverns.

This undertaking is to raise money for charity, and we were, therefore, hoping that your readers may be interested. If so they may contact the undersigned.

N Spawn Yours faithfully S Ramule



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January 14, 1983 |

FELIX

Southside Security

Three years ago a female student was raped in Southside. A man used the lift to take her down to the basement so that no one would be able to hear her cries for help. As a result of this, it was decided that security in the building was too lax and that everything possible should be done to prevent such a thing happening again. This is why the 'basement' buttons on the Southside lifts are now sensibly fitted with key switches, and why there are wide-angled mirrors in the entrance lobbies

But another measure was introduced at the same time, and one which is by no means obligatory for the security of the Hall: it was decided that the outer doors which lead into the lobbies should be locked at 6:00pm and that all the doors should be locked at 7:00pm.

What does this achieve, apart from inconveniencing several hundred students and their friends? While it is necessary to shut out a wide variety of undesirables, ranging from potential rapists to thieves to tramps and illicit users of the laundry, one wonders how is this achieved by locking up as early as 7:00 rather than at 11:30, say, when the bars are shut and social activities begin to wind down. On Saturdays and Sundays the **EDITORIAL**

position is even more ludicrous, for the security guards themselves are in some doubt as to the official time of locking and unlocking, and it is never clear when access to the building is available; often the doors are locked all weekend. Surely to protect the building from intruders the doors should be locked at the most likely times for an intrusion: during the daytime when there are few people about. It seems particularly pointless to lock the doors at 7:00pm when they are opened at 5:00am.

It is often said that locking the door doesn't really inconvenience visitors, since it's a simple matter to use the internal telephone to call someone to the door, but anyone who uses this argument clearly doesn't appreciate the inherent difficulties. To begin with, it is necessary to find an internal phone: itself no easy task when the bar is shut. Then you need the phone number, which is accessible if you are trying to contact someone in Falmouth-Keogh and you know his room number, but the

internal phone directory has no numbers for the staircase phones in Selkirk or Tizard. Linstead doesn't even have a comprehensive telephone system at all. And knowing the telephone number is no help if your friends are in the laundry, the television lounge, the kitchen, or anywhere else except their room.

This is annoying, but there are more serious consequences. Irritated by the inconvenience of the security arrangements, students get round them in two potentially dangerous ways.

There are doors into Southside which are meant to be permanently locked, but can be left open by anyone with access to the building. Southside residents often open the doors when they are expecting visitors; as a result the doors are often left open well into the night, when it is important to restrict entry.

Secondly, so many residents are aware of the massive inconvenience caused by locking up at 7:00 that they will gladly allow anyone to follow them into the building at any hour of the day or night. In fact I have even seen a note left pinned to the door of Southside: 'Dear X, come and see me in room YYY, if this door is locked wait for someone else to go in and follow them.'

So let's outline some practical suggestions. There is certainly a case for leaving Southside unlocked until 11:30pm and not opening it until 7:00am, and these times should apply at weekends too. There should be a notice on the doors warning students not to allow strangers into the building, such a sign would not only remind residents of the dangers, but would also make it psychologically much easier to refuse strangers access. And finally, there are internal telephones lying idle just inside the doors of Southside. Would the expense be too great to move them outside enabling bona fide visitors to phone their friends at any time of the day or night?

It is impossible to make a student Hall of Residence completely secure; but until something is done about Southside we will be forced to live with a system which does very little to enforce security, and only serves to irritate the residents. Staff Vacancies There is always room on the FELIX staff, especially for writers (see me early in the week) and collators (just turn up on

Thursday evening), but over the

Christmas holiday two important vacancies have arisen. Firstly, since Hugh Southey has been elected Editor of the Alternative Prospectus he will be unable to continue as What's On Coordinator. This job is hard work and needs considerable commitment: the entries have to be sorted and written up early in the week (about an hour's work) and then laid out and pasted up on Tuesday or Wednesday (at least six hours' work—say a whole evening). The job is not one to be taken on lightly, but will, as they say, provide considerable satisfaction to a reasonably tidy and conscientious worker with a good eye for layout. Anyone interested should see Hugh or me in the FELIX Office.

The other vacancy is staff photographer, who liases with the news editor and other photographers and tries to capture the important happenings around IC on film. The perks of the job include using all the FELIX photographic equipment (including, when necessary, the Mamiya polaroid camera); the commitment is to spend time on Wednesday afternoon in the darkroom, developing and printing up to half a dozen films. Anyone interested, see me at any time.

Copy Deadline

Copy for next Friday's FELIX should be in by Monday 5:30pm, but anything for inclusion in the spring term calendar must be in by 5:30 *today*.

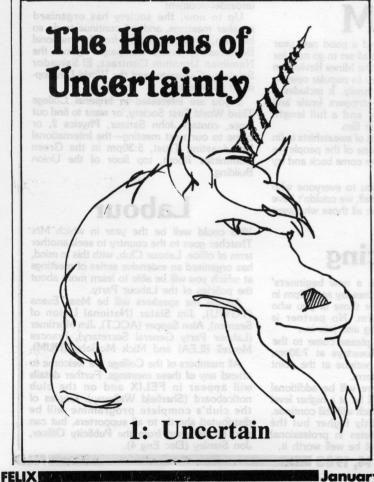
Christmas FELIX

There are a few Christmas FELICES left (although the free gift is not as fresh as it was in December) and also lots of last year's *The Phoenix* all available free from the FELIX Office.

Impossible Without.....

all the usual crowd, to wit, Hugh Southey for What's On, Adrian James for news, Lee Paddon, Nick Bedding and Nigel Brand for reviews, Walkabout-Looksee and Gastropod for their respective columns, Pinocchio, Dave Jago, Nick Pyne, Paul Philippou, Peter Rodgers for all kinds of help, Chris Mallaband for sport, Maz for typesetting and Pete the Printer.

Martin S Taylor



January 14, 1983

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ICLUBS & SOCIETIES

STOIC Almanac

STOIC Technical Manager Nick Graham-Taylor announces that the Southside TV set is working. The South African motion is not discussed at the UGM because Nick Pyne is unable to remember how to de-suspend standing orders. A viewer at Southside rings the TV Studio to ask what Nick Taylor said as the sound has gone on the Southside TV set. Ace film reviewer Rich Copnall states that he doesn't know anything about films. HIS letter of resignation is not accepted. Council investigates discrepencies in the bar accounts. *February*

A suntanned Steve Goulder returns from his two weeks holiday in Bermuda. Ace film reviewer Richard Copnall interveiws Koo Stark for starchat. She agrees that he knows nothing about films. Two are killed as 400 people stampede into the TV Studio. Steve Goulder says that it's a mystery to him where the missing bar account money has gone.

Bookshop News

Happy New Year! Welcome back, hopefully we have all your recommended books for the coming term. But lecturers please let me know if you are going to recommned a title; if the students are told to get a particular title, I need to know. Last term, one lecturer said they didn't tell me as they only had ten students. The Bookshop lost a possible ten sales. Students, if the book you want is not on our shelves, tell me. At least, I should be able to tell you whether or not we can get it. To all of you, Imperial College Bookshop relies on your full co-operation to ensure that recommended titles are available at your own bookshop.

Bookshop Bestsellers

Encyclopedia of Gardening – Arthur Hellyer, Collineridge Pub £15

Confessions of an Actor - Laurence Olivier, Weidenfeld & Nicholson £9.95

American London – Gerald Newson, Q Books Ltd £4.50

Stranger From the Sea - Winston Graham, Collins £7.95

Everybody's Boswell – Bell & Hyman £8.95 Rock On – Norm N Nite, Harper & Row £9.50 A Matter of Trust – Nigel West, Weidenfeld & Nicholson £8.95

Morgans Pride of British – John H Sheally II, Foulsham £16.95

The golden Torc - Julian May, Pan £1.75

Eyes of Darkness – Leigh Nichols, Fontana £1.50 Rebecca Notebook – Daphne Du Maurier, Pan

£1.75

Rising Sons - Robert Levine, Fontana £1.95 Level 7 - Mordecai Roshwald, Allison & Busby £1.95

The Spook who sat by the door - Sam Greenlee, Allison & Busby £1.95

The care of time – Éric Ambler, Fontana £1.50 The Benn Heresy – Alan Freeman, Pluto Press £3.50

Black Sportsmen – Ernest Cashmore, Routledge £5.95

The Silent Intruder – Panati & Hudson, Pan £1.75

Check your tax 1982/3 – Finnigan & Kitchen, Foulsham £1.25

To the Librarian, who shall be nameless, *the* book is so battered, I will be putting it in our Book Sale in February. But if s/he wishes to make an offer, I will consider it.

Page 6

March

Nick Pyne wins the presidential election by one vote thus gaining 60% of the total poll. Pyne states that his first priority will be to discover where the bar account money has gone to. Goulder declares the election null and void as only five people voted. He appoints Christine Teller as caretaker President for next year. Ace film reviewer Rich Copnall sells the story of what he and Koo did after the interview. The Daily Star buys the exclusive rights to it. Martin Taylor says that FELIX should have been offered the scoop in return for all the space he gives to STOIC. STOIC Chairman says he cannot fit it in two inches on page seven. Ace film reviewer Rich does his braodcast from hospital following a mysterious accident with a Royal Navy helicopter. The South Africa motion is not discussed, despite the recent shooting of 400 blacks at Suweto, on the grounds that such an important motion should be discussed at the end. The STOIC Easter programme is a runaway sensation.



I hope all the Guildspeople reading this arefully recovered from the Christmas festivities and ready for a full term's work. Just to take your mind off the more boring College pastimes, we have organised, for your delight, hitsquad down Portobello Road this Saturday, meet C&GU 9:30am.

Then next Sunday (23rd) there are the rugby sevens. The more teams the merrier! Submit your teams to P BatesonC&GU by Thursday. There are prizes. We still need an LMS coordinator urgently. Plese see me.

Events for the diary: Friday 14: JCR Fancy Dress Party; Saturday 15: Rag Collection down Portobello Road (bring towels).

See you at the party tonight.

RSM

Well, I hope everyone had a good new year and Christmas and you're all set to go now for the new term. We've got the Mines Review on January 28 which contrary to popular opinion really is fun for all the family. It includes a band, comic, compère, strippers (male and female!), bar extension and a full length (naughty but nice) feature film.

We've just had a new lot of sweatshirts in (in large sizes) so if your're one of the people we had to send away last term come back and try again.

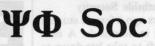
Finally, just a thank you to everyone who turned up to help at the Ball, we couldn't have done it without you. Hope all those who went enjoyed it.

Dancing

This term there will be a new beginners' dancing class, every Wednesday at 7:30pm in the JCR. This class is for those of you who missed out on last term. No partner is necessary. So come along and join in.1

Last term's beginners please come to the intermediate class on Tuesdays at 7:30pm, JCR. The lessons will continue at the point where they left off last term.

Also on Mondays there will be additional advanced class which will be at a higher level than the present one, which will still continue. The price will be slightly higher but the teacher, who still competes in professional dancing competitions, will be well worth it.



So, I've been ETed.

Even I, a hardened synic, was biting back the tears as the wrinkly little alien's body was found in the cold waters of a stream after his attempt to 'phone home'.

But on to weightier maters, he beamed across the subether as the crippled ship plunged into the heart of the black hole. We will not be showing a sneak preview of *The Revenge of the Jedi* but who cares when we've got *Oh Lucky Man* (starring that man with the funny eyes), for your delectation on Tuesday night. And even more important, articles for NME 4 are now being accepted. Get yours in before it's too late!

Alex the Muon



This term the Audio Society will be proud to present, amongst others, Dynavector, Crimson, Logic, DNM, Questar, and Heybrook.

Are Dynavector to give away a free cartridge? (Watch this space.) Is the Logic the best turntable in the world? Is it true that Audio Soc are actually presenting lectures by manufacturers who make equipment you can afford? The answers to these and many other questions, including full details of the above, may be found at our first meeting (Tuesday, January 18, 6:30pm, Upper Union Lounge).

Third World First

Imperial College Third World First Society only established itself in Imperial College last term. Third World First is a national student movement, campaigning against poverty and underdevelopment.

Up to now, the society has organised speaker meetings, and will continue to do so his term, including speakers from International Broadcasting Trust, Campaign against the Namibian Uranium Contract, El Salvador Solidarity Campaign, and the World Development Movement.

If you are interested in Imperial College Third World First Society, or want to find out more, contact John Sattaur, Physics 2, or come to our next meeting—the International Broadcasting Trust, 5:30pm in the Green Committee Room, top floor of the Union Building.

Labour

1983 could well be the year in which Mrs Thatcher goes to the country to seek another term of office. Labour Club, with this in mind, has organised an extensive series of meetings at which you will be able to learn more about the policies of the Labour Party.

Among the speakers will be Moss Evans (TGWU), Jim Slater (National Union of Seamen), Alan Sapper (ACCT), Jim Mortimer (Labour Party General Secretary), Frances Morrell (ILEA) and Mick McGahy (NUM).

All members of the College are welcome to attend any of these meetings. Further details will appear in FELIX and on the club noticeboard (Sherfield Walkway). Copies of the club's complete programme will be distributed shortly to all supporters, but can also be obtained from the Publicity Officer, Jon Stanley (Elec Eng 4).

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IREVIEWS

Murder and Suspicion

Still of the Night directed by Robert Benton, now showing at the Odeon, Haymarket.

Despite the temptation to rest on their ET laurels, UIP have released another very passable effort in Still of the Night. Meryl Streep and Roy Scheider (star of Jaws-the one without the teeth) are the main attractions of this intricately woven story of murder and suspicion.

Roy Scheider plays Sam Rice, a psychiatrist who is still reeling from his divorce when a patient of his is murdered (losing your wife is bad enough, but losing a patient as well is just plain carelessness). The murdered man's mistress, Brooke Reynolds (Meryl Streep) turns up at his office and asks Sam to return the deceased's watch to his wife, the violins play and he sweeps her into his arms; well, not quite, but Sam's blood pressure moves up a notch or two (and whose wouldn't?).

Hard on her heels comes the tenacious detective, Joe Vitucci, with just a suggestion of lasagne stuck between his molars. The evidence points to Brooke, but Sam reckons there are better things you could do with a woman like that than put her behind bars. Can he prove her innocent? Thus the trail of blood and corpses continues.

Still, this is by no means a violent film, and the blood and corpses are kept to a minimum. The main problem with making a film of this sort must be generating the sense of tension. Even Hitchcock, the master of suspense, occasionally failed to deliver, ending up with a rather limp feeling of resignation in the viewer, as he waits for the next thing to go bump in the night. This film uses some cheap tricks, such as total silence followed by something hurtling in from nowhere. There is also a scene in Central Park; everyone knows that you always get mugged in Central Park, which removes the necessity on the director to produce the tension. I don't suppose Central Park can be really that bad, but I must admit I have no inkling to test this theory at first-hand. On the whole, the atmosphere is well maintained throughout and rivets one's attention to the screen.

The climax of the film is well worth waiting the obligatory one and a half hours for with an empty seaside retreat being a perfect location with real spook appeal, and there is a clever link between this and a dream sequence earlier in the film. When the homicidal maniac is revealed, s/he (I'm not telling) is fittingly silent and menacing; s/he's out to kill you, not wake up the neighbours. The acting is of high standard throughout, with Meryl Streep outstanding. As anyone who saw her screen debut in the unmitigatingly awful telly-epic Holocaust will tell you, she's at her best when being alternately terrified, agitated and grief stricken; for my money, the best actress on the screen today. This is a very polished and refined film all round. Despite the numerous murders, we are spared the blood and gore normally associated with this sort of goings on, the camera just allowing you time to take in the blooded corpse for the instant shock effect before moving on, and despite the numerous sexual liaisons, we are only allowed one all too brief glimpse of Ms Streep in the altogether, more's the pity!

Lee Paddon



Bistro Vino 1 Old Brompton Road 589 3888 Open every day from noon to 3:00pm and 6:00pm to midnight

Of all the restaurants within crawling distance of College, the Bistro Vino offers by far the best value for money if you are eating on a restricted budget.

Although there are several branches in the area, I am going to concentrate on the one in South Kensington—mainly for the very good reason that I haven't tried any of the others.

The candelit atmosphere—it doesn't quite aspire to having an ambience—is pleasant. The walls are decorated with racks of wine bottles and plastic bunches of grapes are much in evidence.

As a tribute to its popularity, you often have to queue for a table, although if you arrive before 8:00pm you shouldn't have too much difficulty. On a cautionary note, it isn't really suited to a quiet romantic evening out as couples tend to have to share tables, in rather close proximity, with other diners. If you go in a larger group, however—say four upwards you can get your own partitioned off eating space which is far more satisfactory.

As should be the case, the best thing about the Bistro Vino is the food. The starters cost from 70p to £1. Most of them are adventurous and well prepared although portions can be on the small side. Mushrooms a la Grecque button mushrooms in a ratatouille sauce—is worth trying as is the Whitebait—tiny whole fish fried in batter. Highly recommended is the Smoked Chicken Mayonnaise—delicious.

Main courses cost from £1.90 to £3.55 and are served with your choice of chips, croquettes or rice. Entrecote Steak Diane with chips (£3.10) and a side salad (60p) proved an excellent combination. Gigot of Lamb Rosemary at £2.85 gives you a fair sized piece of lamb deliciously flavoured. The Rump Steak at £3.45 seemed better value than the Fillet Steak at the same price. Their Chicken Kiev at £2.85 is an excellent choice for garlic lovers.

Puddings, priced at 60-70p are uninspiring. My Chocolate Mousse seemed to be unnecessarily small although at 65p one can't really complain. The Treacle Tart at 60p and the Cheesecake were also fairly ordinary. The best bet is probably the Bistro Sorbet.

The House Wine at £3.50 is no better (or wose) than one would expect.

Service is generally good although the main couse can take its time in coming.

You would be hard pushed to spend more than £5 per head on food and service is not added onto the bill.

Altogether, highly recommended.



Record Low

Record companies are traditionally at a low ebb over Christmas, and the New Year maybe hangovers are particularly heavy in that industry—and this one's no exception; the odd new release jostling with a handful of last year's leftovers for your attention.

A few singles for starters. Island launch 1983 with their latest signing, Glasgow's Set The Tone. Unfortunately, *Dance Sucker* isn't too hot; join-the-dots funk embellished with too much synth trickery. Much better are APB who hail from Aberdeen, who have just reissued *Shoot You Down* (Oily Records); more basic, more direct than *Sucker*, and all the better for it. How long before the music press hype 1983 as the year of *Scottish New Funk?* In 1980, Postcard Records of *Scotland were* told, but instead their main bands Josef K, Orange Juice and Aztec Camera had either broken up or dried up by the end of 1981. Josef K recorded a string of sparkling singles, and an underrated LP before splintering, with lead singer and Kafka devotee Paul Haig retreating to lie low in Belgium. Justice may have been a good single, but his latest, Blue For You (Interferance), is unfortunately a rather monotonous, anaemic disco-ish effort. And on the subject of bloodless wonders, two positively weedy efforts: current John Peel favourites The Farmers Boys sound like fifthrate Orange Juice, awash with mannered vocals and simp-strummed guitars, on More Than A Dream (Backs Records), whilst Darkness & Jive resurrect the ghost of Marc Bolan on Hooked On Your Love with dire results.

On the brighter side the debut single from Southern Death Cult, Fat Man (Situation 2), gallops away on some spirited drumming, propelled along by twangy guitars straight out of Ghost Riders In The Sky. Theatre of Hate fans should love it. This week's 'welcome back from the dead' award goes to Echo and the Bunnymen; after the unwieldy Back Of Love single, The Cutter (Korova), is a welcome return to form, relying in part on those thematic hooks that dominate Rescue, Monkeys and A Promise, with a great tune built around what sounds like an Arabian 'continued on page 8

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continued from page 7

kazoo. Take note Farmers Boys! This is how it should be done.

The Specials broke up shortly after their topical number one Ghost Town. Out of the wreckage sprange the Fun Boy Three who quickly became Top of the Pops regulars with a run of increasingly frivolous singles; meanwhile, Jerry Dammers had crawled off with a couple of Specials, a Bodysnatcher, and a few others to form the Special AKA. Their first single, The Boiler, was a chilling account of a rape. Predictably, the BBC banned it as 'distasteful', whereas it was anything but a gratuitous cash-in on the plethora of rape cases at the time. Nearly a year later, Capital Radio will only play the instrumental B-side of their latest single. War Crimes (2-Tone 7" and 10") is 'too political', a haunting lament for the victims of last September's massacre in Beirut's refugee camps. Meanwhile, FB3 release their most potent single since Lunatics. The More I See (The Less I Believe) is a tensely orchestrated piece, specifically about Northern Ireland (reminding us that 'Belfast's only half an hour away') but also about sectarian violence in general, and the consequences for those caught in the crossfire: '...another attack/leaves a widow in black/weeping for her bereaved ... And they keep telling me/it's not my concern...' It's out on Chrysalis as 7" and 12". According to Cherry Red Records boss Iain

McNay in the Christmas NME, independant companies are having a tough time facing up to the increasingly glossy competition from major labels, as records seem to sell on the strengths of a band's haircuts rather than the music. Cherry Red seem healthy enough, and to back this up, there's a compilation LP called Pillows & Prayers that is fifty minutes long and costs only 99p (echoes of Virgin's samplers for the price of a single that ranged from The Faust Tapès in the early 70s through The Front Line to the recent Cash For Cows). This better-than-average collection—the soundtrack to a forthcoming film and video-features a number of recent or forthcoming singles, from the fizzy electronic pop of The Passage with XOYO, and Thomas Leer's All About You to the acoustic wanderings of Tracey Thorn's Plain Sailing, and Ben Watt's Some Things Don't Matter. Cherry Red have quite a few acoustic acts, so it's no surprise to find Kevin Coyne here, fitting in well alongside The Marine Girls and the Thorn/Watt duo Everything But The Girl. As with any compilation, there's a few oddballs: ex-Nightingale Joe Crow, Piero Milesi's excerpt from Modi-an Italian Mike Oldfield by the sound of it; shades of Omma-bleedin-dawn, and something from Eyeless In Gaza who give synthesiser duos a bad name, and name themselves after an Aldous Huxley novel. One absolute gem is the Monochrome Set's Eine Symphonie des Grauens, originally a 1979 single on Rough Trade, and included here for possibly two reasons: firstly, Cherry Red will release the early singles on a retrospective album pretty soon, as the Set-surprise, surprise-now record for the label. Secondly, their new material is crap. The curent single is some juvenile cowboy whimsey called Cast A Long Shadow. Last year's Eligible Bachelors album is being re-promoted (as a film tie-in?), but this tawdry effort sounds rather dated, like early Caravan out-takes in fact; limp 'humour' pitched at the head rather than at the feet, it falls severely short of its mark. Otherwise, full marks to Cherry Red for a varied roster of artists; what with Compact's 60s kitsch, Factory's corporate chic, and Rough Trade's sheer drive, maybe 1983 will see the indies bite back Nigel Brand

REVIEWS Uninspiring Laughter

Ducking Out by Mike Stott, directed by Mike Ockrent, Duke of York's Theatre.

There are a lot of dotty families about. I don't think anyone can deny this, it's just that some families are more dotty than others. The Coppell family, feature in *Ducking Out*, are pretty dotty indeed. In fact the family itself is almost a flagrant absurdity. (Good phrase that, flagrant absurdity, I must use it again some time).

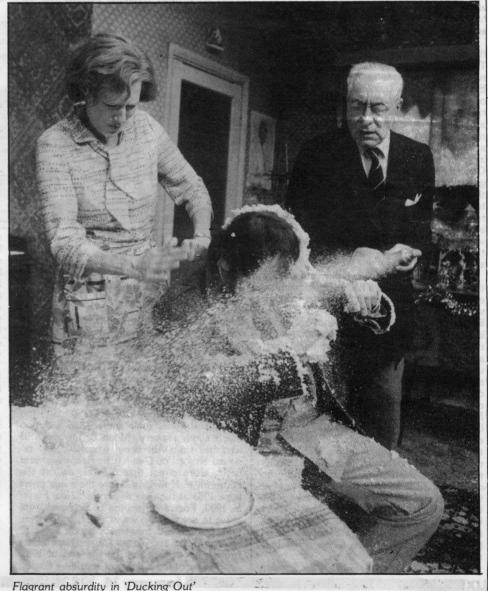
The play is an adaptation by Mike Stott of a play by Eduardo de Filippo called Natale in Casa Cupiello (Christmas at the Coppells). The action takes place in the Coppell's flat in Derwent Block, the Lakeview Estate, in a town in West Lancs, over Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and ten days later. One might infer from this that Warren Mitchell as the father of the family is playing an Alf Garnett type character. Not so. Len Coppell is a jovial easy-going catholic. Like Leone Galla in Pirandello's The Rules of the Game (played recently by Leonard Rossiter), Len has a rock, an anchor in life, by means of which he can weather any storm. His anchor is crib making and we find him busy on Christmas Eve labouring over a huge papier mache holy crib, a veritable magnum opus. His cribs save him from his troubled, eccentric family, but not for long.

Things reach a peak on Christmas Day and he is confined to bed with a severe speech impediment.

Ducking Out is pure 'sitcom' and although a good laugh it was rather uninspiring. It had nothing to differentiate it from other comedies about eccentric families that one often sees on TV. However, superb performances were given by Warren Mitchell (one of this comedy's most outstanding actors in my opinion) and Leslie Sands as Arthur Coppeli, Len's elder but very odd brother.

Nick Bedding

PS: The-most-obnoxious-person-I-have-satnext-to-in-the-theatre-in-the-year award was conferred upon a neighbour at the end of the performance of Ducking Out. An extremely high accolade, it is not awarded lightly. Nominees have to be of the highest calibre. The winner was a genuine young bourgeoisie upstart (student). Telling his woman how many tens of pounds he had spent on buying Christmas presents at Harrods, he was. Half closed eyes. Pouting lips. Speaking in that rather silly front of mouth manner. Asking his friend what Marcus and Gloria and Jeminia and others with those bleedin' bourgeois names were giving him for Christmas. Obnoxious little turd, theatre critics ought to be afforded seclusion from such people. As if there weren't enough unpleasant and distracting things in the world like poverty, hunger and the FELIX Editor's brown plaid. trousers.



1. 18 1. 1. 1

WESTER LEADERS

January 14, 1983



Fashionable society, including the Queen Mother as guest of honour, attended the private view that launched this winter's major exhibition at the Royal Academy. I too might have been present—for the price of a ticket (£20) and a wardrobe that would not have been disgraced by Savile Row suits and Paris couture dresses. FELIX reporters don't yet rate four-figure expense accounts, so I contented myself with a visit on an ordinary Tuesday afternoon!

'Treasures of Ancient Nigeria' contains a hundred or so bronzes and terracotta from the Nigerian national collections. They span a period from around 500BC to well into the second millenium AD and cover several distinct styles. In fact, the exhibition could well be subtitled 'Variations on the theme of an African head, with Pots and Animals for light relief'.

Colonisation rules OK

The formal stylisation of Benin bronzes is probably the feature of Nigerian art best known in Europe—and that as the result of a high-handed exercise of colonial power.

Are you sitting comfortably? Then I'll begin.

In 1897 the king of Benin (the Oba) was

House of Clay

Clay by Peter Whelan, directed by Bill Alexander, The Royal Shakespeare Company at The Pit, Barbican Centre.

"I imagine most people have a countryside of the mind, some green and tranquil refuge north of the frontal lobes for escape at times of pressure." So says Peter Whelan about his new play, *Clay*, which has opened recently at The Pit. Unlike *Captain Swing* and *The Accrington Pals*-Whelan's other plays, both performed by the RSC—*Clay* is set in the present.

Three generations share a converted hill farm turned pottery studio: Bert (Fred Pearson), Micky (Janet Dale), their sixteen year old son (John McAndrew) and Micky's octogenarian mother (Sylvia Coleridge). Win and Pat, played by Gemma Jones and Jim Broadbent respectively, arrive from a more pressurised life in urban West Germany. They are inseparable teenage friends of years ago.

But the future has slipped in almost unawares. Whelan has made the main character, Win, to stand for all of us who have ever looked for a refuge from that future. But her 'countryside of the mind' contains people, the old teenage foursome. Her refuge is mutual love and affection. The play is a sort of comedy of embarrassment as the two couples meet after such a long separation and talk about their past and future intentions.

But it is the present the play is concerned about and the way our 'mental refuge' can be given a nasty jolt by the unexpected sudden arrival of the future.

The play is very confident and clever, and quite rich in meaning. Some interesting parallels are drawn between clay and people (!) and the production has an excellent cast to boot. Recommended.

Nick Bedding





Bronze vessel - 9th or 10th century

accused of massacring a party led by Vice Consul J R Phillips. The Oba, though not involved, consulted an oracle who predicted the white men would destroy his city. To appease the gods, and avert this disaster, he ordered large numbers of human sacrifices and the decaying bodies were found by the Roval Navy expedition when it reached Benin. Horrified, they exiled the Oba, cleared up the carnage and then, to cover the expedition's costs (!), sold off ivories and bronzes found in the palace. Many were bought by the British Museum and placed in the ethnological department where they were exhibited as the artifacts of primitive savages.

Over the next twenty years the sculptures were 'rediscovered'—they inspired many European artists, not least of whom Picasso, who found them a trigger towards the development of Cubism.

It is only within the last forty years that other Nigerian art-traditions too have been seriously investigated by archaeologists and art historians. The sculptors' technical skill in modelling and firing terracotta and in casting bronze, using the lost wax method, was extraordinary: the gallery guide supplied for the price of admission, will elaborate on technical details.

Appreciation back to front?

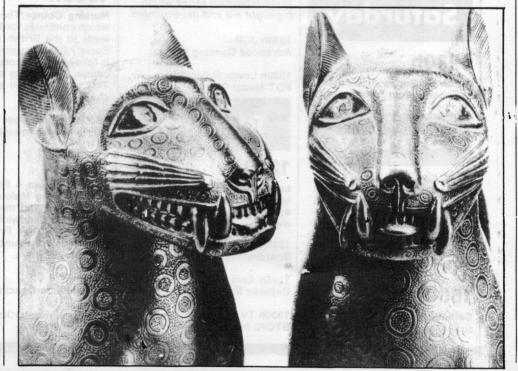
What I found disorientating, but ultimately rewarding, about the exhibition was its feeling of familiarity. I have an instinctive sympathy for the Cubists' analysis and synthesis of forms: I've grown up under their influence, subconsciously abosrbing cubist posters, architecture, etc. The Royal Academy exhibition was rather like meeting a close friend's family and recognising his mannerisms and the shape of his nose in his parents. Quite the 'Wrong' way round-Picasso achieved a new analysis of reality by penetrating the romantic haze that surrounded primitive objects at the turn of the century, and seeing them for the first time as just another kind of art: an art with a different concept of form, concerned not with presenting illusions but with making ritualistic totems and ceremonial masks. It is this feeling of art as creation, rather than some sort of imitation, that comes across so strongly from the Benin and Tsoede bronzes. In the terracotta Nok sculptures (dated 500BC to 500AD) the act of creation is that of assembling abstract geometrical forms: the style is one of sophisticated simplicity.

In complete contrast is the striking naturalism of the metal heads of Ife. Idealised features represent the stately bearing of the royal figures and clearly demonstrate that 'black is beautiful'.

The scope of this exhibition is considerable but as a Walkabout-Looksee it seems tailormade—equally fascinating to the archaeologist, the 20th Century-art-enthusiast and the amateur of smithing and casting techniques.

Where, When, £?

Treasures of Ancient Nigeria is at the Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly until 23 January 1983. It's open from 10:00am to 6:00pm every day, including weekends, last admission one hour before closing. Admission is £1.40 for students, £2 for others.



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Firstly, I must apologise that What's On is so boring this week. However, if I haven't got any pictures I can't print them

Secondly, we now have two What's On forms. One is designed for regular weekly events, while the other is for oneoffs. Please ensure you use the correct form. In addition could all those societies that have previously been included regularly please fill in a new form. Thanks.

Hugh Southey What's On Coordinator

1230h JCR Angling Club meeting.

1230h Bot/Zoo Common Room Natural History Soc meeting to plan field trips

1255h Union Concert Hall Islamic Society Friday prayers

1800h Common Room

Botany

Islamic Society social gathering. Free food is available and all are welcome to attend.

JCR 1930h Fancy Dress Party organised by

Guilds.

2230h Falmouth Kitchens Soup Run



0930h

Guilds Union Office

More

House

Guilds Hit Squad attack the Portobello Road for Rag. Remember to bring towels



0915h Consort Gallery **Prayer Meeting**

1000h Consort Gallery **Communion Service**

1300h Union SCR Wargames Club meeting

1800h

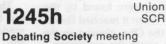
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Catholic Mass followed by a bar supper and social evening.

Monday

1230h Rag Office **Community Action Group** meeting

1230h JCR **CND Bookstall**



• Green 1730h Committee Room

International Broadcasting Trust A talk organised by Third World First.

-The International Broadcasting Trust was formed to make television series which highlight aid and development.

1930h JCR **Advanced Dancing Class**

1930h Lower Refectory **PDT Medal Class**

Tuesday

1230h

Labour Club present Reg Race MP speaking on 'Why we need a Labour Government'. All welcome.

1230h Southside Upper Lounge **Boardsailing Club** meeting

1245h Aero 452 **Catholic Mass**

1300h TV Lounges **STOIC** broadcast

1300h

Polymer Crystals A talk to MOPSOC by Dr G Davies of Kings College.

Physics

9 Prince's

Gardens

Mech Eng

Sherfield

Sherfield

342

1 T2

1315h

How and why I became a Muslim. An informal talk by the German writer on Islamic matters, Ahmad von Danffer.

1330h

Pedal GB A meeting for interested pedallers. Read Theatre

1330h

The Origin of Llfe A talk by Dr Brian Charlesworth, organ-

ised by IC Anglican Chaplaincy



Religion and Nationalism in the Contemporary Middle East The first talk of this series, Arab Nationalism and Muslim Brotherhood will be given by Edward Mortimer.

1730h Brown Committee Room Amnesty International meeting

1730h Volleyball Court Women's Volleyball training session

Green 1800h Committee Room

Mind A talk to Socialist Society on the rights of mentally handicapped.

1800h TV Lounges **STOIC** broadcast

1830h Union Gym Judo Club practice. Fees 25p.

1830h

Nursing Course The course, which continues for four weeks leads to the British Red Cross Society Basic Nursing Award. It is followed by a more advanced course which lasts six weeks. This is open to all staff and students.

1830h Union Upper Lounge Audio Society meeting

1830h

Oh Lucky Man A Film Soc show starring Malcolm MacDonnell and the infamous 'Chocolate Sandwich'. The music is by Alan Price. 30p admission for members; 60p for non-members.

1930h JCR Intermediate Dancing Class

2230h Falmouth Kitchens Soup Run

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0915h

Johnson Matthey. An Industrial Society visit to the gold refinery.

1245h

Huxley 408

Beit

Arch

Industrial Society Self-Marketing Event designed for final year students who need to impress job interviewers. Bring a £5 cheque payable to Education for Industrial Society

1315h Prince's Gardens **Quran** Circle

1430h Union Upper Lounge Drama Workshop

1830h JCR Bronze Medal Dancing Class

1930h JCR **Beginner's Dancing Class**

> Huxley 413

Christian Freedom An SCF talk and discussion led by Dr David Hum.

1300h

1300h

Elec Eng 508

Radio Amateur's Examination Introductory Class This course leads to the examination for a transmitting licence.



1230h

Health

Centre

Mech Eng

220

303

Mines

First Aid for Outdoor Pursuits. A lecture by Mr R Serpell.

1230h Southside Upper Lounge **ICHYA** Butties meeting

Botany Basement 1300h IT

Aldabra A lecture to Natural History Society by Dr N Waloff on the island of giant tortoises.

1300h TV Lounges STOIC broadcast.

1330h

Great Hall

Knowledge or Certainty Part eleven of the Ascent of Man.

1330h 53 Prince's Gate

Music Room

Lunch-hour Concert by Margaret Fingerhult, piano.

1800h TV Lounges STOIC broadcast.

SCR

Union



Firsts

IC vs UC 6-5

This was going to be a tough match for IC 1sts. All the ingredients were there: violence (courtesy of Dominic), depravity (courtesy of Ian) and entropy (courtesy of Tony). To cap it all the team was understrength, having to draft in two of the second team players.

Despite all this IC played like a spinach gourged team of Popeyes. UC crumbled under the power-packed hammer blows dealt them by the rapier like shots of IC. To put it in the proverbial nutshell, Imperial College won.

The match raises important questions. Will Muppet Man and Geordie Steve ever regain their places in the team? Would honest Johns baldness have

dazzled the opposition? We'll probably never know the answers

A final comment would have to be a resounding 'well done chaps. You played hard, fought hard and showed that IC badminton will always win."

Now down to the serious business of the Badminton Club. There will be a club dinner at Lubas Bistro on Saturday January 29 preceeded by and followed by the partaking of beverages in congenial surroundings. See Chris for details. Expected cost is about £7.00.

Marathon

I think by now that all people accepted to run the London Marathon have been notified. Therefore I thought it might be a nice idea to find out how many IC students are running in the event and to perhaps see how they get on. So if you are going to run in the marathon can you drop the Sports Editor a note in the FELIX Office. Also if anyone thinks it would be a good idea to start organising 'runs' for people wishing to run in the marathon then could they let the Sports Editor know.

Squash

lsts vs UCH	4-1
lsts vs St MH	3-2
2nds vs UCH 2nds	21/2-21/2
2nds vs RFH	4-1
3rds vs LSE	1-4
4ths vs Bedford 1sts	1-4
4ths vs QEC 2nds	5-0
5ths vs RFH 3rds	2-3
5ths vs Bedford 2nds	4-1
5ths vs City 3rds	2-3
5ths vs Lon H 3rds	5-0
Ladies vs Lon H	5-0
Ladies vs RFH	5-0

This rounds off a successful first half of the season. League matches continue next week so if you're out of practice them get in some fitness training this weekend! This term a couple of additional fixtures are planned, including a weekend up to Cambridge. Also on the calendar is a club trip to watch the final of the 3M British U-23

Championship at Wembley Squash Centre in two weeks time (Friday January 28). Tickets are £6 and I need to know immediately before no seats are left. See Sportscentre for details.

The jerseys should arrive at the end of the month. The noticeboard displays the details for anyone else interested.

Finally, the club now has the use of one court on Sundays from 8:00am until 12:30pm.



Just a quiet reminder to all sports club captains. There will be an ACC meeting on Tuesday January 18 at 6:30pm in the Union Lower Refectory. Another reminder to club captains is that their estimates for next year must be made by the end of next week. Failure to do this will firstly mean no money for next year and secondly Chinese water torture for the captains concerned.

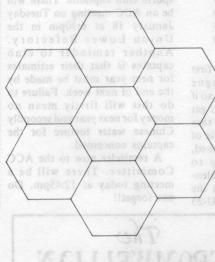
A reminder now to the ACC Committee. There will be a meeting today at 12:45pm. Do not forget!!



INCCCI-IIC

No Hex Please

Welcome back after the Christmas break. The puzzle I have in mind this week is one which I'm sure many of you will have found in your crackers, but it's such a nice puzzle that I have no qualms about bringing it to a wider audience. It is simply this: cut out the seven hexagons shown (or, if you don't wish to damage your copy of FELIX, trace them onto a piece of card and cut them out) and try to fit them into the following shape, such that wherever two hexagons meet, the same numbers come together. Good luck!



Solutions, comments, criticisms to me at the FELIX Office by Wednesday, 1:00pm. £5 from Mend-a-Bike for a randomly selected entry.

Last Week's Solutions First, the non-prize puzzles.

A Word In Your Ear

Well, having given you six special words, I managed to improve on three of them over the holidays. Still, here are the reasons;

1. Almost-the longest common word in the English language with the letters in strict alphabetical order. Our illustrious leader, Martin S Taylor, suggested 'Aegilops', a kind of grass, but I hardly think that that's common.

Unconsciousness - Oh dear. This was supposed to be the longest word which, when written in lower case, has nothing projecting above or below the main body of the word. Unfortunately, the dot on the i provides a squibble here. A better, equally long contender is overnervousness.

3 Bookkeeper - the longest string of double letters in a word.

4. Wrong - it is. It was meant to be the longest word with the letters coming in reverse order, but it is defeated by wronged.

5. Facetious - the shortest word with all the vowels in alphabetical order. Fine, but 'y' is sometimes a vowel, so a better word is facetiously.

6. Queueing - the word with the largest number of consecutive vowels.

$\begin{array}{r} 6 & 3 \\ \hline 6 & 1 \\ \hline 5 & 4 \end{array}$	$\overbrace{\begin{array}{c}6\\6\\1\\4\\5\end{array}}^{2}$	4 6 3 5 1 2
463	$\overbrace{1/2}^{6}$	$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ \hline 2 \\ \hline 3 \\ \hline 6 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$

The Prize Puzzles Santa's Soup Run

A wonderful puzzle this, from Perola. The answer, for those of you patient enough to work through it, is:

- 1. Dandelion Wine
- Cucumber 2
- 3. Beef Broth
- 4 Egg
- 5 French Onion
- Golden Pea 6 Asparagus
- 8. Haricot Bean

This provoked the only entry for any puzzle, so a £5 cheque can be picked up from the FELIX Office any time after 1:30pm on Monday by Elizabeth Berry, a Physics PG.

Nobody has so far entered the other two puzzles, so I'll run them both for one more week.

Superkings - 2

Having had you puzzling over the rather simple problem of placing a number of superkings (pieces that can move like both a queen and a knight) on a chess board. I shall now reveal the more difficult part of that question. All that I want you do do is find the smallest n (n > 1) such that n superkings can be placed on an nxn board so that none attack any other (although they may, for the purpose of this puzzle, be collinear).

Solutions, comments, criticisms to me at the FELIX Office by Wednesday, 1:00pm. £5 from Mend-a-Bike for a randomly selected entry.

Perola's Puzzle

General Reisenschein's chiefs of staff have had great difficulty arranging their offices and their letters are always getting mixed up.

Heidensieck (head of Secret Service) does not trust his comrades and so has ordered that all his messages should be coded. However his assistant Und Der Kuvher forgot to give him the codebook so he's having trouble with the test message. Can you help?

23, 12, 1114, 1114, 1, 1112, 12, 0, 112, 1123, 1113, 1113, 1123, 1233, 1114, 0, 3, 123, 0, 1113, 1, 24, 3, 123.

12, 111, 111, 121, 0, 12, 2, 124, 1, 114, 2, 124, 1114, 0, 124, 114, 1114, 124, 1114, 0, 1114, 111, 1, 1113, 3, 1114, 0, 123, 124, 123, 111, 0, 24, 124, 23, 4, —, 24, 124, 23, 4, —, 24, 124, 23, 4, 0, 1123, 111, 111, 3, 4, 3, 24, 12, 0, 1112, 114, 1, 2, 124, 1114, 0, 4, 124, 1113, 1114, 1, 123, 24, 12, 0, 4, 1123, 1114, 24, 0, 111, 22, 114, 3, 1114, 24, 1123, 4, 22, 1123, 114, 124, 23, 0, 114, 1123, 11, 3, 123, 124, 23, 0, 2, 12, 1114, 111, 12, 123, 2, 12, 123, 1114.

I shall give one more clue for the second paragraph; leave all the insignificant numbers.

Solutions, comments, criticisms to me at the FELIX Office by Wednesday, 1:00pm. £5 from Mend-a-Bike for a randomly selected entry. Space Filler

More Words In Your Ear

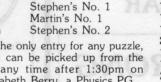
More words that are unique in their own little way. Can you see anything special in:

- 1. Cow
- Dermatoglyphics 2.
- 3. Latchstrings Strengths
- 4
- 5. Unoriental
- 6. Scintillescent

Or this set of words:

Toast, doubt, indict, handsome, twitched, malign, dichotomy, Sioux, -, know. psalm, mnemonic, autumn, people, psalm, rendezvous, often, gauge, --, answer, Sioux, Prayer, Rendezvous.

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