



FELIX

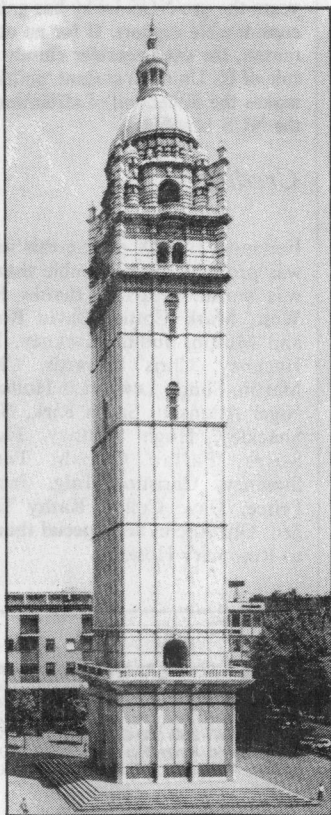
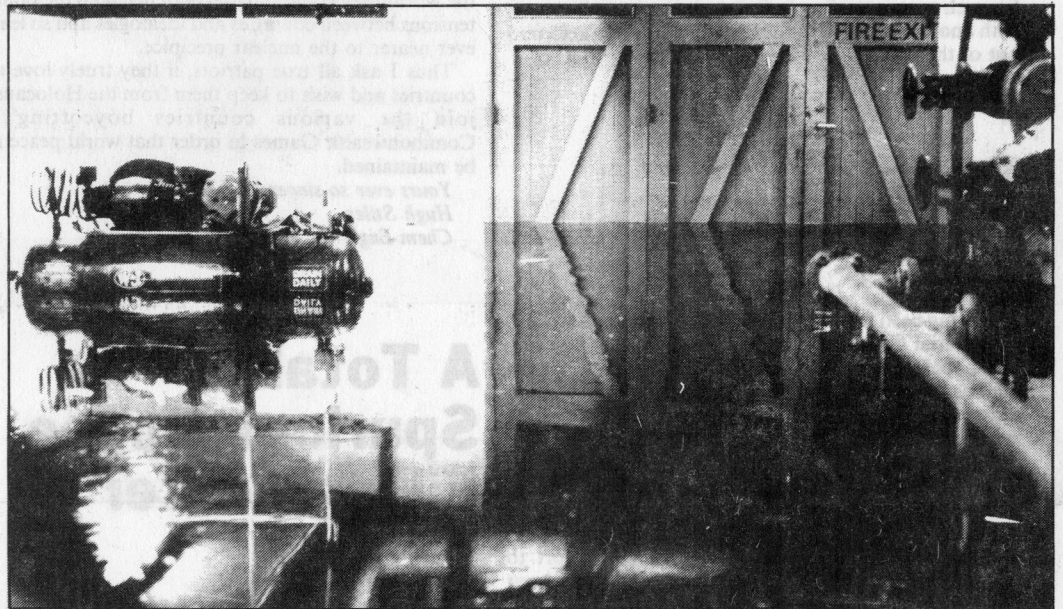
The Newspaper Of Imperial College Union

Founded 1949

Chemistry Flooded

Last night the boiler room under the Biochemistry building was severely flooded to a depth of at least six feet. The water was discovered at around 10.00pm, but the Chelsea fire brigade were not called out until 11.00pm, after maintenance engineers had tried to pump out the building with their own pumps. Attempts by firemen to break down doors trapping the floodwater were thwarted by electrical short circuiting until the power supply to large section of the Chemistry and Biochemistry building was cut.

The clear up operation was expected to last most of the night, with four fire engines summoned to the scene. At the time of going to press, technicians and firemen were attempting to seal off valves in the boiler room, hopefully preventing further flooding. The central stores and Chemistry sub-basements are not flooded, and the tunnels beneath College are believed to be safe.



Beating The Rush

College Assistant Secretary Michael Arthur is confident that the Queen's Tower will become one of London's major tourist attractions. The tower has been opened to the public for the first time this summer and is likely to make an operating loss of £10,000 over thirteen weeks. This is in addition to an initial capital outlay of £15,000 which was spent on safety work, before visitors were allowed into the Tower.

Mr Arthur told FELIX that the Tower could not be expected to show a profit in the early stages, as it would take time for interest to build up. He also stressed that it had been important to adapt a low key approach to publicising the Tower before the organisation of guided groups had been properly tried and tested. He said that he now had a system which worked very well, and that the guides had coped easily with a group of 50 people who had visited the Tower recently.

Up to the middle of this week,

approximately 1500 people had visited the tower, with the highest figure on any day being 128. The lowest attendance to date is 23. At the current staffing level the Tower needs approximately 170 per day, at a charge of 60 pence, to cover running costs.

Mr Arthur, who has taken the initiative in getting the project off the ground, expects that the Queen's Tower will eventually become as popular as the Monument, which has 500 visitors per day. In the light of this, and the fact that the Tower had 440 visitors in under 3 hours on the day of Rag Fete, he is expecting there to be between 500 and 1000 visitors per day. He agreed, however, the scheme is unlikely to attract enough visitors daily to balance running costs before the end of the summer.

Mr Arthur explained that it had been impossible to contemplate a mass publicity campaign to launch the opening, since the day of the

completion of alterations had been uncertain. In addition the scheme had to be approved by the insurers. Since the Tower opened, a press release has been distributed widely throughout London, and leafletting has been used in Exhibition Road and in Knightsbridge. The Tower was featured on Thames News on July 16th, and was also featured on LBC and in the Times Higher Education Supplement.

Mr Arthur feels that he now has a better feel of what sort of publicity is required. He has written to Hotels and to all ground handlers who deal with tourist trips in London. He hopes that the Queen's Tower will shortly be included in various London tourist guides. He added that everyone who has climbed the Tower appeared to have enjoyed it, and that he envisaged that the scheme would have a positive publicity effect for IC.

What a Waste!

Dear Sir,

The opening of the Queens Tower to the general public and the consequent time and expense the project has taken up, with financial viability clearly impossible, would provide an excellent story for the recent comedy series 'A Very Peculiar Practice'. Has the College really got £28,000 available to throw at a project with no hope of a financial return? Perhaps the odd academic department could find a use for such a sum? Even IC Union might be able to use the money more wisely; a new glider, rowing eight; the list is endless.

I note that the opening of the Tower is supposed to be of public relations value. I vaguely recall 'IC Day' organised by the much missed Captain Lindley, being for such a purpose. Surely College has not saddled itself with another administrator who needs a job to keep him out of the way?

Yours sincerely
Nick Shackley

Double Standards

Dear Sir,

Having been fortunate enough to have been a student at Imperial College for the past three years, but having never before been resident in London during the summer vacation, it has only just come to my attention that the College undergoes a quite astonishing transformation during that period.

Far from closing down as I, in my ignorance, had always imagined, it has become a veritable hive of activity: the departments are filled with summer students, eagerly attending well structured and taught courses, whilst Estates, in a commendable effort to make them feel even more welcome, have carried out extensive refurbishment and signposting in and around the Southside residences, with an efficiency and thoroughness that belies their reputation.

Whilst personally I find such activity entirely laudable and indication of the benevolent and praiseworthy attitude of the College Authorities, some of my more cynical friends take a somewhat different view. It is, they tell, me, rather ironic that College should make so much effort over the summer, only to lapse into what they describe as its usual uncaring stance when the 'real' students return in October, and they even go so far as to suggest that the College's motive are not entirely unconnected with those of financial gain.

Of course, such views are, as all right-thinking people will realise, entirely the product of sour grapes and Communist infiltration, are entirely without foundation, and thus I look forward keenly to seeing them proved wrong this October.

Yours
Ian Thomas.

A Phoney Letter

Dear Sir,

It has come to my attention that a crazed lunatic posing as David Jones, FELIX Editor has been harassing members of the public into writing letters for a certain 'magazine'. I feel that the public should be warned about such a person, and insist that the College Security Officer check this man's typewriter immediately.

Yours
Chris Edwards

Boycotts: A New View

Dear Sir,

Once again the season for international competition is upon us and I expect most of your readers (being true patriots) have been glued to their television sets eagerly lapping up the triumph (and disasters) of their respective national teams.

However, I feel that the time has come to point out that whilst a little friendly rivalry is no bad thing, such blatant setting of nation against nation can only serve to bolster the average citizen's latent jingoistic instincts, leading inevitably to an increased level of nationalism and possible insularity in the competing nations.

Obviously were such attitudes to become prevalent in the world they could only serve to heighten the political tensions between countries and ideologies and so lead us ever nearer to the nuclear precipice.

Thus I ask all true patriots, if they truly love their countries and wish to keep them from the Holocaust to join the various countries boycotting the Commonwealth Games in order that world peace may be maintained.

Yours ever so sincerely
Hugh Stiles
Chem Eng PG

A Totally Spurious Space Filling Letter

Dear Dave,

Congratulations on your appointment, blah blah blah etc. I hope you manage to fill this page etc.

What I really meant to say is that I hope you'll make sure we get some better music in the FELIX office this year and not just endless crucial jazz-funk-bongo-reggae fusion like your predecessor.

Yours
Mark Cottle
(Ageing Hippy)

Bad Times

Dear Sir,

As an Imperial College Union member of many years, one of my greatest pleasures in these harrowed times has been the peace of the Union Office. Many happy hours have been passed reading the papers, drinking the free coffee and borrowing cigarettes off the rich officers.

Yet, when I returned after my annual leave in Blackpool-what do I find? Firstly, the new sabbaticals have given up smoking, no butt end in sight. Secondly, the coffee equipment has been removed to the hovel the Hon Sec dares to claim 'Office', and thirdly, and this is surely the closest this once great institution has come to the ravening hordes of international communism the 'Times' has been banned from the environs for being 'politically unsound'. I must protest, through your column against these heretical ideas I would ask all upstanding decent members of this Union to visit the Union Office as soon as possible in order to see for themselves the terrible conditions imposed there by the new junta.

Yours
Dave Parry

Felix

Queen's Tower

College administration claims that the Queen's Tower scheme was not expected to show a working profit, or even to cover its costs, during the first summer of operation. That the Tower would not do well from the outset might indeed have been predicted; but I cannot believe that the College is not disappointed in the response. The project may in time be profitable both financially and in public relations terms, but it is remarkable that something so initially costly should be undertaken when funding has been reduced to a minimum in other areas. It seems that the Union may have a struggle on its hands to win a College loan for the new glider. I would suggest to Gliding Club that it makes it known that it intends to name its new toy after some College dignitary. I shall be announcing the name of the new FELIX offset litho in the next issue.

NUS Affiliation

Mr Vaughan West, the London regional secretary of the NUS has expressed his intention to "get ICU into the NUS" by the end of the coming academic year. No doubt many students at IC will dismiss the possibility of ICU reaffiliating, convinced that the staunchly anti-NUS altitude still prevails at Imperial. I would dispute that they are entirely correct; in the last few years the pro-NUS lobby has gained considerable support. If for no other reason, the need consider closely the role of IC Union in student 'politics', makes the discussion of affiliation to the NUS beneficial.

Credits

For most FELIX people this issue was probably more trouble than it was worth. Heartfelt thanks Reg West, Mark Cottle, David Rowe and Muffin, Judith Hackney, Bill Hackney, Chris Edwards, Chris Martin, Simon Lewis, Liz Holford, Nigel Atkinson, Sarah Kirk, Nick Shackley, Hugh Southey, Hugh Stiles, Pallab Ghosh, Terry Sweeney, Christine Taig, Jackie Peirce, Dave Colley, Kathy Tait, Jen, Olu Adelu, and special thanks to Rosemary Hosking.

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RCSU Blocked Out

Royal College of Science Union Officers discovered this week that they could no longer get into their office, when a brick wall was built between the spiral staircase entrance by the side of the Southside Shop and the door to their office.

The problem began last month when it was decided to turn the empty room above the shop and the space occupied by Microclub into a postgraduate married flat, without consulting the RCSU whose office is next door. Construction had already begun when it was realised just what was involved; the loss of one toilet and no right of way between the spiral staircase and the office. This effectively means that only residents of Southside halls can have access, through the door opposite the Selkirk end lifts.

FELIX was unable to gain any positive response from the Estates section on how Union members are going to be able to get into their office in the future.

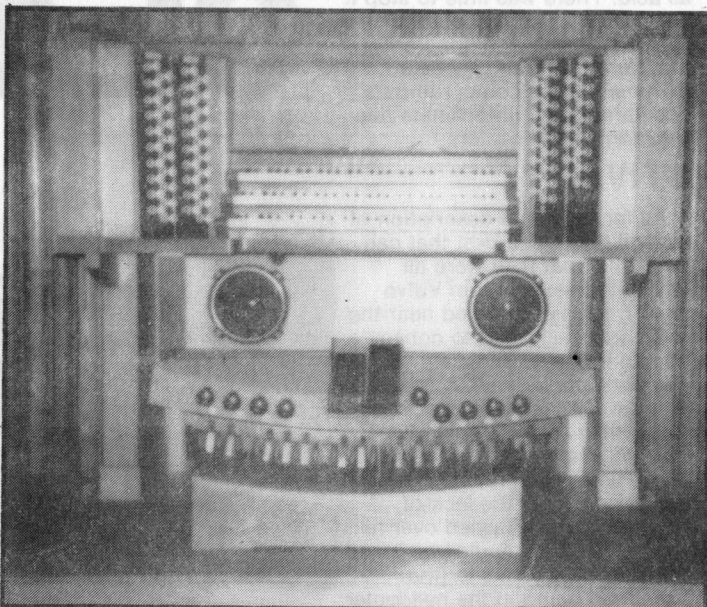
Postgraduate Group

The IC Union Postgraduate Group needs better publicity, it decided at its recent Annual General Meeting held on June 26th. The group represents all the Postgraduates at IC, both within the Union and on College Committees, although it has had a history of low involvement. True to form, only about a dozen PG's turned up, to re-elect Gareth Fish, Helan Brawell and Chris Martin as Chair, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Sam Chittendon was elected PG Womens rep.

Chris Martin was also elected to edit the Postgraduate Handbook, a Union publication with information for both final year students interested in Postgraduate Courses, and new postgraduates arriving at IC. He is looking for anyone who would be interested in writing or becoming involved in this production.

Gareth Fish, starting his second year in office, urged all the postgraduates at IC to become involved in the group, and indicated that a small amount of money was available for anyone organising a Departmental Postgrad Party. A PG Cricket match, and a picnic are being organised for the summer, he added.

The Postgraduate Group can be contacted via the Union Office.



Edward's Organ

The recently installed sophisticated and powerful Copeman-Hart electronic organ, incorporating the latest digital technology and purchased by the Queensgate Trust, is now available for the use of students. The organ has already been played during the Orchestra's Spring Concert and during the last two Choir concerts and proved an

invaluable addition to the musical facilities at the College.

Those requiring access to the organ should contact Professor E H Brown, Room 439, Civil Engineering building (internal 4722) to be put on a list of users; no auditions are required but users should be fairly competent at playing the piano.

Eric Earns Award

The Rector, Professor Eric Ash, has been awarded a Royal Society Royal Medal for 'outstanding researches on acoustic microscopy leading to wholly new techniques.'

He was one of the first to recognise the possibilities of using surface acoustic waves in delay lines, now used extensively in TV and radio receivers. More recently, with his group at UCL, he has developed a scanning acoustic microscope with a greater resolution than optical microscopes, and also shown how surface acoustic waves can be used to characterise materials. His work has many potential applications, only a few of which have been realised to date.

Climbing Wall

The climbing wall has at last arrived in College. The wall is useable now, though installation will take a few more weeks to complete. Why not come along to the Walkway under Elec Eng and try it?

Slammer Shocker

A group of five staff and students from IC spend an afternoon in Wormwood Scrubs last Friday when they took part in a game of backgammon against a team of prisoners. The only stakes allowed were Mars bars, and the College team were rapidly cleared out by the inmates. The trip was organised by Mr Roy Francis of DOC who described the day as very enjoyable and hoped that it would be possible to organise similar events in the near future.

FELIX Car Rally

The annual FELIX car rally held on Saturday June 21st was won by a team from City and Guilds Union. The Guilds team finished well ahead of the other three entrants, thanks largely to the acquisition of a Chelsea College Sabbatical, which earned them a massive 50 points on the scoresheet.



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GLASTONBURY 86

"Shit!, you make me feel like Arlo Guthrie at Woodstock!" The words of one Mr Loudon Wainright III performing on the main stage at this year's Glastonbury Festival held on the weekend of 21/22 June. It is tempting indeed to make comparisons between the hordes

A HIPPIE FESTIVAL ?

of festival goers who flocked to Worthy Farm in the idyllic Wiltshire countryside and a previous generation who first attracted the title 'hippies', that the press like to attach to both groups. But a closer look will reveal that it is very difficult to classify the modern festival audience. In fact even the description 'audience' isn't totally accurate. It is the mass of punters who really make an event like Glastonbury what it is. Not so the big one day affairs like Donnington which tend to be merely outdoor heavy metal concerts.

The famous pyramid is only the centre of a huge sprawling tent city within which is a whole microcosm of society. Organisation is not obvious and that is why a lot of people go. But at the same time a lot of preparation must have gone into the site in which this anarchic assembly occurs with such apparent smoothness. A thousand and one vans and stalls dispensed fast food to suit virtually any conceivable diet. All night long stoned DJs on the pirate 'Radio Avalon' played floating space music for the earthbound starchildren. At every turn there was someone hawking hand made merchandise of all descriptions. This was, despite appearances, a capitalist dreamworld; not just a festival of entertainment but also an alternative economy.

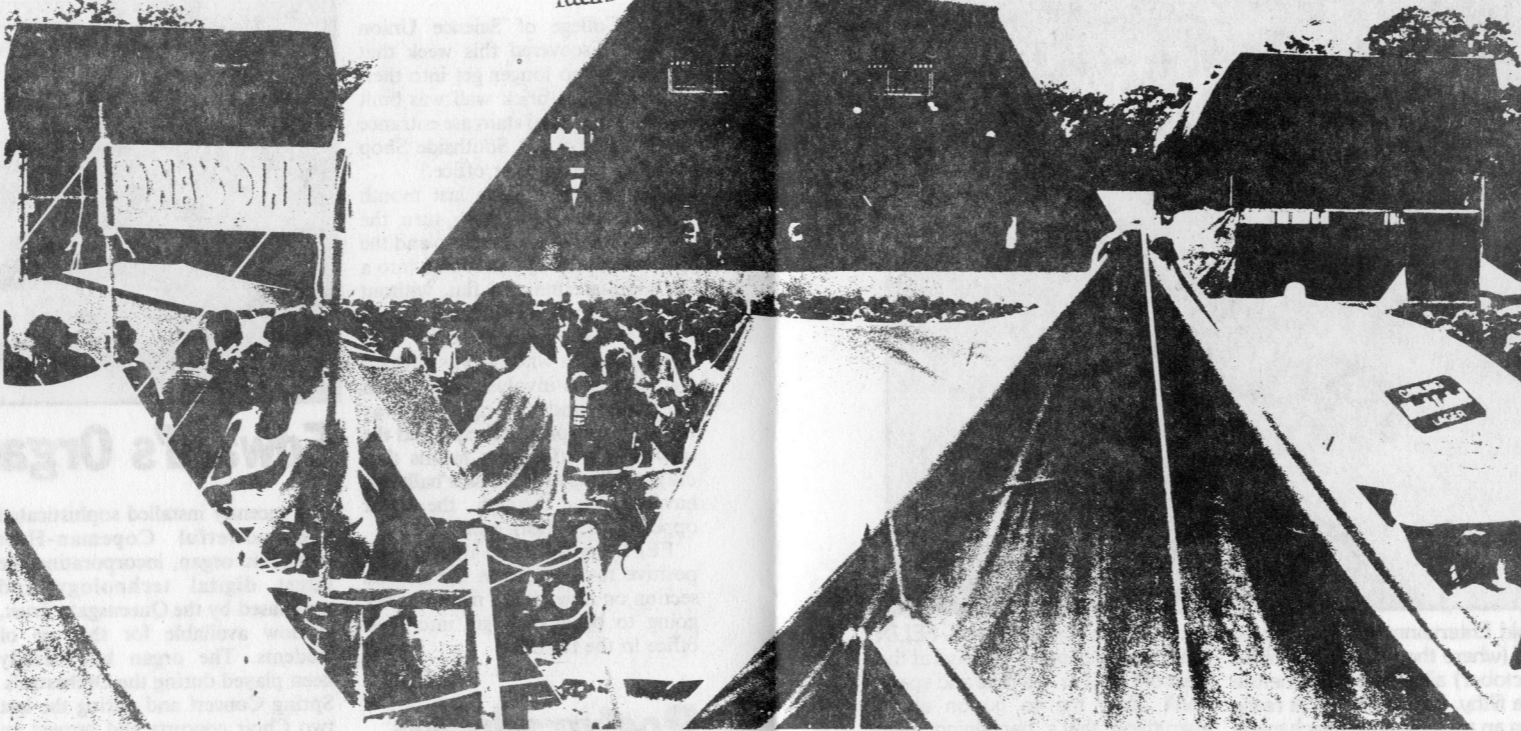
There were, of course, the inevitable drug dealers. Signs declared that anyone advertising drugs would be ejected from the site, so instead they shouted their spiel as they wandered about. Mainly it was marijuana on sale along with a fair number of bikers and Rastafarians

pushing speed and the odd ugly character selling blotting paper as acid. There was little to stop it all and few to care about that. However it was also apparent that heroin would have been extremely unwelcome; rumours circulated of an unfortunate fate awaiting smack dealers.

As for a general description of festival goers, the best that can be said is that they were all casually dressed. From Volvo driving families camped near the main approach road to convoy people in the 'Green' field, via students, punks, Rastas, bikers and Level 42 fans there seemed to be most sorts. My own two overwhelming impressions were of the sheer geographical size of the place and of the lack of trouble. Tents sprawled over hills so that nowhere could you stand and see the whole site (the exception being in the helicopter flying somewhat expensive sightseeing trips). Estimates put the attendance at between 85,000 and 100,000 which should at first sight be good news for CND who, despite the lack of a strong anti-nuclear stance at the festival, receive more money from it than any other source. However the crowd was far above official limits, swelled by vast numbers who simply walked in without tickets across surrounding fields where there was nothing to stop them. Perhaps the spirit of the free festival lives on.

But at Glastonbury it may have to take a break. Farmer and organiser Michael Eavis says his family and the surrounding residents need a rest from the annual invasion. There may have to be a complete re-think of the event in view of its soaring growth since the free festival beginnings in 1971. Far from this being a 'band aid' style charity the fees charged by headline bands are threatening the financial viability.

There is also the question of free festivals, which Glastonbury is undeniably not. It is Glastonbury more than anything



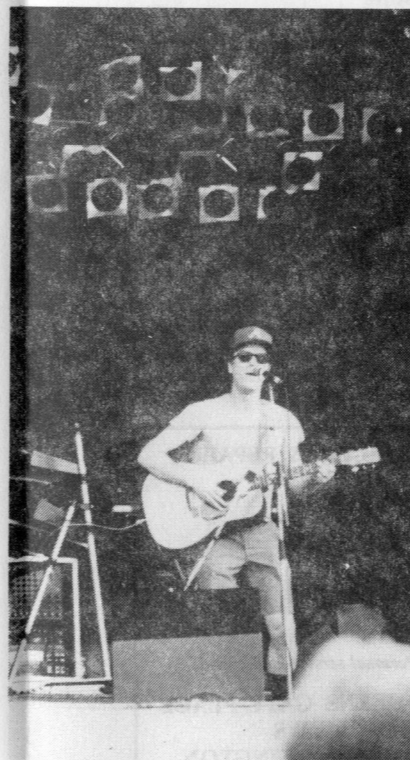
This year's Glastonbury CND festival was the largest ever. Since the original free festival in 1971 there has been some considerable change. Is it a legal version of Stonehenge or a

re-enactment of Woodstock for the Yuppie generation. FELIX official aging hippy Mark Cottle went along camera in hand to find out and even paid to get in!

else which diverted people from the fiasco around Stonehenge. So the question must arise as to what will happen next year. What will fill the obvious demand for a mass escape for tens of thousands of people from the humdrum of normal life? What with Dr. and The Medics reaching number one and Suzanne Vega storming the CD and album charts it seems to be getting trendy to be a touch hippy-like. There is a possibility of a movement for a national free festival, so who knows? By next June even The Face may be telling its readers to head for their nearest ancient site with Kaftan and 'vege' burger in hand!

assorted acts and events at a total of eight other venues. In the cinema marquee nightly bills of decidedly unalternative films were interrupted only by televised coverage of the equally unalternative England v Argentina match.

Perhaps a more festive atmosphere was to be found up at the acoustic stage where any number of acts not requiring ten million watts of amplification appeared. The simple marquee and stage were certainly not an indication of a lack of talent. Neither love nor money could have got you near the place on Saturday for Billy Bragg and Loudon Wainright III. While on Sunday one of the surprises of the weekend as far as I was concerned was Maria Muldaur who proved she is an extremely talented blues singer indeed. The vast emotional and volume range of her voice was backed up by some faultless playing from a guitarist who managed to sound just a bit reminiscent of B B King. For some odd reason Maria Muldaur was switched to the smaller stage at short notice but she could easily have upstaged some of the



Loudon Wainright models beach bum chic!

supposedly big name pop groups in the main field.

As the main schedule wound up after dark the 'Big Orange Cabaret' took to the boards in the acoustic marquee. This was very much the lunatic fringe, presenting more alternative cabaret than you could hope to find in Covent Garden in months. From feminist blues guitarists to ranting folk freaks they were all presented with suave style. My favourites were The Brighton Bottle Orchestra a pair of dinner suited loonies who can be found appearing on the Edinburgh Fringe in the not too distant future.

Back on the main stages all three days oozed national talent elbowing for a space between midday and midnight. Clashes between acts on different stages meant a decidedly subjective view of the bill. Generously people like Messrs Bragg and Loudon Wainright performed on three separate occasions. Headlining on Friday night were the Psychedelic Furs who managed to be somewhat less than psychedelic despite a lavish light show in the pyramid. An exception was their final encore

'India', which was perhaps the best of their first album and an acknowledgement of the superiority of that material. Earlier in the day had seen the Pogues performing with abandon.

Saturday was, I thought the high point of the three days. Approximately two thirty and the beginning of a lazy hazy afternoon lying on the grass found Latin Quarter fitting the atmosphere perfectly. Most people I know either love or hate their brand of semi ethnic pop with a political edge. But at that time of day they were the perfect Glastonbury Festival band and their pleas to make the anti apartheid tee shirt the symbol of this summer seem well timed. 'Radio Africa' is undeniably their best number but the other material grows on you if you listen.

Following on from the decidedly smooth Latin Quarter was the brash country outrageousness of Loudon Wainright III singing about dead skunks, dead marriages and dog shit with an honesty that grabs the gut. Loudon is the height of good taste in baggy shorts, shades and baseball hat as he lays into every topic sacred to conservative musical establishment. Actually Loudon Wainright is an engaging character who could almost make you like Americans with no taste in clothes at all and I eagerly await his wider exposure in this country. Following Loudon was John Martyn displaying dazzling brilliance on both acoustic and electric guitar. Perhaps I'm a bit of a cynic but his more jazzy material lost me.

Instead I went to stage 2 to see darlings of the independent record charts Half Man Half Biscuit who did a competent impersonation of Half Man Half Biscuit last time I saw them. If they are to have a long term future they need a new direction and an extension of their stage banter beyond 'Ta!'. Other darlings of the independent scene Fuzzbox were hot on the heels of Half Man Half Crumbs. A lot has been said of the hype value of four teenage schoolgirls who can't play but that doesn't

seem awfully important. Anyone, like me, old enough to remember punk rock might remember a group called the Slits who managed to rip off a lot of Fuzzbox's sound before they even thought of it. Perhaps I'm a little too cynical, there's certainly no denying the enthusiasm the Fuzzboxed put into their act and in the end its entertainment value that counts. Use your own taste to judge.

Saturday headliners The Cure showed they are fully established as a 'Big Name' band both by the spectacular nature of their show and the fee they extorted. Higher powers conveniently conjured up a thunderstorm to counterpoint the eyeboggling lazors with mercifully little actual rain. As we sat on a hill watching the lighting circle a far valley my stoned companion commented 'Hey God's sent us a lightshow', and so it seemed.

Sunday was something of a wind down. Early on Irishman Christy Moore got a reception better than many a bigger name. The song I remember most by him was a poignant ballad by all people the late Bobby Sands. An odd phenomenon but this was what the crowd loved. Madness did their stuff in a surprisingly congruous manner, filing in with the odd match report from Mexico. They were followed by Level 42 who managed to look not the least out of place, slick as ever.

Final act Gil Scott Heron may be an outstanding and outspoken musician but he somehow failed to stun. Too much polish for a radical show perhaps. I still preferred the first acts on Stage 2. Gerry and Terry brought infectious rock and roll enthusiasm while the omnipresent Loudon Wainright gave something of a repeat performance. A tribute to smaller names maybe? If all that wasn't enough you could put money on Lineker scoring first against Argentina, be photographed with a python, sit in a tent and listen to a stoned pirate DJ or go and learn about alternative medicine. Then you could take most of Monday getting away from the site....



An alternative bookie? Surely some things never change.

What Does A Sabbatical Officer Do Over Summer?

Hello and welcome to the first of the many 'Presidents's bits' you'll be getting from me. Keep reading for scintillating prose, sparkling wit, the truth and nothing but...well maybe not; but then this is FELIX after all.

Since July 1st, when Jackie, Dave, Dave and I took over, the question I've been asked time and time again (apart from 'which way to the ladies toilets/Summer Accommodation Centre/bar?') is: What does a sabbatical do in the summer? A very good question it is too. A month ago I would have said 'not too much' but now I know better. Quite apart from cleaning and tidying up the office and scrubbing the official President's room from top to bottom, there's been plenty of work to do, although most of it has been in bits and pieces. However, I'll try and outline a few of the major things I've been involved with this month.

Training

In at the deep end from the start, a sabbatical learns the hard way, it seems. However there was a training weekend at Wye College, Kent, organised by the University of London Union. It involves lots of talks and workshops on subjects such as financial planning, coping with college committees, planning campaigns, organising Freshers' week and so on. The value of the training sessions was limited due to the diversity of the colleges

involved, but we got some good ideas and made lots of contacts at other colleges—stand by for some good 'joint events'. By the way, Wye College has a wonderful outdoor swimming pool—Jackie and I now know all about being in at the deep end at 2.30am.

The Bar

The refurbishment of the Union Snack Bar, 'Norman's' is at last underway. Expect to see a complete change: the new, stylish and comfortable lounge/snack bar opens in October. By then the transfer of the bar licence from College to Jen (our administrator) and Bob Schroter (the Bar's senior treasurer) should be complete. Due to the incompetence of certain ex-sabbaticals we missed the deadline for the August sitting of the licensing courts—so now we're going for the September session. Soon we'll be able to call it the student's Union Bar in all honesty! Maybe we'll see you in there....

The FELIX move

If you've been through Beit Quad recently you'll have noticed that it's full of bits of wood, old sinks, broken furniture and the like. Yes, the great FELIX move has started and brings new excitement every day. Will the new office be ready on time? Will it live up to our expectations? Will Dave Jones ever smile again?

On a more serious note why was

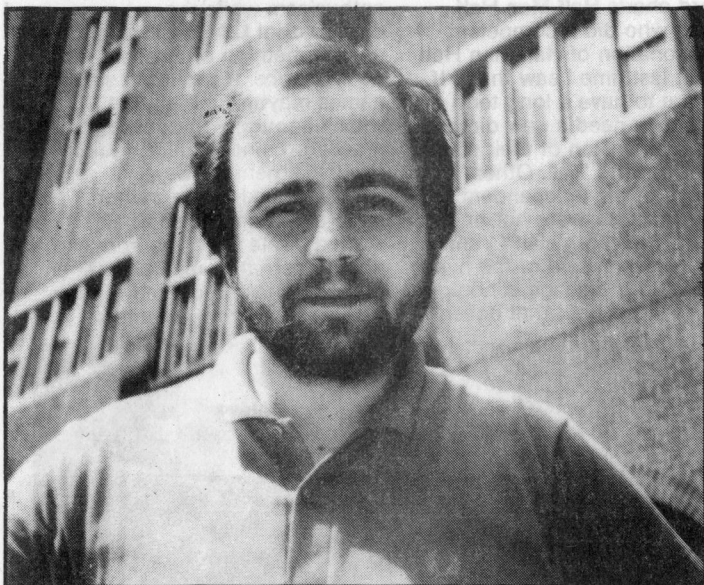


the old Entertainments Committee room (where the print room will be in October) allowed to degenerate into a filthy, infested mess? It really was in an appalling state, which made it difficult for Dan Phillips (who will chair the Ents committee next year) and I to justify the need for a new Ents Office. Nonetheless there will be a new office on the first floor; I trust Dan will take good care of it.

As for FELIX the move was not the Union's idea but we are stuck with it; now we must ensure that

printing is not interrupted—FELIX must and will appear as usual at the start of October. As time and space don't allow me to go on about everything that's happening, why not call into the office if there is anything specific you want to know about? Don't expect to see me there until August 5th though... that's something else sabbaticals do during the summer; go on holiday early, to avoid the rush.

Christine



My life consists of ensuring that all the things the students need from day to day are in good nick. This ranges from the minibusses to insurance, and while in the topic of insurance could all the people on the list at the bottom of my spiel please come to the Union office with

ID to collect checks.

During the Summer the life for the average Hon Sec is really quite dreary, as it is now the Dodgy Deals Done Dirty brigade appear. These boys and girls appear out of the commercial woodwork as soon as fresh blood is smelt, and attempt

(inevitably succeeding) to convince the poor hapless bugger sitting behind the official desk to buy two thousand nose fitters because of the pollution in London.

Also the summer is the time for training the new sabbaticals. The training takes the form of lecturing and small work parties that disappear into little rooms, discuss things, then make a presentation to everybody.

The first thing that hit me is how politically orientated everybody in Student Unions are, with the LSE sabbaticals as a general rule being elected in a 'party line' type arrangement. That was quite an eye opener.

At the moment insurance is the biggest headache with me trying to assess the claims still outstanding, and people who've waited too long for settlements. But I am starting to see light at the end of the tunnel.

One more small distraction has been the presence of lots of theatre companies in the Union Building rehearsing for the Edinburgh Fringe. My consciousness has been widened by the presence of an acting company next to the office acting out a play which involves a

black stallion, a donkey and a young maiden. I think its a sequel to A Mid-summernights Dream.

Well bye-bye for now, and I hope to write again. Any comments please feel free to express them. Cheers.

Dave Colley

Peter Wallace Mech Eng 3
Owais Mogal Biotech 1
David Martin Geology 2
S LYap Computing Sci (MSC)
Ena Jawa Chem Eng 1

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A Colder Climate is set in London's East End; a place where illegal dog and cock fights, boxing, racism, unwanted pregnancies and stand up comics blend to form today's community. The underlying stability/instability of the characters involved revolves around a pub-running family and the problems it faces in a society where only the tough survive.

There are places where *A Colder Climate* deals well with specific issues, particularly racism. But the majority of the performances lack feeling and conviction in themselves or in their relations to each other. This seems to be a function of a script that generally ill-defines characters, using them, at times, solely as a vehicle for social comment. Ron Pember, the ageing father of the landlady, and David Beames, alternating between spiv, policeman and boxing coach, are notable exceptions.

A Colder Climate aims for reality but fails to achieve this. In attempting to deal with too many of the world's problems, it glosses over them.

Simon Lewis



'BLACK CHILDREN BURN...' - The Royal Court until August 17th.

Aliens in Camden?



Aliens, the sequel to the 1979 film *Alien*, could well have been called *Terminator 2* were it not for the fact that the protagonist was biological this time and not Arnold Schwarzenegger. *Aliens*, like *Terminator* is written/directed by James Cameron, and many of the cast of *Terminator* also appear in *Aliens* with the notable exception of Sigourney Weaver. It is not surprising that *Aliens* shares many similarities with the earlier film: an unkillable enemy, lots of shiny weaponry and the eventual defeat of the bad guys on their home ground.

Warrent Officer Ripley (Weaver) is picked up 57 years after the destruction of the spaceship *Nostromo* and the original *Alien*. At first her story is disbelieved because of the cost of the spaceship she destroyed, but when contact is lost with a crew sent to the *Aliens* planet she is forced to return in an advisory capacity with a troupe of marines on a rescue mission. On the planet they are ambushed and

wholesale slaughter follows. Conveniently, they damage a nuclear reactor in such a way as to give themselves a timelimit to get off the planet. The rest of the film involves a fight to keep the aliens at bay while coaxing the orbiting mother ship to send down a rescue pod.

The film concentrates quite heavily on weaponry (a hobby of Cameron's) coming up with some futuristic but nevertheless believable military hardware, and because of this *Aliens* an action movie as opposed to the cat and mouse thriller of the original. Other concessions to the 'profit principal' are a romantic interest for Officer Ripley in the form of Corporal Hicks (Michael Biehn who played the male hero in *Terminator!*) and a cute, but tough kid/mascot in the form of nine year old Carrie Henn. *Aliens* is a film well worth going to see if only for the *Clash of the Titans* style ending.

Charles Rainey

FELIX Office On The Move

Conversion work has begun on the new FELIX Office, which is to be resited in the disused kitchen area behind the Lounge. The design for the new offices was drawn up by architects Beresford Gray and Partners and the contractor is W F Fearman Ltd, the firm which also undertook the recent work on the old Botany-Zoology common room. The cost of the work is to be approximately £50,000, and the expected completion date is August 31st. The contractors are understood to be confident of meeting this deadline, which will be essential if FELIX is to move offices early in September. If the move is undertaken any later the production of FELIX, and other print Union work, will be severely disrupted.

The preliminary site-clearing met with an early set-back on Wednesday when the contractors were unable to switch off the electricity and water mains for the Lounge kitchen area, in order to allow drilling work to proceed. College Estates Section were unable to isolate the area as required.

The move of the FELIX office will displace the Entertainments Committee from their office and storeroom behind the serving area in the Lounge. A replacement storeroom will be built across the stage end of the Lounge, adjacent to

the new FELIX offices. A new office for the Ents Committee is being built at the rear of the UDH Kitchens on the first floor of the Union Building.

The cycling club workroom will also be moved as a result of the move of the FELIX office and Beit Hall TV lounge. A new TV Lounge/party room is to be built in the basement of Beit Hall Old Hostel, involving the loss of three bedrooms and the laundry room. Beit Hall will extend its control on the first floor and gain the cycling

club storeroom as a laundry room, so taking over the remaining space not occupied by the new FELIX office. It is currently intended to re-house cycling club in the old Tennis equipment storeroom, next to the tennis courts in Princes Gardens. Cycling club secretary Martin Bell was not aware of the loss of the storeroom until two weeks ago. Union Deputy President Jackie Pierce has not yet been able to obtain a key for the old tennis store and so cannot say whether it will be suitable as a cycling club workroom.

Union Glider In Doubt



IC Union will not be able to afford a new glider this year, unless College administration increase the amount available to the Union on an interest-free loan. It was originally intended to purchase a new glider with £13,000 borrowed from College. A further £10,000 is also required on loan for the refurbishment of the Union Snack Bar, however, and College Deputy Secretary Mr Brian Lloyd Davies, until today the College Financial Secretary, has told Union Deputy President Jackie Pierce that only £10,000 will be available to the Union. Miss Pierce is hopeful that some of the Lounge Bar refurbishment costs will be covered by the Union's carryover, which may make more money available for the new glider. She expressed disappointment in the response from College, bearing in mind the £28,000 recently spend on alterations to the Queen's Tower, and the £90,000 which it will cost to refurbish the Sheffield refectory.

Miss Pierce confirmed that the Lounge bar refurbishment work was proceeding on schedule. The redecoration work is expected to begin at the start of September, and the floor covering will be laid and

the furniture delivered two weeks later. Miss Pierce said that the Lounge bar would be painted in a pink colour but added that 'they will like it when they see it', and said that the Union was going for a 'warmer atmosphere' in the bar. She later commuted her description of the chosen colour to 'not very pink'.

Union snack bar Manager Mr Norman Jardine was telephoned recently to be asked his opinion on the redecoration. He is understood to be severely indifferent to the colour scheme.

Walter Wins Fellowship

Professor Walter T Welford of the Physics Department has been elected a fellow of the Optical Society of America. He has contributed particularly in the fields of aberration theory, coherent optics and non-imaging concentrators.

Pete's Party

Former IC Radio Station Manager and Computing Student Pete Coleman made use of all his slick wit and charm when cautioned by a WPC during his 'term-time' stag night at the Old Ship,

on Thursday June 19th. Mr Coleman was congratulating himself on having avoided arrest when the uniformed young lady removed all her clothes.

The strip-o-gram was arranged by former FELIX editor Hugh Southey who commented that 'Pete was too drunk to get embarrassed'. Mr Coleman described his present as 'quite a handful', before drinking another half pint of creme de menthe and sliding gently under the table.

Mr Coleman will be getting married on August 9th. FELIX would like to wish him and his bride to be, Miss Mandy Thornton, all the very best for the future.

NUS Pledge

The London regional secretary of the National Union of Students, Mr Vaughan West, intends to get IC Union into the NUS by the end of the year. Mr Williams made this announcement at Wye College, during the training week attended by all three ICU Sabbaticals. This 'Pledge' follows the remarkable success NUS had in persuading Kings College (KQC) to affiliate to NUS.

Lesley Weighs In

Welfare Officer Lesley Gillingham has begun a diet for rag and aims to lose three stone by the end of next term. At the 'before' weigh-in, Miss Gillingham tipped the scales at XXstone XXlbs. She will be re-weighed on the morning of the College Christmas Dinner.

Buckley In The Bar

Kevin Buckley is working as temporary Union Bar Manager, following the resignation of Mr Moore Lyttle. The position will shortly be advertised as a permanent post. The Union will be seeking the advice of ULU administrator Mr Peter Anwyl, both in advertising the job and in making an appointment. Mr Anwyl was consulted last year during negotiations for the takeover of the Union Bar.

Squat Ends

Police were called to the former Libyan consulate in the early hours of Tuesday morning, after guests at a party organised by the squatters began wrecking the building. Around 30 people were arrested although most of these were later released. One person has been charged with criminal damage.

The squatters were due to be moved out after an eviction order was granted in the High Court. By the time of the party it seems that most of the squatters had already moved out of the building. Police were informed of the disturbance by local residents and arrived at 58 Princes Gardens to find the building being vandalised. After calling for reinforcements they moved in to make the arrests.

The consulate was guarded by police throughout Tuesday and was boarded up on Wednesday. A private security firm are guarding the building from inside. Local Police Constable Andy Nimmons said that the damage done to the consulate was estimated to be between £1 million and £2 million. FELIX was unable to get any comment from the Libyan interest section of the Saudi Arabian embassy or the Foreign Office.