

FREE!

Felix



No. 781
Friday October 23rd 1987



SPECIAL CAREERS ISSUE

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editorial

Let me take this opportunity to apologise for the hideous number of pages in this issue. Even with 36 we still had trouble fitting all the copy in. For this reason, I have had to prune the small ads section down to one column. From now on my editorial policy is that the boring ads get cut first—so if you want your ad to go in, try and make it slightly more exciting than the one's we've been receiving recently.

Music Room

Alan Downie, Chairman of the Chamber Music Society, has started a petition to save the music rooms in Prince's Gate. Please sign the one in the Union Office if you are even vaguely interested in saving Imperial's music facilities.

Security

As the crime rate continually increases in London, I am particularly concerned about the lack of security in the Halls of Residence. The locks in Southside have only been changed once since its construction in the 1960s. That means that at least seven students have held your room key and countless Summer Accommodation Centre residents. I recently enquired about my room key. I was told that six were originally copied and that all have gone missing over the past few years. Not only copies of my key but Hall masters have disappeared. It was only when expensive equipment started going missing in Linstead last year that it was finally decided to change the locks around. Obviously College can't afford to change locks every year but every fourth year is not unreasonable. I certainly wouldn't mind paying a little extra in my rent for increased security.

Norman's

This FELIX contains an Eye Spy in the Union Snack Bar. We asked for views on the food. It seems you either

love it or hate it, depending on how hot and nutritious you like your food. I personally like 'Norman's' but I know many others who find the food depressing. I can only suggest that if you want something that isn't already offered in the Snack Bar, that you write it down and post it in their suggestions box. I'm sure they'd welcome all constructive criticism and suggestions—as long as it doesn't mention chips!

Commemoration Day

This year's Annual Report was released yesterday at the Commemoration Day ceremony in the Royal Albert Hall. It is the usual glossy prospectus for past students with many pretty pictures of students and academics enjoying themselves. It even contains a picture of the FELIX staff hard at work—so it can't be all bad! I can't help feeling a little cynical about all the College publications I've seen recently. They contain too many happy faces and rosy outlooks. Unfortunately the publicity doesn't seem to have achieved the desired effect—despite Professor Eric Ash pledging to try to raise the number of women students

entering Imperial, the number has decreased this year.

Professor Ash mentioned in his Commemoration Day speech that 50% of Imperial's income is derived from private and industrial sources. He guesses that if the Government continues on its course of disinvestment that universities will either go bankrupt or privatise like Stamford in America. College has a Public Relations Officer and Industrial Liaison Officer who spend their lives trying to coax more money out of industry and the alumni. But how long can this go on? How many glossy brochures do we have to endure? It is time that staff and students unite and fight. To quote the Rector: the Government must begin 'to appreciate the very real and irrevocable damage which is now being done to institutions such as Imperial College'.

Petit Gripe

I've just noticed the photo credits in the Annual Report and there's not one mention of FELIX amongst them all. I remember thinking this when I saw a similar incident in Network last week and IC Engineer the week before. Last time we do College a favour!

Finally...

There will be the usual staff meeting at 1.00pm today.

Editor-in-chief	Judith Hackney
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Guilds' Vice mauled—official!

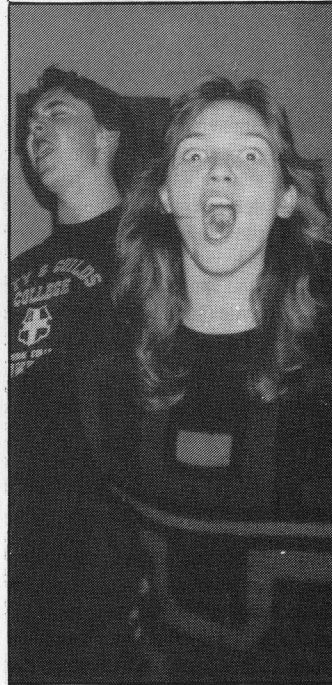
Tanya Maule, a first year chemical engineer, was elected Vice President of City and Guilds College Union at the Election UGM on Tuesday. She fills the position left vacant by Chris Simpson on failing his second year exams.

After a short speech from each candidate and proposer, Ms Maule was elected with a sizeable majority. She is the first fresher to be elected to the Guilds Executive.

●FELIX interviewed Ms Maule following her victory. She revealed that she first considered standing for VP on meeting Dave Tyler, the Guilds Union President, at the joint CCU Christmas Party in Freshers' Week. She had mentioned that she was interested in Rag, mascotry and Ents to him and he claimed that these interests along with limitless enthusiasm were the qualities necessary for VP. The following day she gathered a proposer and seconders

from amongst her fellow first-years and started to organise her campaign. Clearly with only two weeks at IC prior to the election she needed to ensure plenty of publicity prior to the election in order to stand a chance against the other candidates. She feels that questions asked of the candidates at the UGM were fair and although some, such as 'who is responsible for Rag in Guilds', put her at a disadvantage they were all very relevant.

Predictably she is not willing to sacrifice her degree to the running of C&GU. However, she believes that she can effectively manage both. Her ambitions at this early stage are to increase participation in Union events, particularly amongst first-years, and to abolish the present elitism which alienates rank and file students from the management of C&GU. Like every VP before, she hopes to raise more money for Rag than before and plans several new



events which could involve Bo appearing more often. She expects the full co-operation of the two other vice-presidential candidates and many officers in C&GU have pledged their support. Initially she will be informally assisted by Dave Tyler and previous VPs Chris Simpson and Simon Corns, but she hopes to be in full control by Rag Week.

Mr Tyler denies that asking Ms Maule to stand was showing any favouritism as he sees his role as encouraging as diverse a selection of candidates as possible. He views having a female first-year Vice President as a positive advantage as C&GU has previously had a lack of involvement from women and freshers.

●Defeated candidate, Ken Pendlebury, bears no grudges against the new VP. He decided to run for VP on hearing that Mr Simpson, whom he had shared a room with during the summer, had failed his exams. Mr Pendlebury had intended to run for VP in March, but had stood down when Mr Simpson announced his candidature.

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Funds fiasco

The Commemoration Day ceremony took place in the Royal Albert Hall yesterday. Following the Fellows awards, Professor Eric Ash delivered a speech on universities and the public fund cut. He revealed that Imperial College now receives only 50% of its funding from the University Grants Committee. He went on to warn the present Government of the dangers of letting the universities rely heavily on the private sector funding and cast a gloomy picture for universities in the next few years as they all compete for the limited funding.

The Imperial College Annual Report was published to coincide with Commemoration Day. The 28-page document is in glossy brochure format and contains articles on College's relationship with industry, past students and expenditure figures for the last financial year. It reveals that the total College income was £66,385K whereas its expenditure was £67,384K. This is the first year that the College has spent more than it received.

SKETCH

●The rubric opened, as you might expect, with a tribute to the achievements of IC students and staff

this year, including the election of Mike Hassel and David Olive to the Royal Society, and of Alan Swanson, Colin Besant and Ernie Freeman to the fellowship of engineering. So to St Mary's Hospital Medical School, and the forthcoming merger. Professor Ash is obviously an optimist, as he proved when he referred to the enthusiasm of St Mary's students about the merger. The experience of IC Union is rather different.

And then onto an old favourite, lack of money. The Rector raised the possibility of privatising universities, and then, not to anyone's surprise, demolished it, mainly by pointing out the lack of endowments coming in to College funds. This naturally begged the question: Are we doomed to be a loss-making organisation? Well, apparently not. If—said the Rector—you count the income to the country which results from the graduation and subsequent gainful employment of an Imperial College graduate, and subtract from that the cost of that graduate's education, we make about £300M per annum for the UK. so, dear Government, although we will do our best to increase our degree of self-funding, notably by the launch of IMPEL, a company which exists to exploit novel ideas and inventions for profit, we still need your money to survive in our present structure.

Jelly's flat 1

Union Bar Manager Adrian Johnson was assaulted by two men in the Union Bar on Wednesday night. Mr Johnson sustained a large cut on the back of his head when one of the men broke a glass on him. The matter is to be taken up by the College Disciplinary Committee.

Dutch courage

The Holland Club, the staff bar, has arranged a programme of music for the rest of October. Ex-Imperial band *Stagefright* will be playing some of their mellower songs next Thursday. All members and their guests are welcome and the entertainment is entirely free.

Policeman injured

A policeman was injured during a roof top chase in Cranley Gardens on Sunday. The policeman, PC Andy Morby fell fifteen feet through a skylight whilst chasing suspects across a slippery roof, sustaining injuries to his shoulders, hands and abdomen.

The police were alerted to the burglary at 3.45pm by a member of the public. Nine vehicles, including two fire engines which were used to observe the roof arrived on the scene. A police helicopter was diverted from the Tottenham football match to scan the area using closed-circuit TV, but no arrests were made.

Flan ban

The Hitsquad will be restricted this year due to an agreement between C&GU and College. No hits will take place in lecture theatres and students will be able to purchase immunity from flanning.

Musical movement

A petition is being drawn up against withdrawal of the Music Room without provision of alternative facilities of comparable quality. The petition states this would result in a marked deterioration in the musical life of the College. Six pages of signatures have been collected so far. Anyone who wants to sign should see Alan Downie (Maths PG) or visit the Union Office.

Fire and damnation

There were red faces all round yesterday when the West London Chaplaincy set off the fire alarms in Southside. The Selkirk Breakfast group caused the incident when the toast they were cooking in the TV lounge activated a smoke detector. The alarm was turned off by the Linstead messenger ten minutes later. A spokesperson for the WLC explained that the detector was normally covered with a plastic cup to avoid this problem, but added that on this occasion the cup must have fallen off.

Seymour goes bananas

The first ICU Council of the year was held on Monday. Council Chairman Alastair Seymour apologised for the postponement which he said was due to late the circulation of papers.

Topics which were discussed included the St Mary's Medical School merger. President Ian Howgate proposed honorary membership of the Union for all St Mary's students this year, allowing them to vote and stand in elections for next year's Union officers. It was noted that there was a lack of communication between both St Mary's Union and Imperial College Union. Council members were also concerned about the lack of communication between the Executive and the rest of Council about the merger plans. Mr Howgate believes that 'St Mary's Union is frightened of being swamped by ICU.'

Stormy weather

While Hyde Park may look like a battlefield, College itself was barely scarred by Friday's storm. Fourteen windows were broken, though most of these were small, apart from the plate glass window on a gallery level in Tizard Hall. In the Life Science Department's pilot plant, a skylight pane was lifted and later found some 15 feet away still intact. It is expected to be refitted by the end of the week.

Ashfelt on the Union Building was also lifted, which has led to the re-roofing being brought forward. The main victims of the storm have been the trees, with many branches being brought down. College reports that two small trees are still missing.

How to get HI

Alternative Prospectus Editor Sunny Bains has published *Holographics International*, a new magazine for the holographics industry. The magazine, which is also edited by Ms Bains was launched on Monday at the Light Fantastic Gallery in Covent Garden. Copies are available at the ICU Bookshop although the magazine will mainly be sold by subscription.

Digital review

Electronic publishing came to Imperial College yesterday when IC Radio launched ICRAD, a computer based news and information service. ICRAD can be accessed free of charge from any computer terminal connected to the campus network 'pad'. The service contains College news, events guides, CCU and clubs information. ICRAD Editor Al Birch commented 'this is the most significant computing development since the Analogical Engine'.

The service can be obtained by typing 'C' followed by 'ICRAD' and pressing the return key.

Jelly's flat 2

ICU has gained control of a flat in the Union Building previously occupied by refectory staff. Although it is not known what is to be done with the space, one room will be reserved for late night bar or snack bar staff who have difficulty getting home after work.

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**NEW OPTICIAN,
HEALTH CENTRE**

For the next 2 terms Mr Rasik Naguria will be doing the eye testing at the Health Centre. Appointments may be booked with the Health Centre reception staff. He will attend on Thursday afternoons. As well as doing eye tests for laser workers, VDU workers and for those who need special safety glasses, Mr Naguria is also available to do eye tests for any member of College who has not recently had an NHS eye test.

Rag pissed off

Last Saturday the Union Building was damaged at the Mencap 'thank you' party attended by students from all over the UK who had helped in the Mencap London-wide collection. At about 10pm the organisers were informed that a wash basin had been pulled off the wall in the gents toilets, rupturing water pipes which led to flooding. As the drains were not working the 'passed water' seeped into Norman's store room and into the FELIX Print Room.

The Union Building was being used free of charge by Mencap through the Imperial College Rag Committee who were responsible for the party, and so brought the matter of the damage to the attention of Monday's Council meeting. The question of who would pay the bill has not yet arisen, although he did express to FELIX that he hoped that Mencap rather than IC Rag would pay. Letters are being sent to all the universities whose students participated expressing the displeasure of the Union at such damage being perpetrated.

One on

Radio 1 will start transmitting on VHF/FM from 6am on Saturday, 31 October. The first transmitter will cover the London area only, on 104.8 KHz, but other major conurbations are due to be added. The existing shared Radio 2/Radio 1 frequency will continue until airspace is made available to transmit Radio 1 on FM nationwide.



Wind swept

Staff and students were washed into the sea at a field trip in Dorset last week. The incident took place in the wake of Thursday's hurricane, when students from Mineral Resources and Petroleum Engineering visited BP's Wytch Farm onshore oilfield, Dorset. Those receiving a dunking included Prof J Archer, Neilah Ghonia, John McNeill and Robert Ambrose. Mr Hatamian said that it had not been felt necessary to issue life jackets. Dr G Hargreaves, Imperial College Safety Director said, in view of the visit taking place shortly after the storms, 'given the exceptional circumstances, perhaps they should not have taken the risk'.

Fishy story

Mr K H Fisher Safety Administrator at Silwood Park has strongly denied that there was a serious leak from the Silwood Park Reactor Station yesterday. When FELIX approached him concerning the issue he laughed and exclaimed that it was 'totally erroneous'. Professor Peter Grant was absent from Silwood Park yesterday afternoon when FELIX tried to contact him, but his secretary confirmed that there had been a leak.

Almost everyone approached by FELIX denied any knowledge of the

incident. Mr H A Dewitt, Departmental Superintendent at Silwood, conceded that he didn't 'think' it had happened. Alan Rose, ICU Deputy President, said 'I hadn't heard actually. Maybe Ian Howgate knows but he's poncing about in the Albert Hall at the moment. You could ask the safety people but I've just put back the next meeting.'

Dr G Hargreaves, the Safety Director, said he couldn't tell us anything as it was outside his jurisdiction.

The longest year

Union Council approved a motion on Monday to change the Sabbatical Year from 1st July—30th June to 1st August—31st July. This could become official policy by March, subject to approval by a UGM and the College Governing Body. Part of this motion, although not compulsory, would be an informal training period for incoming sabbaticals which would involve them spending July on the dole and working in the Union Office.

The idea, originally proposed by Jackie Peirce, last year's Union Deputy President, is intended to make the Sabbatical Year coincide with the College financial year. Union President Ian Howgate feels that if incoming officers 'are not prepared to spend a month on the dole then they are not dedicated enough' and that sabbaticals are likely to be better off on supplementary benefit with rent rebate than on a sabbatical salary with free accommodation. He denies any ulterior motive in his gaining an extra month in office, claiming that he would prefer to spend July writing up academic work than sorting out Union finances.

Lie in

Clocks go back one hour on Sunday. A spokesman from Geology said that considering the age of the Earth, one hour was insignificant and so the clocks were not really changing at all. The change is unlikely to affect many IC students.



THIS ISSUE'S USELESS. IT'S GOT DETAILS ABOUT ALL SORTS OF CAREERS EXCEPT FOR THE ONE I WANT TO DO!

WHICH ONE'S THAT?



GIGOLO!

Galileo was wrong

Not content with already having two more forces than the average mind can understand, some physicists are looking for another one. If they find it, Galileo's proof that heavy and light objects fall at the same rate will be shown to have been wrong.

The search started when a physicist called Fishbach looked at the original experimental data collected in 1923 by another physicist called Eötvös, who had been doing delicate tests of the equivalence of inertial and gravitational mass. Eötvös thought he had demonstrated, within experimental accuracy, that gravitational and inertial mass were the same (implying that all bodies fall with equal accelerations), but when his data were reexamined they showed significant statistical irregularities, suggesting that there was a small residual mass-dependent acceleration.

Fishbach does not say that conventional theories of gravity are

God and slugs

Biologists have been driven to religion by attempts to find out why slugs don't eat moss.

Slugs seem to happily munch anything useful that we try to grow in our gardens, but they never seem to touch moss. Rather than just ascribing this to Sod's law or the general perversity of nature, two biologists proposed that mosses contain chemical nasties that the slugs avoid.

To test this, they extracted some of the chemicals from moss. However, slugs don't eat liquids, so the researchers had to find some solid to smear the chemicals on. The slugs proved very fussy and rejected almost everything the scientists tried, until they used the wafers specially designed for use in the Christian communion service: the slugs gobbled them up, along with all the moss extracts.

It is not clear whether this is because the religious nature of the wafers protects the slugs from harm, or whether the chemicals are not the noxious bits in mosses after all.

(*New Scientist* 15/10/87 p 25).

wrong as such; rather, he proposes a new, short-range repulsive force dependent on the nuclear density of the interacting objects. The implication is that denser objects fall ever so slightly more slowly: that is, in a vacuum, feathers fall faster than cannonballs.

The results from some of the other experiments are now in. Measurements of gravity in mine shafts support Fishbach's hypothesis as do some other experiments using

terrestrial gravity. However, some carefully controlled pure laboratory experiments have found no unexpected forces. The definitive experiment will probably require the gravitational wave detector at CERN, but until that experiment is done, the jury is out. Until there is a really good proof of the new force, people will be justifiably sceptical of it: after all, four forces are more than we can cope with.

(*Nature* 328 p578)

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



by Steve Black

Humanity's single mother

Newspaper headlines recently proclaimed that scientists had discovered that the entire human race was descended from a single African female. The headlines were sensationalist, but they did contain an element of truth.

The raw evidence that led to the claim was based on a study of mitochondrial DNA. Mitochondria are rod shaped blobs that exist inside ordinary cells and contain enzymes important for energy supply: they are the cellular equivalent of the power station. In this case the important thing is that the DNA contained in them has certain unique properties. It is a sort of relic from the past and contributes nothing to the cell as a whole, and it is transmitted from generation to generation only through females. Because it is not involved in mainstream genetic processes and the main changes are just random mutation, it can be used to trace and time (if we know the mutation rate) the line of female descent.

The techniques needed to compare the DNA from different individuals have just recently been applied to this area. When the DNA from a wide range of people was tested it was found to be much more alike than had been expected.

The scientists who did the study were surprised, and proposed that one explanation for the low variation could be that everyone is descended

from a single female living about 200,000 years ago. Presumably the human population was having a bad time at the hunts and had virtually died out. They warned that other more complex scenarios could explain the DNA patterns, but the editor of the paper left that bit out and hence the sensational new headlines.

Recent work has gone into enough detail to give a good idea of the family tree. This places the ancestral Eve in Africa. The most important fact is that modern homo sapiens appears to have arisen in just one place and then spread out, completely replacing any other competing species. That is, humanity did not arise in lots of places at once.

There is much discussion on the validity of the data. Both the actual value and constancy of the mutation rate, have been questioned. If the mutation rate is not reliably constant then the family trees simply cannot be trusted.

On the other hand, much of the criticism may come from colleagues, jealous that they didn't think up work that could make front page headlines in the newspapers.

The strange thing is that all the writers have failed to notice that the biblical allusion is wrong: the human race is more directly descended from Noah's wife than from Eve, according to the account in Genesis. (*Science* 238 p24).

An appreciation of Sir Peter Medawar

Not many people who win Nobel Prizes are better known for doing something else; Peter Medawar, who died earlier this month, was one of those few.

He is best known for his sagacious contributions to the popular communication of science; indeed, he has been called the best science writer of his generation. He did not write huge numbers of books (unlike some modern writers such as Paul Davies or Isaac Asimov) but when he wrote, he said wise things that showed great insight into the methods and implications of Science. He was a man who was capable of excellence in a specific field (immunology), but, when he wrote about more general issues, was no less brilliant. He cared about science as a whole and he cared about how it was used: he showed little mercy to those who abused it. He thought deeply about how science works and how it affects the world: his vision was broad in contrast to the average specialist who sees only his or her own narrow branch of the scientific tree.

His greatest achievements were his writings. His descriptions of the scientific character stand against the usual caricatures. His explanations of how science is done, and his hints on how to do it better, have both helped scientists with their work and have educated many non-scientists in the ways of science. Few scientists have ever matched his ability to think clearly and to communicate ideas simply and without obfuscation.

The world needs more people like Peter Medawar. Unfortunately a scientific education (especially of the sort given at Imperial College) will not encourage people to be like him. We tend to want blinkered conservative conformists: they do what they are told, they don't ask questions, they don't rock the boat. There is no hope for science and little hope for the country as long as that is the sort of person our institutions produce.

Editor's Bit

Next week this space will contain, among other things, a look at what work won Nobel prizes this year (was David Caplin of the Physics Department right when he said it was the fastest physics prize ever?).

Features

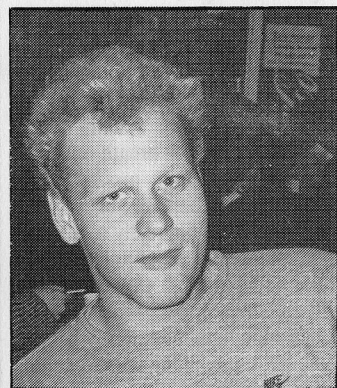
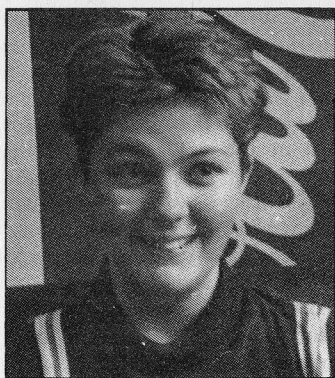


in Norman's

3. What do you think of the food in Norman's?

"It's very nice, that's why I'm eating here. It's better than over in the JCR. The service is really good and friendly"

—Jacqueline Godfrey



"I very rarely eat here, it's not too bad, it's not cheap but it's not expensive, it's OK. The service is a bit slow and the tables are always covered in shit. I wouldn't go out of my way to come into College to eat here, but yeah, it's OK"

—Rob Conn



"The staff are very friendly—they give very good portions"

—Louise Cameron



"It's crap! I wanted a veggie samosa. It was on the board; I got my samosa and it wasn't vegetarian, so I'm not going to come here again. I took it back and I got a very bad response"

—Dominic Stead

"It's rabbit food!"

—Patrick Thomas

"It's not good value for money but my friend paid for it"

—Matthew Holmes

*"The burger? For what it is it's ***** expensive. I could get the same sort of thing cheaper in MacDonalds"*

—Dean Miller

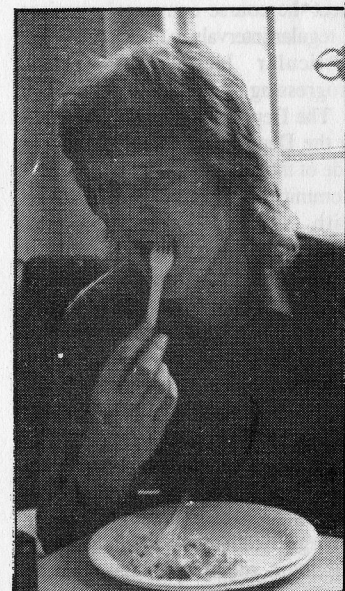


"I eat at the bar because I think the proportion of veggie stuff is awful. The beefburgers taste horrible over there and I think if the Union had their heads screwed on they'd supply a similar service to QT and make a lot of money which they're making over there. You've only got to see the comparison in the queues. They obviously offer a better package which everybody likes, because more people use it"

—Keith Wiggins

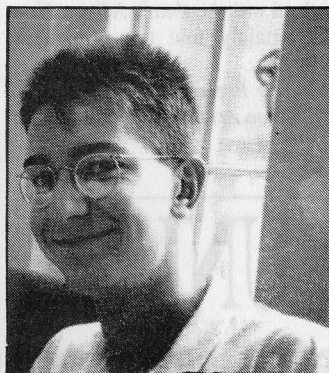
"It's fantastic! I love it! I have two plates of it every day. It's a lot better than Linstead food"

—Leszek Bartoszewsk



"I'm usually over in Belushi's. It's nearer to the Mech Eng Building, you see—you don't have to walk so far. I like my animal fats. The veggie food is OK for a change"

—Dominic Strowbridge



"It's preferable to QT. You have to time it properly for the queues otherwise you have to wait half an hour"

—Rob Chaddock



Academic affairs

By now most of you will be settling into the routine of lectures, practicals and tutorials—some of you will be finding it easier than others. But if you are having problems the Union's Academic Affairs system is here to help you.

Academic Representatives—around this time your Departmental Representative (Dep Rep) should be holding (or may already have held) elections for the posts of Academic Representatives (Ac Reps). Each subject group has 2 Ac Reps per year depending on the size of the group. The Ac Reps are the first line of representation between you and the staff. If your lecturer is inaudible his/her writing/overheads illegible or the problem sheets incomprehensible then it's your Ac Rep's job to point this out to the lecturer concerned (politely!). The Ac Reps should also meet the course convener/organiser at regular intervals to discuss how that particular lecturer course is progressing.

The Dep Rep and all the Ac Reps in the Department form the student side of the Departmental Staff-Student Committee. This committee deals with matters throughout the department. For example how a course could be improved or facilities for the students common room.

If a problem can't be resolved within the Department then it can be taken to the respective CCU Academic Affairs Officer (AAO) who may be able to resolve the matter. The four AAOs (including myself are responsible for representing the student body as a whole on various College Academic committees with important sounding names such as Board of Studies, Careers Advisory, Admissions Policy, Vacation Training, Undergraduate Studies, etc, dealing with such matters as lecturer

training. In this respect it's worth noting that while your teachers at school will have had to go through intensive training most lecturers (although they may be experts in their respective field) have only a very brief training before they are dumped in front of a hundred students and may end up fumbling their way through even the best prepared course.

Getting involved—where do you fit in. Well for a start you could stand as an Ac Rep in your Department. As a student rep you will get to know lots of people within your Department and also at CCU level. Of course with any post comes responsibility too. You will be expected to help your Dep Rep and attend various Committees among other things. Don't let that put you off, though. To ensure a good deal for students academically means that ordinary students like yourselves getting involved by standing for election and representing the students effectively.

There are also two posts available for Ordinary Members of the Union's Academic Affairs Committee and the post of Secretary to the Academic Affairs Committee (a post which I held years ago). If you are interested in standing and want to know what's involved, please contact me via the Union Office. The papers are up in the Union foyer and the elections will be held at the next Union General Meeting.

Finally—your studies will (hopefully!) form the important part of your time at IC and I hope that at least some of you will want to get involved with Academic Affairs. You will certainly find the experience rewarding.

Charles Brereton
IC Union Academic Affairs Officer

More essentials

Ents, Ents, Ents that's all we seem to talk about. Well there's a good reason for that and that's because all the events are such jolly good fun and value for money. Before I sum up this week's events I must first add that Ents did not make £10,000 in Freshers' Week; it was in fact more like £3,000.

This week we have a double bill featuring *The Lover Speaks*, fresh from their *Eurythmics* support tour, and a very nice group of boys from North London called *The Gospel*. The former play a good mix of colourful rock with a good uptempo feel and very interesting vocals. The voice is that of David Freedman, who is currently in conspiracy with Alison Moyet in her latest single which was reviewed not so long ago in these pages. It is also rumoured that A&M will be down at the gig giving away records. *The Gospel* are an energetic young band whose only aim in life is to entertain, having recently done several gigs at the Mean Fidler including a proclainers support. They are well worth seeing. Doors open at about 8.30pm and entry is £2 in advance and £2.50 on the door or £1.50 Ents cards. There is the usual late bar and also a disco to fill in the gaps.

Next week there should be a disco and free band on Thursday or Friday and Saturday the 7th sees the first Comedy Night so keep your eyes peeled.

John Noble,
Chairman of Parties Person.

Review

The first of a regular series of gigs put on by IC Ents took place last Friday when the Ents Room in the Union Building rocked to the sound of *Circus Circus Circus* (or *Circus x 3* as they proclaimed on the hats and t-shirts they were busy selling!).

The night was advertised as a live band and disco starting at 9pm and running (with bar extension until 12am) until 1am. Surprisingly that's just what it was although the disco didn't really start to fill up until about 10.15pm in readiness no doubt for the band due on stage at 10.30pm. Some people (shock, horror) were even dancing to the disco prior to the band's entrance! Finally, after a few hitches (no one could find the sound technician), *Circus x 3* arrived on stage at 10.50pm.

The first, and only, two words to describe the band that sprang to mind were 'loud'; there was more than one request to turn down the volume, and 'dunamic'; the lead vocalist didn't appear to pause for breath once and continued to jump around stage throughout the performance.

Circus x 3 are not really to my taste and I cannot remember much of their music except that it seemed to have neither rhythm nor tune and the vocals were indistinct. Many people, however, enjoyed the whole evening and I think it was more than worth the £1 entrance if only for the disco and bar extension.

"THE LOVER SPEAKS"

the lounge

£2 8.30pm

USE YOUR UNION!

- Yummy foods in the Uni' Snack Bar
- Slurpy drinks in the Uni' Drinks Bar
- Happy faces in the Uni' Office

DON'T BE SHY!

CUT THE KRAP

Cut 'n' Blow Dry £5.00
Wednesday 10am onwards
in the Ents Room (above the
New FELIX Office)

HOW TO GET A CAREER

It's that time of year again, when a student's fancy turns lightly to thoughts of a job. The large firms hover over College at the Careers Fair, throwing out lures for the anxious students who have suddenly realised that in nine months they will no longer be part of the sheltered college life. Notices appeal with anxious hints that it's time to start hunting, or reassuring messages of the sort, 'it's later than you think'.

Don't panic. If you concentrate on one step at a time, common sense and a bit of application (effort, I mean) should give you a fair chance of winning a job and/or starting a career. And to make it easier, there are people able to advise you on every step of the way. The Careers Advisors, while they can't tell you what to do, can point you in the right direction to get started, test whether you're being realistic and otherwise generally help you.

Stage one in the job hunt is deciding what type of work you want. If you don't already know what you're aiming for, there's an article further on in this issue which should give you some ideas on how to choose. So let's move on to the next stages.

The autumn and spring terms should be taken up with yet more research. The indexes of the graduate recruitment directories (ROGET, GET, GO and numerous others) are usually easily available sources. A visit to the Careers Information room should be well worthwhile. The University of London Careers Service offers a wide range of publications including the 'matrices'—folders of computer printed vacancy news which give important information on employers' requirements and are regularly updated. 'Employment requirement forms'; the fortnightly lists, 'Forward Vacancies'; 'Recruitment Update' and 'Careers Extra'—all these should be available either in College or at the

University of London. The London University's Central Careers Office can be found at 50 Garden Square, London WC1.

The result of your investigations should be a comprehensive list of possible employers. Their recruitment literature is important reading, most of the big companies are represented in the College Careers room collection, but if you can't find information on any particular employer try writing directly to them.

When you have as much information as you can scrape together, you can start narrowing the field. Compare the pros and cons of the names on your first list, and pick out the most promising. About a dozen would be a reasonable number for a first attempt.

It would be wise to include some small or lesser-known employers on your short-list; the competition for most of the well-known 'giants' will be fierce so having some back-up is a good idea.

If any of your short-listed employers are taking part in the Careers Fair (see the list on page 26) applying for an interview will be relatively easy. If not, use each employer's preferred format (their own application form, standard application form, or CV with covering letter are the most usual) to apply directly to them. The College Careers room has application forms for many companies on file.

Some employers keep a low profile (including some of those graduates might find most interesting) so if you want a job with them you'll have to make a speculative approach directly to them. Names and addresses can be found in the various directories. There are also the information booklets produced by the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services—look for the vast collection in the College Careers room—which should help

you track down employers.

If you can spare the time from revising during the summer term you can start applying for jobs that require you to be immediately available for work. This is because many employers are willing to wait two or three months for the right candidate. Otherwise you can wait until after the exams before applying again.

The good news is that you can still use the College careers facilities after you graduate. Under a 'mutual aid' system you may even be able to use those of any other university of polytechnic if that would be more convenient. Public reference libraries should also have some of the sources of information you might need. For information on employers try trade directories (eg 'Who Owns Whom'), Extel cards, the Yellow Pages, professional associations and institutions (listed in the 'Directory of British Associations', published by CBD Research) and, of course, company recruitment brochures and annual reports. 'Current Vacancies' and 'Job Opportunities Bulletin', are useful publications telling you of vacancies; the 'Graduate-Employer Matching Register' is a computer-assisted register which sends your details to employers with vacancies to fill. Many employers now recruit at summer fairs; national or local newspapers and specialist journals (Nature and New Scientist for example) carry advertisements for jobs. Then there are the local Job Centres for 'non-professional' and 'non-managerial' jobs if you need to earn your bread while you're looking for something more to your taste. And then there are the private employment agencies.

Another point to remember is that many jobs aren't advertised. Treasure your contacts—friends, relatives or people you meet through leisure interests or part-time work. It's surprising how often graduates find jobs through contacts they have made for themselves, and though these people may not be able to get you a job, they may put you in touch with someone who can help. They may even be able to get you an interview.

But once you've obtained an invitation to an interview, it's all up to you. Read on to learn how to cope.

Good hunting.



Simply the best training for the business world.

Peat Marwick McLintock is the world's largest firm of chartered accountants.

We are already planning for the 1990s and investing in future growth. Graduates – the partners and business managers of tomorrow – have long been regarded by us as the key to our future success. As a result our reputation for professional and practical training is unrivalled.

For the cream of this year's graduates, chartered accountancy with PMM is simply the best possible introduction to the business world. This is clearly demonstrated by the fact that over a quarter of the UK's financial directors have been PMM-trained.

Even among the "Big Eight" chartered accountancy practices we are unique. We are distinguished by a departmental structure that offers exposure to all aspects of a client's account rather than a narrow schooling in audit. You will work **with** clients rather



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For more details, please contact your careers adviser or write directly to:
Charles Tilley, Staff Partner,
Peat Marwick McLintock, 1 Puddle Dock,
Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock

THE START OF A GREAT NEW PARTNERSHIP

So you want a job?

By the end of the Careers Fair, you will be fed up with hearing about the world of work. However, and sad though it is, it must be faced one day. FELIX begs to offer a few words of advice about the most common choices of profession.

Accountancy

In 1985, 10,000 UK graduates were registered as trainees in accountancy, hopefully heading for membership of one of the six major professional bodies in this country. After passing professional examinations, and gaining three years recognised experience, they are then ready to become fully fledged yuppies. Positions tend to open up about the time you hear about your degree result, operating on a day release basis. The choice of positions is actually very wide, and the first BMW tends to arrive after about four years.

Actuarial Work

I didn't know what this was either, but an actuary is basically an accountant with a crystal ball, dealing with life assurance, pensions, stocks, bonds and so forth. This involves a study of probability, compound interest and statistical techniques, and their application to finance in general.

Courses are either correspondence or postgraduate, and lead to examinations for fellowship of the Institute (FIAs) or the Faculty (FFAs), of which there are almost three thousand members. One year full-time postgraduate courses are run by City University in Heriot Watt, bypassing about half the membership exams for the institutes. Definitely hard work to get into, but as the brochure says, it can be very rewarding. In other words, lucrative.

Advertising

The many ways of entering into the world of advertising cannot be detailed here due to the lack of a few hundred pages, but the main recognised course is run by the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising, open to staff of

member agencies. In other words, get your job, then get your training. This tends to be on an in-house rather than on a day release basis—for example, staff who enter Media departments almost always train on the job, whilst creative staff tend to come from full-time courses at college, usually in an arts or related subject.

Starting salaries in London in 1985 averaged £8,500, with some first year rises of up to £2000. This is quite good going, but if you haven't achieved what is referred to as director status by your early thirties, you are counted as a failure. The potential for ulcers could be quite high.

Biology

About forty per cent of biology graduates in the UK in 1986 entered a related subject, which reflects a healthy demand for their services. This can be confirmed by a glance down the appointment pages of such journals as *New Scientist*. Any careers service should also provide copies of 'Forward Vacancies', covering April to November, and 'Current Vacancies', covering May in your final year and onwards.

Biochemistry

Last year, about 60% of Biochemistry graduates went on to gain employment in an area related to their degree. Most of the rest, one sadly assumes, went on to become accountants. One third of this sixty per cent went into industry, tending to be employed directly from college.

Broadcasting, Film and Theatre

The situation can be summed up by describing the BBC Radio Journalism course: 12 places, 8000 applicants. Getting into this area is very difficult, and nobody can really tell you any more. There are few courses available, and they tend to be incredibly oversubscribed. You have to be prepared to apply for absolutely anything, probably about 500 times. The best bet for this is the *Guardian* on Mondays, with several pages of relevant

positions. With the competition so hot, you have to be prepared for repeated failures, and it is as well if you can get some relevant experience—Stoic, Dramsoc and IC Radio are your best bet while at college, as they have been known to work for people in the past. Go for it, and good luck.

The City

If you want to work in the smelly bit in the middle of London which rejoices under the name of The City, you will find it a fairly small area of graduate recruitment, most institutions still preferring to recruit school leavers with good 'A' levels. This explains why the yuppie at the end of your road can afford a GTi—he didn't bother with university. This doesn't exclude you, though. First degrees are considered relevant, particularly in Computer Science. Try the Stock Exchange Visitors Gallery, Lloyds of London Viewing Area, and the London Metal Exchange for further information.

Computing

Let's face it, there are so many opportunities for graduates from DoC that they cannot be listed. Apart from the possibility of working in the City—yup yup yup—posts are also found in engineering, medicine, broadcasting, publishing, science subjects of all sorts, sales, marketing, all sorts of research, and of course, in the world of computing itself. The world is your EPROM—blow it as you will.

Engineering

'Engineering is an exciting, practical world which is concerned with making things happen.' While this is undoubtedly true, there is little question that the UK engineer does not share the same financial reward and prestige as his US and Japanese counterparts. As a result of this as many as a third of Imperial engineering graduates pursue careers in other disciplines—eg accountancy, retail management, etc.

For those committed to engineering 'chartered status' is almost essential, and is possible through the relevant professional institution. Careers are available for research, design, development through to manufacture, although

promotion inevitably leads into the broader concerns of management.

Marketing and Sales

There are three ways of entering marketing: by direct entry from college, via a postgraduate course, of which there are many, or from work in some related field. Direct entry can be risky, as many companies use the word marketing to describe burning your guts out at an early age as a sales grunt. On the whole, postgraduate courses or subsequent transfer are your best bet, and can lead to a fast and profitable career. Adverts in the papers; *Evening Standard* or the *Guardian* are a major source all the year round, but they have also produced some of the most dishonest advertising I have ever seen—this probably sums up the business of sales and marketing quite well: you exist to present things in a favourable light. In other words, you lie.

Publishing

Good quality papers carry lists of publishing appointments, and these are likely to be about your only source of inspiration, apart from trade papers. In applying for these positions, it is important to detail any relevant experience you may have. Obviously if you are at IC, you aren't on a related course, but you might have some experience anyway. You could join FELIX, for example—last year's FELIX editor is now Assistant Editor on *Digital Review*—so it can be done. Salaries are not high, but job satisfaction can be, as any member of FELIX staff will tell you. Or else.

Personnel Work

Although many people enter directly into the world of personnel from a first degree or previous employment, full-time courses are also available, leading in this country to examinations for membership of the institute of Personnel Management. Membership is generally thought to be an advantage, but is not an absolute requirement for entry into the profession. Management trainees or those with previous work experience are also welcome, due to their wider grounding in the trials and tribulations of the big wide world out there.

McKinsey & Company, Inc

McKinsey is the world's preeminent management consulting firm, advising major companies on their strategies, mergers and acquisitions, operations and organization. The Firm has 37 offices worldwide, employs over 1,200 consultants and is owned entirely by its partners.

We are looking for a few exceptional graduates to join our London Office next September, working on teams to solve client problems. We expect them to be with us for 2 years before going on to study for an M.B.A. at a leading business school. We encourage the best of them to rejoin us as consultants thereafter and provide them with financial support at business school.

We seek people with excellent academic records, in any discipline. You must also be able to demonstrate leadership and wide ranging interests.

To find out more, pick up a brochure from your Careers Office (from early November), or come to our presentation at Imperial:

**Pippard Lecture Theatre, Sherfield Building
Imperial College**

at 6p.m. on Wednesday, November 25, 1987

We shall be interviewing in London during January. If you would like to be interviewed, please send a Standard Application Form and photograph by January 1, 1988 to:

Graduate Recruitment
McKinsey & Company, Inc.
74 St. James's Street
London SW1A 1PS

Things to remember A cynic's view

General employment prospects

Since the low in 1981/82 employment prospects have been rising steadily. Imperial has one of the lowest full unemployment rates, which is getting still lower. Backed up by other measures, this indicates the country-wide recovery which is particularly evident here. There are now more jobs on offer, more visits from employers and more jobs available at Summer Fairs.

Electronics and computer science are the areas which produce the highest demand. Recruitment levels in manufacturing have improved. Finance (banking, accountancy, insurance and commodities) and retailing employers are particularly keen to recruit science and engineering graduates.

Of course, there will always be those who make no effort to look for work but they are making a big mistake. Around 300 electronics graduates were unemployed at the beginning of last year through falling into this trap. You must realise that *you* are the one doing the seeking, not your future employer. It would also be very foolish to only apply for one job, or to go for something that is obviously beyond your capabilities. The attainment of a pass degree after five years at college is not a sufficient qualification for R&D—but there is always someone who doesn't realise this.

Taking a year off

A year off, taken before university, is welcomed almost universally. Alternatively, many think seriously about having some time off between graduation and full-time employment. This can be rewarding and productive, but it must be noted that if you are over 24, you may be advised to seek careers advice, depending on your choice of profession. Otherwise, there are no problems, although it helps to have a clear idea of what you plan to do with the year and one which you can articulate—perhaps to a future employer. You should be able to talk about what your aims were, what you gained from the experience, etc. You should also think ahead. For example, it might be fun going jackarooping in

Australia for 12 months but you will hardly be well placed to apply for jobs back in the UK. For the same simple reasons 12 months off have often become 15 or more. Remember the vacancy lists in September are probably shorter than in another time of the year. Nevertheless, given some thought and planning, some time off after graduation can be fun, productive and for many, a time of great personal development.

Temporary work

While the great majority of graduates want permanent work, each year there are those who, for a variety of reasons, seek temporary work. In thinking of the longer term career prospects, virtually all previous work experience is useful, even valuable. Here in London temporary work is not hard to find. I can cover many possibilities, from part-time work in MacDonalds to challenging administrative jobs. Job Centres can be a good source of such work and there are a number of specialist agencies. Catch 22 is one such firm (it's harder to get a job without experience and you can't get experience without a job). Although your work might be far removed from your ultimate ambition, it does give valuable insights into people and the nature of work. It can also be a useful way of funding that year off.

Summer Fairs

It has always been wrong to think of recruitment as being a January to March phenomenon associated with the Graduate Recruitment Programme, otherwise known as the 'milk-round'. In fact recruitment is increasingly becoming an all-the-year round event. Nevertheless outside the GRP the next busy peak is during the Summer Fairs. This is the time in June and July, starting immediately after finals, when there are about 10 Fairs throughout the country. Of these, London is by far the biggest. This year almost 200 employers attended during its three days with a wide variety of jobs on offer. Thus these events are particularly useful for those who have not wanted to think about jobs prior to graduation.

The 'Milkround', in a nutshell, is a system that companies use to recruit graduates every year. A company will contact the careers services at a university, and will arrange to visit the College on some day, for the 'first interviews'.

In the meantime, recruitment personnel may have attended a 'careers fair' at the College, and distributed lots of applications forms along with expensive, glossy

companies can afford the resources to visit Colleges up and down the country. This means that students relying entirely on the Milkround are only going to apply to 'Large' companies in certain areas. To test this out, walk around Careers Fair (as I once did) and find out how many companies aren't involved in defence work. Compare that to the national average. You will find quite a difference.

So, the students that rely only on the Milkround are restricting their choice. As long as they are reasonably forward looking, and realise that the Milkround is only a small proportion of what's on offer, then this isn't such a problem. What's the more recent second problem?

This time, it's from the companies. Less and less are finding the Milkround worthwhile. Visiting dozens of universities and interviewing hundreds of students isn't cheap. To make it worthwhile, it must produce results. However, because it's so easy for the students, many are applying to companies they have very little interest in, just on the off-chance. Even if they are offered a second interview, they can always turn it down if something better comes along.

Companies are finding other ways to recruit. Advertising directly to students may be more cost effective. They may get less replies if the student has to do more work, but the replies they get will be the most highly motivated.

One way the graduate employment market may change soon is that the employment agencies, very common amongst the 'real' job market, may move into graduate recruitment. A company might 'contract out' its graduate recruitment to an agency, which will do all the preliminary advertising, interviewing, testing and so on. You would apply to one agency, and may well be offered a job in any of the companies which use that agency.

What will this mean for the student? Probably not very much. The people that seem to get the best jobs are those that have gone out and looked themselves.



brochures, extolling the virtues of their company. They then sit back and wait for the floods of applications.

They make a selection of these and interview at the College. They may also (like IBM) apply their own brand of 'aptitude test' at this stage. If they like you, you are invited for second a interview at the prospective place of employment. On that basis they make their choice.

It's all very simple and convenient for all. The students, initially at least, don't even have to leave College. The employers, in theory, come to College and get the pick of the best graduates.

So, what's the matter? There are two problems with the Milkround; one old, and one new. The old problem is that only some

AN IN-DEPTH STUDY OF WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN YOUR PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER

“How do I choose which employer to apply to? They all seem much the same to me. I’ll apply to the seven largest, most famous employers with the most



vacancies and that will probably do.”

It might work but, if you have spent any time at all choosing what occupation you wish to follow, it seems a pity to mess up your future happiness by failing to carry out adequate research on your prospective employer. There are five Directories of Employers of graduates. ‘Register of Graduate Employment and Training’ (ROGET); ‘Graduate Employment and Training’ (GET); ‘Graduate Opportunities’ (GO); ‘Directory of Opportunities’ (DOG) and ‘Directory of Opportunities in New Technology’ (DONT). These are a good source for your preliminary

list of possible employers. Besides outlining the vacancies that they may have, they tell you about the company’s size, its location, its pattern of employment and even a little of its philosophy. Many employers produce special Graduate brochures which provide profiles of recent graduate entrants of the ‘Day in the life of...’ variety. There are many videos for those who prefer watching and listening

to reading. These can be viewed in the Careers Video Room, key from Sherfield Room 309. Although all these sources will tell you something of the companies, they are produced and written by the employers themselves and therefore are unlikely to paint the companies in anything other than glowing terms. The same thing can be said of the recent graduates brought along to Company presentations. A company is unlikely to bring along people who think it’s a foul company in which to work! So how can you find out which company is for you? Firstly you must know what you want from an employer; What sort of environment would you enjoy? What promotion prospects or training would suit you best? Do you want a very open, friendly style of management or would you prefer a more conservative formal firm? The Careers Fair is a good place to start. You might ask them why they think you should work for them rather than for X and Co although don’t sound too arrogant when doing so! Another valuable way of finding out about different employers is at the Old Students’ Association and Careers evening.

Once you have narrowed the field of employers you can save everyone an awful lot of time by checking whether the companies actually have vacancies in the areas for which you are applying. Every year, a well known computing company is inundated with applications for computer programming jobs. They do have between 400 and 500 vacancies but not for computer programmers.

If the company is visiting the campus during the Graduate Recruitment programme then you can obtain the application forms from the Careers library. Otherwise you will have to apply directly to the company.

And finally, think about ‘fall back positions’. Please consider the wisdom of *only* applying to the big, glamorous, well-known companies. Every year on the Imperial Graduate Recruitment Programme, perfectly respectable companies have to cancel their visits through lack of applications. Think what it would do to your chances of success if you applied to such a company.

JOBS FOR THE BOYS (& GIRLS)

There are many job opportunities for graduates who do not want to continue in their chosen discipline. These jobs are open to people who are not only academically sound but who also possess special personal qualities. If you are in your final year you must begin to think about life after University. You must begin to ask yourself ‘what do I want from a job or from life?’ and ‘what do I have to offer a company?’ There are endless careers pamphlets in the College Careers Library on Level 3 of the Sherfield Building, which offer all sorts of information and advice. We hope to give you a rough guide to which direction you should be taking.

You—what do you want?

- Do you want to feel involved, stretched, excited, useful?
- How important is pay, geographical location, security?
- In what way do you want to deal with people—do you want to advise, teach, organise or entertain them?
- Do you want a job overseas?
- Do you have foreign languages? Do you want to use them?
- Do you want a routine 9—5 job? Would you object to shift hours?
- Do you want further qualifications?
- Do you want to do something ‘socially useful’?

You—what can you offer?

- Are you a leader?
- Can you work in a team?
- Are you a good organiser?
- Are you creative?
- Are you committed to solving all problems?
- Can you work to a deadline?
- Are you a sympathetic listener?
- Are you confident in public?
- Can you express yourself clearly?

By answering all these questions you may begin to see which jobs you are suited to and which you’d have no hope of doing.

GETTING THROUGH THE INTERVIEWS

After you have overcome the first obstacle to getting the job—preselection—there is the daunting prospect of the first interview. Most of you will have already undergone at least one formal interview when you were applying to universities in your sixth form. The first interview will be similar to this because the company will be interested in finding out about you and whether you are right for them



- **Presentations**—Many large companies who go 'on the Milk Round' will give presentations to the candidates at their own universities. This will give you an opportunity to discover more about that company and ask any questions you may have. You will be able to study the sort of graduate they already employ and gain a feel for their sort of management. Most presentations are in the early evening and include food and drink. They are well worth attending as they will be brief and by meeting your interviewer in a relaxed atmosphere before your interview will make it much more easy to talk when you meet him/her in a more formal atmosphere.

- **First interview**—the interviewer will base the first interview on your application form and/or curriculum vitae. He/she will want to know why you are doing a degree in science/engineering; why you selected certain subjects to specialise in in your final year; what sort of degree you are expecting to get; and what experience you have. Some of the questions will be probing such as why did you stand for departmental representative? What did you have to do as Vice President of your favourite club? Other questions will be open-ended and very difficult to answer. Be prepared to answer questions about your previous employment and to comment on how management could have improved the organisation: show the interviewer that you have your own ideas.

It is almost certain that the interviewer will ask why you have applied for their job so it's well worth preparing an answer. Don't reel off an answer though—at least make it sound like it's off the cuff. They may also assume that you know their company inside out—always do your homework on the company thoroughly before the interview.

Interviewers are looking for your particular strengths and weaknesses. They are testing your ability to communicate. They want to see that you are genuinely enthusiastic about their company and the job they are offering. The



first interview will probably be held in a departmental room if it is on behalf of a 'milk round company'. It will last about 30 minutes which gives just enough time for the interviewer to gauge if you are worth asking back for a second, much longer, interview. Always appear interested (even though you may be bored out of your mind by the questions the interviewer is asking) and remember that he/she will usually have made up his/her mind after the first 5 minutes of the interview—good interviewers spend the next 25 checking out their first impression.

- **Second interview**—most second

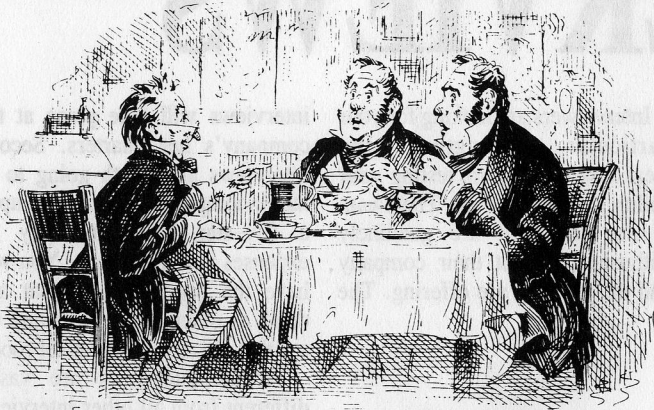
interviews will take place at the company's headquarters. Second interviews are worth going to as larger companies will put you up in a five-star hotel and pay all expenses you may incur. You will have the opportunity to eat and drink as much as you like and try out that jacuzzi in your hotel room!

Second interviews are vastly different from all other interviews you may have attended. You will meet new people, new environments and come up against other enthusiastic, motivated candidates who are after the same job. You may be put through several interviews, intelligence tests, group exercises and talking to a wide range of recent recruits and potential managers.

- **Group exercises**—these are specifically designed to observe how you get on with people and your ability to work as a team. A leader may be appointed and a chosen topic debated while assessors observe how you perform. They are looking for effective contributors who can sway the discussion. This may also be done through role-playing where each person is given a position of responsibility with a role to play. In these situations the case study is unlikely to have any 'right' outcome as the assessors are looking at the way you operate and how effectively you are thinking.

- **Written tests**—there are several sorts of written test. Some test your intelligence while others try to test your personality! You may have to undergo verbal reasoning tests, numerical tests or even motivation tests. It may come as a relief to know that you cannot fail a personality test. These tests, however, are designed to tell you and the employer if you are manager or dustman material. It's always possible to cheat in such tests but you may end up with a job which is totally unsuited to you.

YOU MIGHT MAKE MENSA. BUT WOULD YOU EVER GET INTO ERNST & WHINNEY?



Which Twin is the Liar?

Owing to an obscure physiological trauma at birth, one of these twins has always told the truth, the other has always lied.

You are asked to discover for certain which is which by asking either of them one question.

What is the question?

The Wolf, the Goat and the Cabbage.

On the banks of Loch Linnhe, the local boatman is faced with a wee quandary.

He has undertaken the transport of a wolf, a neighbour's goat and a prize-winning cabbage across to the opposite shore.

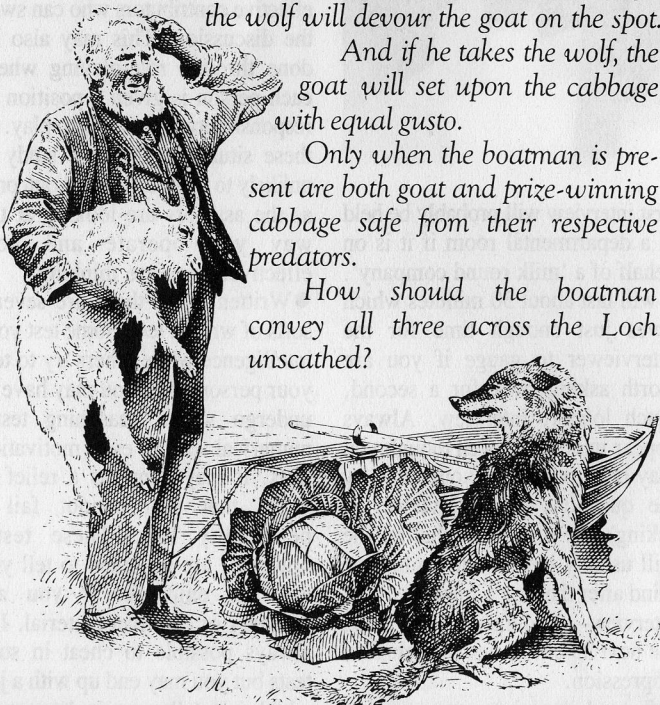
However, his vessel has only enough room to take either the wolf, or the goat, or the cabbage as passenger.

To complicate matters further, if he takes the cabbage, the wolf will devour the goat on the spot.

And if he takes the wolf, the goat will set upon the cabbage with equal gusto.

Only when the boatman is present are both goat and prize-winning cabbage safe from their respective predators.

How should the boatman convey all three across the Loch unscathed?

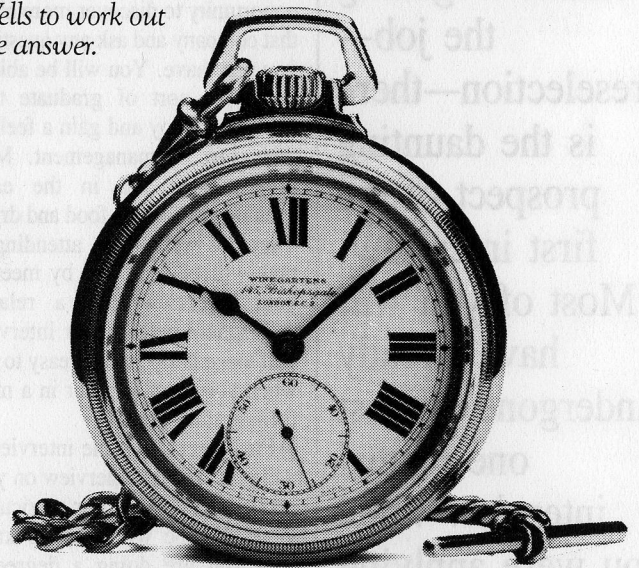


The Stationmaster's Watch.

To while away a few minutes in between trains, the stationmaster at Abergavenny sets himself a little problem.

With two straight lines, can he divide the face of his pocket watch so that the sums of the numbers in each part are equal?

He has until the arrival of the 10.18 from Llandrindod Wells to work out the answer.



As all this might suggest, Ernst & Whinney are looking for graduate recruits with a somewhat unconventional turn of mind.

Which is to be expected, really. We are a somewhat unconventional firm of accountants.

We see our business role going far, far beyond the job of auditing accounts.

We like to increase our clients' profits, not simply tot them up.

So we will expect you to have a brain of unusual power and imagination.

The kind that can apply itself to seemingly impossible problems and come up with brilliantly obvious solutions.

You think you like the sound of Ernst & Whinney? We think we might like the sound of you.

Contact Tim Curry on 01-928 2000.

As well as having the answers to all the puzzles here, he may well have the solution to your career.

E&W Ernst & Whinney
Accountants, Advisers, Consultants.

Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU. Tel: 01-928 2000.

CAREERS CASE STUDY



ACCOUNTANCY

Retail & Management

The Institute of Chartered Accountants requires you to train, under contract, with an authorised training office of chartered accountants. During training you gain practical experience and prepare for the professional exams.

This contract requires the firm to provide experience, training and to arrange tuition.

The firm will usually pay all your tuition fees for your first attempt at the exams and gives you study leave to prepare for them throughout the contract.

Success in retail management is immediately visible in the High Street. The astonishing growth of groups in various sectors of the retail market reflects the ambitions, organisational skills and good fortune of their senior management teams and the men and women who lead them.

Habitat, founded by Terence Conran, drew its strength from his background and instincts in design; Kwikfit-Euro Exhausts grew rapidly under Tom Farmer and his hard Scottish leadership; Rymans was transformed by Jennifer D'Abo and is now part of the Athena group, headed by Terry Maher, whose personal background is accountancy.

Equally striking have been the

reversals in ailing giants, notably the turnaround achieved at Woolworths by Geoff Mulcalvy and his team. Each of these successful companies and indeed every supermarket group, department store and independent retail chain relies on its managers and their skills for the continuing efficiency of current trading and future expansion.

There are undoubtedly many opportunities for those with management and professional skills and who can demonstrate their willingness to use and develop their talents in the retail sector. Larger companies such as Sainsburys and Marks and Spencers have proven and respected internal management training schemes, many with

graduate-level entry. Other skills can be studied externally, leading to qualifications with professional organisations, such as the Institute of Personal Management, IPM, or the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, CIMA.

Experience, training or individual aptitude in the retail sector will ultimately lead to specialisation in such areas as distribution, sales, marketing, purchasing, market research, personnel, finance or administration. These aspects are similar to those encountered in all other business organisations. The pressures for performance and results do tend to be more intense and this is reflected in the rewards and bonuses for those who succeed.

The Pros & Cons of Accounting

So how do you summarise the pros and cons of a career in accounting in such a short article? A good start would be to forget the pros, as they are dealt with in great detail in the reams of recruitment literature that you've no doubt been avidly studying (or should that be half-heartedly skimming?).

The first problem to be faced is that the traditional starting time of September seems to fall at the start of the slackest period in the audit calendar, with the result that the new graduate may well spend a depressing proportion of his or her first few months doing the office photocopying, filing and other mundane tasks. Whatever the various firms' brochures and adverts may say, everyone I've spoken to has been through the same enthusiasm-sapping phase (that should be consoling, but it isn't).

Once you escape from the office things improve, but only slightly. For the first year much of the work



is repetitive and dull, but you learn fast and responsibility should follow quickly together with more interesting work. Variety can be a great help, but unless you are lucky you may have to push for it.

Possibly the hardest thing to take is the amount of academic work that has to be done. Up to 15 hours studying a week may not sound too hard, but it can become difficult to maintain a reasonable social life, especially when increased commitments at work start cutting into evenings and occasionally weekends. At the end of all this one faces the prospect of sitting time-pressured exams for which the pass-rates are ridiculously low.

This may seem to be a rather jaundiced view of accountancy, but I would prefer to think of it as realistic—after all, most trainees think fairly seriously about leaving at some point in their first year. Some do go, either because they aren't motivated enough to get through, or simply because they realise that they chose the wrong career, but most stay. You only have to look at the opportunities open to qualified chartered accountants to understand why.

HOW TO IMPRESS YOUR POTENTIAL EMPLOYER

Application Forms

If you really want the job you are applying for then you must impress your potential employer with your letter of application, application form and/or curriculum vitae. There are obvious do's and don'ts such as legibility and appearance—try to type your application (although some application forms ask you expressly to fill them in in your own handwriting) and lay it out sensibly.

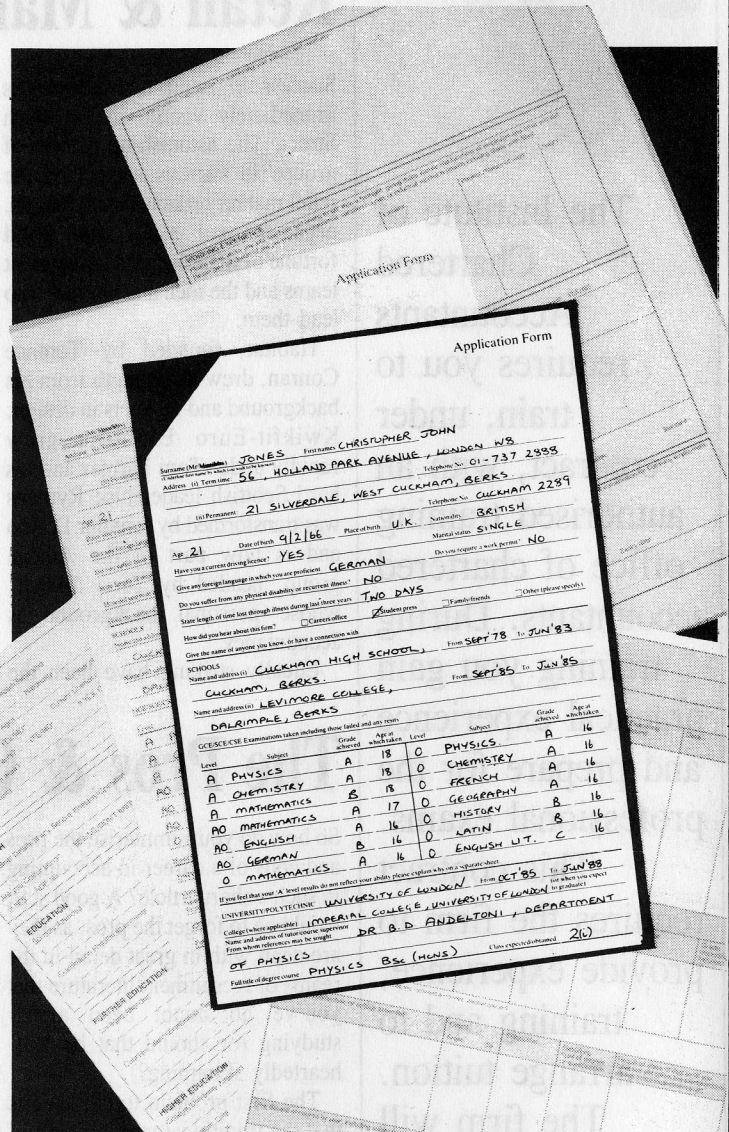
- Always read any information on the job you are applying for—find out about the company and the kind of people they employ. Larger companies will produce recruitment brochures which are ideal for this information. Most brochures can be obtained by telephoning the company or sending a stamped addressed envelope. The careers library on Level 3 of the Sheffield Building has a large number of these brochures which you can browse through at your leisure.

- Read the form carefully before filling it in. It's a good idea to take a photocopy of it first and fill that in before completing the final copy. (This may sound tedious but you'll always remember things you should have put in after you've filled up the space allowed!) The copy will come in useful before you go into the interview so that you don't contradict yourself.

- You should answer all the questions the form asks even if some do not apply to you. It is better to write N/A (not applicable) than leave a blank.

- When answering open questions such as 'why are you applying for this job?', try not to use clichés. Employers are looking for that someone who is slightly different; someone who can use their brain in an original way. Most employers will use such questions to sort the 'definites' from the 'maybes'. For the same reason, never look at a friend's application form to check what they're putting. Two forms with the same ideas stick out a mile.

- Always include as much relevant information as you can. List all your O- and A-levels as most employers still regard them as important. List all your vacation



experience—even if you only worked at the till in the Union Snack Bar; it still shows that you can use mental arithmetic.

- The questions such as 'what are your leisure interests?' are designed to discover your practical skills, leadership abilities or if you like working as a team. When answering these questions, think of what attributes the job needs and gear your answers towards them. You should never give negative information about yourself—always

sell yourself.

- As appearance is particularly important, don't include spelling mistakes or crossing-out. You should try to lay out your answers well in the area available—never put all the words crammed at the top of the white space.

If you are not applying for a specific job then you may have to include your own application form. It is best to model this on one of the forms you can obtain from the College Careers Office.

C.V. Curriculum Vitae

Your curriculum vitae is one of the most important ways to make a good first impression. It is always asked for if a company does not have its own application form. It is useful for speculative applications and can be photocopied when you are making multiple applications.

A CV should be concise and not more than two pages long. Employers who have hundreds of CVs to read through will never get past the second page. Again, as with application forms, the appearance is essential: Either use a typewriter, word processor or have it typeset. The last two methods have the added advantage that small changes can be made in order to stress different points.

There should be five sections to your CV.

- **Personal details**—this should include your name, address, date of birth, contact numbers and marital status. If you are a foreign student you must give details about working permits.

- **Education**—This is best listed in chronological order although reverse chronology is a good way of emphasising your degree course. Mention the major subjects studied at degree level as well as your O- and A-level subjects but avoid boring lists packed with too much information.

- **Previous employment**—you are not expected to have vast experience as an undergraduate but all previous jobs should be listed. You should try to include a little more information about the jobs you have had which have any relevance to the one you are applying for.

- **Leisure interests and achievements**—this is your chance to sell your abilities. Employers don't want one-dimensional people

CURRICULUM VITAE	
NAME:	Christopher John Jones
ADDRESS:	56 Holland Park Avenue, London W8.
HOME ADDRESS:	21, Silverdale, West Cuckham, Berkshire.
TELEPHONE:	01-737 2888
DATE OF BIRTH:	9th February 1966
PLACE OF BIRTH:	Berkshire, UK
MARITAL STATUS:	Single
EDUCATION	
1978-1983	Cuckham High School, Cuckham, Berkshire.
1983	GCE 'O' levels in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, French, Geography, History, Latin and English Literature.
1984	GCE 'AO' levels in English and German.
1983-1985	Levimore College, Dalriddle, Berkshire.
1985	GCE 'A' levels in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics.
1985-1988	University of London—Imperial College.
1988	BSc (Hons) degree in Physics specialising in atmospheric.
VACATION EMPLOYMENT	
Summer 1986	
Employer:	Imperial College
Duties:	Barman
OTHER SKILLS	
	Clean driving licence
INTERESTS	
	Media —have worked on the College newspaper and broadcast regularly on Imperial College Radio.
	Squash —member of IC Squash Team.
	Debating —Have led debates on such topics as 'This house believes that no embryo should be aborted'.
REFEREES	
Dr B D Andelton, Physics Department, Imperial College, University of London.	Mr J D Henryss, 10 Dove Lane, Cuckham, Berkshire.

who come across as boring academics. You should mention any Union clubs you are an active member of and any posts you have held eg Union President. Try to include anything which shows that you are capable of getting a job done or of taking initiatives.

- **References**—employers' will often want to ask a third party about you. It is best to include the name of two referees at the bottom of your CV. Always ask your intended referees if they mind being asked to give a reference. One of your referees should be in a senior position such as your personal tutor or head of department, who has worked with you for the last few years.

Application letters

Always apply for a job by letter and use this letter to tell your prospective employer why you want the job and your relevant skills. If you are responding to an advertisement which details the person they are looking for, respond to every point and give relevant evidence. The letter should be brief, but informative, and should be kept down to one A4 page. Employers will use this letter to judge what sort of person you are and how well you express yourself on paper.

FELIX CV SERVICE

Most CV agencies charge £25 upwards to prepare and typeset your curriculum vitae. FELIX offer a special CV service to any member of Imperial College Union. For around £5 we can take your handwritten CV and turn it into a typeset version to make your CV stand out from the rest. If you'd like a quality curriculum vitae just pop into the FELIX Office any Friday morning and ask for Judith.

...until you start... need background information... want help with interview techniques...
...A CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT... you should have... and...

EMPLOYING YOURSELF

DBSS—how a group of Imperial students decided to go it alone

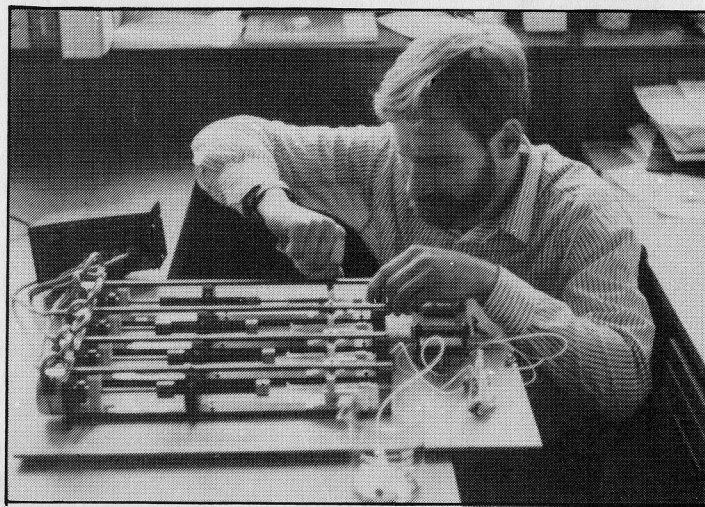
Spot a need, and fill it: this is the essence of starting up your own business.

The launch of the DBSS Liquid Handling System illustrates this option as carried out by three students—

Patrick Shaw-Stewart of IC, James Duguid from Loughborough University, and Peter Baldock, also at IC.

The idea for the business originated when models of a motorised syringe device developed by Shaw-Stewart for his M.Phil. project in biotechnology were requested by researchers at Imperial and Sheffield University. Shaw-Stewart

the DBSS Syringe Drive Unit, Peristaltic Drive Unit, and Motorised Valve Unit—controlled by a computer running the software, sTALK, which is provided as part of the package. The hardware can be linked to almost any computer;



decided to set up a business and picked as partners an ergonomist, Duguid, and an electronics expert, Baldock—who is still working on his Ph.D. at Imperial.

They decided to form a partnership rather than a limited company in order to avoid large amounts of red tape and the corresponding waste of time and money. As long as they were VAT registered, they believe, their credibility will not be improved by their having 'Limited' status.

Starting on a small scale, each partner contributed an initial £1000. The aim was to limit the need for external funding, so that the fledgling company could grow in its own time. Duguid and Baldock went on the Enterprise Allowance

the software should run on any IBM-compatible microcomputer. Up to sixty-four devices can be run from a single PC, and continuous flow applications can be handled with varying degrees of accuracy depending on which of the devices are used. The whole system has been highly praised by Dr Dennis Meader at Imperial: 'This system outperforms systems from the mainline manufacturers costing many times as much,' he says, and adds that the multi-syringe configuration allows a greater experimental flexibility than possible by any other means. A recipe for success, they hope. Scheme, which also provided a useful source of advice and information through the

Government's Small Firm Advisory Service. Shaw-Stewart had a job and devoted his time after work to the business.

The product they are making is a system designed to increase accuracy, eliminate errors and save researchers' time in chemical experiments. Half the sales so far have been to large industrial companies, the other half to universities. The partners prefer a low key style, depending for sales on direct approaches to the customers or on interest generated by reports in the laboratory press. The lack of extensive advertising or 'marketing hype' means that the product can be sold for a quarter to a third of the price of equivalent competing products.

As for technical details: the system comprises three devices—

SELF EMPLOYMENT

Most graduates at present seem to want, and eventually enter, regularly paid employment. But in the future it is quite possible that ever more graduates will adopt alternative occupations rather than conventional forms of employment. This is largely due to technology changes which are beginning to change the pattern and organisation of work. So you may start thinking of 'alternative' work-styles either because you can't find a job, or simply because another pattern of working and living appears more satisfying.

The main alternative to paid employment is self-employment, either as an entrepreneur running your own business or perhaps as a member of a cooperative group. An unemployed graduate may find that some types of self-employment require too much capital, experience or expertise to be feasible, but there are other types which require only imagination to think up a viable idea, and time and effort to put it into practice. Sources of information, advice and available assistance are listed in the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services booklet 'Self Employment and Alternative Work Styles'.

EMPLOYING YOURSELF

KEEPING UP WITH HOLOGRAPHY

Choosing a career is never easy, but for Sunny Bains it was easier than for most. Instead of wandering around Careers Fair looking for a job that seemed suitable in the right part of the country with a decent company, Sunny decided she wanted to be different. So, in the middle of her second year, she decided what her real ambition was: to combine her enthusiasm for journalism with her love for holography.

By the end of January 1987 "Holographics International" (Hi) was an idea. By the end of March it had a name and a post office box, notepaper and business cards. Getting the name was actually more difficult than it sounds. Sunny had to prove to Companies House in Cardiff that the magazine would be truly international before they would give her permission to use the name, due to some 1825 law. Fortunately, with most of her readers expected to be in the United States, this was not a problem. In May, letters were sent out to prospective advertisers. In June letters were sent to the United States where Sunny was going to promote the magazine. The holographic community seemed enthusiastic and by August Hi had acquired a reasonable amount of material. Paris and Cambridge provided a few more contacts and by October 1st, just about all the copy was in. Pasting up was done in five days flat and on October 19th the magazine was launched with smoked salmon and champagne.

Though it may sound straightforward, there were a lot of difficult decisions to be made about the price, the run and the quality of the product Sunny and her deputy editor were about to produce. They had to choose a run which was big enough to interest advertisers but small enough for them to be able to send them out. They needed a price that would cover costs while not being too expensive even for students to buy and, most of all, they needed to find a printer who would give them a good enough deal for them to afford colour, once they had decided that it was necessary. Advertising rates had to be considered: were they too high or too low? What incentives should they give to advertisers? Was it a good idea to send the magazines out free? Who should they send it to?

Who did the advertisers want them to send it to? How heavy could the magazine be for the postage to be affordable?

On the subject of money, Sunny said simply, "I'm not getting paid at the moment and not really able to temp enough to make ends meet.



"available from the IC Bookshop!"

Obviously, this will change should enough people buy the magazine."

The whole thing might never have happened had Sunny not been at Imperial as opposed to almost any other college. Sunny explained "It's not just a question of Imperial having good research projects in holography, although that is why I came to IC in the first place. In most colleges the student newspaper is run by students in the art faculties, and they have a tendency to pull rank over science and engineering students, and I do not believe there

is any other student newspaper with the facilities FELIX has. Without FELIX I would never have gotten the experience to make Hi happen. "Not only that, but FELIX staff will be playing an important role in her publication in the future, some of them will be staff writers for Hi, and, once Hi can afford it, they may even get paid. And Sunny is not the only one who owes her career to experience gained at FELIX. There are many ex-writers and editors of FELIX who now have jobs in science journalism. Pallab Ghosh, editor in the academic year beginning 1983 will be working for New Scientist as of next month. David Rowe (1984) and Steve Marshall (1980) are now doing freelance subediting and writing. Mike J L Williams (1974) and Richard Weissenberg (staff, 1984) are in Advertising and PR. Mark Smith (1982) is now writing for publishing company Morgan Grampian. Since 1985, however, there has been an explosion of FELIX staff who have successfully entered journalism. Of Hugh Southey's (1985) staff, 7 are now working for publishing companies as writers and editors, although Hugh Southey is not now in journalism. He is becoming a lawyer. The success of Imperial College in turning out that supposedly rare breed, scientists who can write, can largely be put down to the fact that at FELIX students have a sabbatical editor who can help them to improve their skills, as well as access to professional standard equipment. Whether Sunny's venture will actually succeed or not is impossible to tell, although initial signs are good. If it does, she will have built an interesting and challenging career from almost nothing. Even if it doesn't she will have fulfilled one of her ambitions: to be an editor and publisher before turning 20.

How long before the milkround turns sour?

There's one thing a spell at University always guarantees. Plenty of 'milkround' visits from company executives.

Each and every one of them has well-paid jobs to offer.

But before signing on the dotted line, think very carefully.

Will the promises turn out to be empty? Will the job suit your particular abilities and skills?

These are not the sort of questions you can answer in 3 minutes. So why not take 3 years to decide your future – as an Army Officer?

On completion of your training at Sandhurst you will be commissioned as a Lieutenant earning £11,074.

Naturally you will learn how to command and care for a group of bright young soldiers and to handle our sophisticated weapons and equipment.

And if you are posted abroad at short

notice to lead soldiers in unfamiliar surroundings you'd have to cope.

No wonder many leading industrialists regard an Army Commission as the best management training a young man or woman can have.

Whether you make the Army your long-term career or leave earlier is up to you.

Either way it promises not to sour your future. Quite the opposite in fact.

And you'll gain unrivalled executive training at our expense.

So if you need a little more time to decide, see your Careers Staff and pick up an Introduction Form.

Through this we will arrange for a Liaison Officer to see you at your University, Polytechnic, or College of Higher Education.



Army Officer

CAREERS CASE STUDY AND DUTY FREE FAGS!

For many graduates, and undergraduates, considering their future career, the prospect of life in the armed services is not one which instantly springs to mind. However, the armed forces continue to admit a greater and greater proportion of graduate officers, and the opportunities which the services offer make them an attractive option in the hunt for a job.

First, however, it is best to point out that all three branches have common features which the would-be applicant must be aware of. Most obvious, is the realisation that they are primarily 'fighting services'. Medical and physical fitness are most important, moving hand in hand with a fundamental commitment to the aims of the Services, the Crown as Head of the Armed Forces, defence of British territory, the support of NATO, and the implementation of Government policy. Clearly, those with set political ideas which they put above all else need not apply. Membership of the armed forces also carries with it an automatic acceptance of Service Law and discipline. Once you take on this sort of responsibility you will take on not just a job, but a whole way of life. It makes great demands on the individual, but the rewards can be enormous.

Officers are managers of men. Leadership ability is not inherent in all. However, if it is not immediately apparent that you are the sort of person to lead, this should not discourage you. If you have the capability, it will be brought out in training.

There is a social and communal life centred around the Officers' Mess which many find attractive, as well as almost unlimited sport and leisure pursuits. Frequently changing working environments, undeniable comradeship, and a sense of belonging are all valuable considerations in looking at a career in the forces.

The lack of a settled family life

is a problem which may not be considered at first, but is bound to cause great strain in later life.

This may not affect the new graduate, but the sudden immersion in a highly disciplined setting, and the harsh regime of basic training, are all barriers he or she must overcome.

The Royal Navy

Eighty-seven per cent of this country's imports and exports are moved by sea. The role of the Royal Navy is of vital importance in maintaining this life blood.

The sea is the major difference between the navy and the other services. Life at sea is radically different from any other way of life. For long periods, you are living and working in what is essentially an alien environment.

In no other career are you forced to know your employees as well, have such a huge range of professional knowledge, or take on so much responsibility for your fellow man at such an early age. With as many as a thousand servicemen on a single ship, the need for this is clear.

For the graduate entrant to the Royal Navy, training starts at Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth, Devon. After an initial six week new entry period, during which sheer fatigue rather than mental pressure is at the fore, you will be taught all aspects of seamanship, engineering, navigation, and the basics that all naval officers must know. At the end of the first thirteen weeks, all entrants, except pilots, go on to spend nine weeks in the Dartmouth training ship, learning how ratings live, and reinforcing the lessons of past weeks. Graduates go on to a Fleet Board, after which they are streamed off into their specialisations.

There are opportunities for engineers in the weapon's engineering and marine engineering branch, any graduate can join the executive branch as a Seaman Officer, and in administration as a Supply Officer. Many graduates go into the Instructor Officer specialisation, the 'schoolies' as they are known.

Commissions can commit you to three years service or up to twenty-two years depending on how certain

you feel about the job. Promotion up to Lieutenant-Commander is automatic, and 65% of Officers progress past this stage.

The Royal Navy offers the greatest prospect of travel in any of the armed services. It is more a way of life than any other, and can give the greatest returns.

The Royal Air Force

Flying, and aircraft is what the Royal Air Force is concerned with. Whatever the chosen branch within the profession, a strong interest in aviation is essential. Aircrew pilots and navigators are in great demand and hold a crucial position. Team work is still at the fore though, an RAF station with two squadrons of aircraft can be staffed by more than 1000 personnel. With the rapidly changing state of aviation technology, the RAF is strongly in the graduate market, and graduate entry is on the increase.

Application can be made initially through the University Air Squadron. There are sixteen of these, with a total of 689 undergraduate flying students, although as in all aspects of RAF entry, competition is fierce.

Those accepted for entry into officer training, having been successful at the aircrew selection centre in Biggin Hill, go on to the Initial Training Course for officers at the Royal Air Force College,

Cranwell in Lincolnshire, for eighteen weeks. It is a short and highly intensive course, incorporating general and character training to enable the new recruits to fill posts successfully after their specialist training.

At this point, the various branches split up to pursue their own specialisations. There are opportunities for fighter controllers, engineers, supply officers, on top of aircrew. As with all services, the graduate assumes his professional and management rôles at an early stage in his career, and the associated responsibility for millions of pounds worth of equipment. Promotion is rapid, with squadron leader rank being attained by about the age of thirty, and further advancement probable.

The opportunities for women in the RAF abound. Half the air traffic control, secretarial and fighter control posts are occupied by

women. Women graduates are also needed in the education and engineering areas.

The sheer cost of training calls for the highest standards of achievement. Total interdependence is the hallmark of operating aircraft. Consequently there is, once again, a high communal spirit within the RAF. The standard of training received places you in a good position not only within the service, but upon leaving as well.

The Army

The major problem facing the graduate about to apply for a commission in the army is the vast multiplicity of corps and regiments in which one can work. The army is subdivided into these 'family' units, and fierce pride is actively encouraged within each of these units. An applicant does not apply to the army in general, but must get 'sponsorship' or 'cap badging' from a regiment, and is given familiarisation with that regiment before his or her RCB (Regular Commissions Board), the army interview.

If you are successful at your RCB, you will go on to a twenty-eight week graduate course at Sandhurst. Once again, great physical demands are made during training, aiming to produce both physical and intellectual competence under stress.

The army officer's traditional aim is to rise to command of his regiment by the age of about forty. This type of staff work can occur after about four or five years of service, and the army officer's career then alternates between staff work and tours of active duty within the regiment. This lends great variety to a career in the army.

Once again, an army officer is required to develop an 'esprit de corps', be gregarious, and have the capability of making decisions in quickly changing situations. Foreign travel is almost guaranteed, but you should expect to be sent to serve in Northern Ireland and be prepared for this.

It is the characteristic of caring for others reinforced by the family atmosphere of the regiment which is at the core of things. This sense of belonging serves to counter balance a way of life full of travel and family moves.

WHICH WAY NOW?

Your student days are nearly over and you're looking for the next step.

Hewlett-Packard may have the answer.

Come and find out what makes one of the world's leading high tech companies stand out from the rest.

See us at the Roadshow on 16 November 1987 at 6 pm in the Ante Room, Sherfield Building.

In the meantime, pick up our brochure and an application form from your careers office.

Alternatively, write to Lynda Jones, Hewlett-Packard Limited, Miller House, The Ring, Bracknell, Berks RG12 1XN.

Hewlett-Packard is an equal opportunity employer.



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PACKARD**

The Hewlett Packard way

WHO?

GST Professional Services is an independent systems and software house.

We provide a wide range of computer related software and hardware implementation and consultancy services for industry and commerce.

HOW?

In order to adapt to our clients' changing needs and circumstances we adopt a responsive and flexible style making use of highly responsible and motivated staff.

GST

Professional Services

WHAT?

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- Technical Application Software
 - Systems Software
 - Microprocessors
 - Electronics
- Engineering Science

YOU?

If you'd like to know more about working with us make contact now with Dr R.F. Syms at GST Professional Services Limited.

Unit 209 The Science Park, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 4GZ. Telephone 0223 863355

A POSTGRADUATE COURSE (BUT ONLY IF YOU'RE SURE)

You're finishing your first degree.

You've enjoyed your chosen subject, done fairly well in all your exams and you're on for a reasonably good degree. Your first few years at University have been intellectually stimulating and enjoyable, so you'd like to spend some more time at college.

You certainly don't feel ready to start a job quite yet, so you think about doing a postgraduate course. Why not, you think?

Well, one very good reason for *not* doing a postgraduate degree is that you can't think of anything better. Once the PG money has run out, you are going to be in exactly the same situation again, but, (if you're lucky) with an extra qualification of dubious value, or without one (if you're not). In this case, to have tried and failed is worse than to have never have tried at all.

One even worse reason for doing a PhD is falling prey to flattery. You may feel that you're immune, but come July and the degree results are out, and famous professors ask if you would like to do a degree with them; it is all too easy to become overwhelmed by pride. Professors have reasons of their own for wanting PhD students, some of which are not at all attractive.

If you have enjoyed yourself as an undergraduate, consider whether the things you have enjoyed will continue as a PG. Postgraduate life is many miles away from that of undergraduates; most of the surprises are pleasant, but be ready for some shocks. Think, for example, whether you could live for another three years on the money you get at the moment (a PG grant is no more per week than an undergraduate gets), especially when it comes to accommodation; how much has accommodation risen in the last three years, and what nasty shocks have HM Government got in store? You can say bye bye now to housing benefit.

Before you get the idea that I am dead set against PG's, there are some positive reasons why you should continue.

Perhaps you have some special interest gained as an undergraduate, and you want to continue in this field. Many a Masters course caters for this need (eg Astrophysics).

The most obvious choice is vocational; you actually need the

qualification for your chosen career. You may feel it will be easier to get a job with the extra letters after your name. You may want to change to another field (eg Information Technology). Beware, however, as admissions tutors can be prone to exaggerate how vocational their courses are. Be sure to ask what their previous scholars are now doing; whether they have jobs and in which areas. You could,



of course, ask the employers in your chosen field (Careers Fair is a good time for this), or talk to a careers advisor.

The important thing when deciding about postgraduate study is to have positive reasons for staying at university. Enjoying the atmosphere is not enough, and is unlikely to provide enough motivation to get you through the course. Not only is this a waste of your time, but it stops someone who is interested in taking your place.

If you are thinking about a PG course, then there are two things that will really help you. The first is to get hold of a copy of the 'Postgraduate Handbook'. This is a booklet produced by postgraduates at IC that gives advice and

information about postgraduate life. Obviously what is written is biased towards life at IC, but much of it applies to other places as well. It is due to be published before Christmas, but for those in a hurry there are plenty of copies of last year's edition available (free!) in the IC Union office. Last year's edition contains information on courses, choosing a supervisor, money as a PG, and personal views of PG life from all sides of the fence. It also contains useful information on life as a woman PG, and life as an overseas PG at Imperial.

Secondly, you must get about and ask current PG's, preferably in your chosen field, about PG life. Sit them down, buy them a burger or a few drinks. You will learn more like this than by reading a hundred books.

OK, so you have your heart set on a PG course. What courses are available? The Careers Office in Sheffield keeps a reference copy of 'Graduate Studies', which lists all the PhD, Masters and many of the Diploma courses available in the UK. They also have information on studying abroad. Ask around in your department. Consider whether you want to stay here, or move away.

The timetable: you can leave it really late (June even), but don't be surprised if you ending up taking an enforced year out! To be safe, start making enquiries now. For most PhD's and Masters, the prudent apply around Christmas, but for many vocational courses like teaching, you will need to apply now. The main deadlines are those to do with applying for grants: see the Careers service and PG Handbook for more details.

One last bit of advice; being a PG can be great, and if you think you may be even remotely interested, apply. If you get an offer of a place, you can always turn it down, and it may well save you waiting a year because you dithered for too long.

CAREERS FAIR

The Imperial College Careers Fair, taking place on Tuesday 27th October and Wednesday 28th October, is one of the largest events of its kind in the UK. It is an opportunity to meet the representatives of 100 companies in the informal setting of the Great Hall and JCR. There are accountancy firms, pharmaceutical producers, small business advisory services, government departments, mining engineers, software houses...all degree courses are represented.

To offer students the most variety 50 different organisations are participating each day. It is therefore definitely worthwhile coming on both the Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Fair offers final year students the ability to begin the 'milk-round' by collecting all their literature from one convenient location. Many of the organisations offer vacation work-experience and so first and second year students are also invited to attend. Also providing advice and information will be the Careers Advisory Service.

Neville Nelkon

- A Aeronautical Engineering
- B Applied Biology
- C Biochemistry
- D Biology
- E Biotechnology
- F Chemical Engineering
- G Chemistry
- H Chemistry & Biochemistry
- I Civil Engineering
- J Computer Science
- K Electrical & Electronic Engineering
- L Environmental Technology
- M Geology
- N Management Science
- O Mathematics
- P Mechanical Engineering
- Q Metallurgy & Materials
- R Microbiology
- S Mineral Process Engineering
- T Mining Engineering
- U Mining Geology
- V Petroleum Engineering
- W Physics
- X Plant Science
- Y Social & Economic Studies
- Z Software Engineering
- * Zoology

Wednesday 28th October Great Hall

Company	Stand No
Allied Steel & Wire	46
Steel making & processing FJKNPQ	
Arthur Anderson	47
Management consultants All departments	
Barclays Bank	49
Domestic & international banking All departments	
Bechtel	39
Engineering design and construction services to the process plant industries FJKPV	
Building Research Establishment	37
Research in building construction and the prevention and control of fire FGIJKLMOPQW	
Chevron	28
Oil and gas production All departments	
Data General	26
Computer manufacture— software development, sales, marketing, service and support JOWZ	
G.C.H.Q.	32
Communications research and development JKOWZ	
Grant Thornton	31
Chartered accountants All departments	
Hays Allan	33
Chartered accountants All departments	
ICL	25
Information systems All departments	
Johnson Matthey	48
Specialists in precious metals and advanced materials FGJKPQW	
KLA Instruments	35
Production of high-speed image processing systems for producing micro-circuits JKOWZ	

Lutron Electronics	24
Design and manufacture of lighting controls and systems. All positions in the USA KPW	
Marconi Research	30
Research in radar, avionics, communications, IT, robotics and electronic materials, components and devices GJKOPQWZ	
Noble Lowndes	43
Pension administration and actuarial All departments esp. O	
Northern Telecom	38
Telecommunications/data systems manufacture JKNWXYZ	
Perkin Elmer	45
Manufacturer of advanced analytical instrumentation for medical, industrial and academic fields GHJKOPWZ	
Philips Electronics	40
Electronic components, consumer electronics, electronics business and professional systems GJKOPWZ	
Plessey	34
Telecommunications, electronic systems, defence electronics and semiconductor technology AJKNOPQW	
Rolls Royce	50
Nuclear steam-raising plant for navy submarines FGJKOPQWZ	
Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers	36
Responsible for advanced military hardware AFIKPQWZ	
Scicon	29
Computing services All departments	
Teaching as a Career Unit	27
Tax Inspectorate	41
Administering direct taxes and determining personal and business liabilities All departments	
Timken	23
Manufacture of taper roller bearings JKNOPQWZ	

Tioxide	44
Manufacture of titanium dioxide and allied products FGJKOPW	
Ukae-Winfrith	42
Research in nuclear power and safety. Oil recovery and reservoir studies GJPW	
Junior Common Room Tuesday 27th October 1987	
Air Products	4
Industrial gases and plant manufacture All departments	
Arthur Young	5
Chartered accountants All departments	
BNR	3
Telecommunications research and development JK	
BOC	1
Industrial and medical gases, medical equipment and vacuum technology BCDEFGHJKNPWYZ	
British Gas	6
Supply of gas FGJKLMNQOPTVWY	
British Nuclear Fuels	9
Production and reprocessing of nuclear fuel JGIKLMNOPQWY	
Civil Service—Science Division	14
All departments	
Conoco	20
Oil exploration and production All departments esp. numerate	
Deloitte Haskins & Sells	7
Management consultants All departments	
Ernst & Whinney	15
Chartered accountants All departments	
ICI	2
Chemical manufacture All departments	
PA Consulting Group	13
Management and technology consultant All departments	

Careers

Pilkington 16 Glass manufacture All departments	Courtaulds 32 Manufacture of fibres, chemicals, paints and packaging All departments	Royal Engineers 34 All aspects of practical engineering in wartime and peacetime scenario IJKMOPQTUW	Lloyds Bank 10 Banking and financial services All departments
Procter & Gamble 11 Development of soap, detergent, healthcare and food products BCDFGHLQR*	Dow Chemical Co 35 FGHIJ	R Watson & Sons 47 Consulting actuaries FGIJKOPW	Logica 5 Custom-built systems, software products and systems kernels and consultancy and project management IJKOPZ
Rowntree 19 International food group All departments esp. FJKPZ	Esso 49 Oil and chemical production and manufacture All departments, esp FGJKPQVZ	Schlumberger Cambridge Research 39 Oil research AFGIKOPQSTUVW	Marconi Defence Systems 8 Design, development and manufacture of advanced systems for electronic warning and counter measures, radar missile guidance and satellite communications JKOWZ
Royal Air Force 10 National defence All departments	GEC Avionics 25 Design, development and manufacture of aircraft electronic systems and allied technology JKNOWY	Sun Alliance 38 General insurance, business development, accounting, investment analysis, actuarial work and systems analysis All departments esp. JO	Metropolitan Police 7 All departments
Royal Navy, Royal Marines & WRNS 8 Maritime defence All departments	Gencor 27 Mining of gold, platinum and coal FGKMPQSTU	Touche Ross 37 Chartered accountants All departments	M-O Valve Co 9 Manufacture of electronic components and devices FGKQPW
Schlumberger Electronics 22 Electronic equipment DGJKOPWZ	Hewlett Packard 26 Computer and electronic instrumentation JKO	Unilever 30 Manufacture consumer goods, including detergents, food and toiletry products All departments	Mobil Oil 19 Exploration, refining and marketing of oil FGIJKMNOPQSTUVWZ
Shell 18 Oil, gas and chemical industry All departments	HM Govt Communications Centre 33 Design and development of electronic and communication equipment KW	Wednesday 28th October 1987 Junior Common Room	National Audit Office 17 External auditors to central government, quasi-bodies and some international organisations All departments
Spicer & Pegler 21 Chartered accountants All departments	Mars 28 Manufacture of food products. Also electronics, drink systems, computer services and market research All departments	British Petroleum 12 Oil and natural energy resources group FGIJKMNOPQSTUVWZ	Ove Arup 21 Consulting engineers and architects IKP
STC 12 Communications and information systems All departments esp JKOPWZ	MOD Science Group 43 Research development and implementation of new defence technology ACFGIJKOPQVWZ	British Telecom 14 Provision of national and international telecommunications service All departments	Price Waterhouse 22 Management consultants All departments
Systems Designers 17 International software consultancy AJKOWZ	National Physical Lab 46 NPL is the UK national standards laboratory, also undertaking research in physics, engineering materials and information technology GJKOPWZ	Electricity Council Research Centre 4 Research in support of Area Electricity Boards FGKOPQW	Reckitt & Colman 15 Manufacture food, wire, toiletries, pharmaceuticals, industrial pigments and artists materials All departments
Tuesday 27th October 1987 Great Hall	Peat Marwick McLintock 42 Chartered accountants and management consultants All departments	Foster Wheeler Energy 13 Process plant engineering contractors FIJKP	Ricardo 16 Consulting engineers to the engine manufacturing industry—wide covering engine research, design and development AJKPZ
British Coal 45 All departments	Penny & Giles Blackwood 48 Marketing, design and manufacture of precision electro/mechanical instrumentation AKPW	GEC Research 1 Research and development AIKOPQ	Small Firms Service 18 Gives advice and information to people starting and running a small business All departments
British Steel 50 All departments	Pilkington Electro-Optical Division 23 Design, development and manufacture of electro-optical systems for defence, communication and medical fields AJKOPQWZ	Glaxo Group Research 20 Research, development, manufacture and marketing of ethical pharmaceutical products BCDEFGHJR	United Biscuits 8 Manufacture of confectionary and frozen foods. Restaurateurs especially fast food and destination sectors All departments
Cadbury Schweppes 24 Research, development and manufacture of a wide range of products All departments	Price Waterhouse Chartered Accountants All departments	Eurotherm 3 Design, manufacture and marketing of electronic and related products for industry JKP	
Cargill UK 41 Commodity trading and processing All departments		Jones Long Wootton 2 Chartered Surveyors All departments	
Chartered Accountant Student Introduction Service 44 All departments		Kodak 11 Photographic materials manufacturer All departments	
CEGB 40 Electrically generation and transmission All departments			
Civil Service-Technology Div 36 Engineering and surveying AFIJKPQWZ			
Coopers & Lybrand 31 Chartered accountants and management consultants All departments			

Which partnership was selected to advise on the flotations of British Gas, the British Airports Authority and Rolls Royce?



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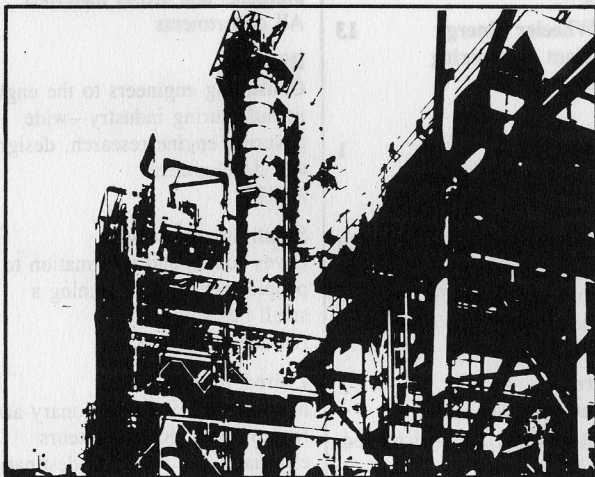
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Engineering

CONTROL & ELECTRICAL MECHANICAL

Genesis

The opinion article on genesis, life, the universe and everything in last week's FELIX would have been more interesting if its facts were accurate.

The opinions expressed on the relationship between religion and science are commonly held, but are, nevertheless, based on erroneous information.

A sort of anti-religious mythology has been built up among scientists. This was started by T H Huxley (as in Huxley Building) who, in his memoirs, gave an account of his famous debate with the then Bishop of Oxford. The Bishop opposed the truth of Darwin's idea and lost. Huxley was the only person to record his memories of the debate, and, in the manner of autobiographies written years after the event, vastly exaggerated his side of the story. He made the Bishop out to be a villain of unreason, while he, of course, was a knight in shining armour fighting only for the truth. In reality evolution, in one form or another, had been a popular idea for years (the Greeks thought it up, but the Victorians liked it because it gave credence to the idea that the world was slowly getting better). Darwin was just the first person to attempt to give it scientific credence. His theory, however, had big holes in it and some people were bound to question it *on scientific grounds alone*. The conflict is not between irrational religion and rational science, but between individuals who disagree about the interpretation of the evidence.

The supposed suppression of evolution in the USA has also attracted its own obscuring mass of mythology. The Tennessee anti-evolution law was only passed, in the first place, because of a serious political cock-up. The State assembly only voted for it to please the voters, in the calm assurance that the state governor would veto it. In some muddle of political ineptitude (probably because he thought the bill would be ruled unconstitutional by someone else) he passed it. It is clear from the records of the time that no politician took it seriously (the governor said that the law would never be used). The Scopes trial, where a teacher was tried under the law (for teaching evolution), was staged to gain publicity for a small town that needed the business. This ploy worked well, and incidentally the creationists were humiliated even



though they won the case at first (and the verdict was later overturned on a technicality). Again there was no great confrontation between the forces of reason and superstition. (The background to the Scopes trial is discussed in Stephen Jay Gould's book *Hen's Teeth and Horse's Toes*.)

Even the suppression of Galileo's ideas was more to do with politics than any actual conflict between science and religion. Galileo was an undiplomatic character who insisted on taking the piss out of the Pope in some of his publications. The mythology surrounding his trial has more to do with the (possibly subconscious) desire of some relationists to demonstrate the irrationality of religion, than it has to do with any actual conflict between science and religion.

Only extremists believe that every word of the Bible was dictated by God and has to be taken literally. Most others accept that the Bible is a collection of different works by different people with different insights into truth. It claims no special degree of historical accuracy, and it is full of images and symbolism. To demand literal interpretation of all parts (even the visionary acid-trips of Revelation) and then to reject the ridiculous implications, says more about the mind of the sceptic than it does about the likely truth of anything in Christianity.

Another conflict that is more contrived than real is the supposed Christian belief of the existence of the soul as an entity independent of the body. Lots of people, Christian and otherwise, still believe that the soul and body are separate, but the idea is not a Christian one. The idea is Greek in origin and derives from platonic dualism. The biblical concept of soul is more sophisticated and in no way conflicts with science (though some distinguished neuroscientists have wanted to believe that the mind is independent of the brain in the platonic sense, but this is impossible to refute or check). In Hebrew thought, people do not *have* souls they *are* souls: the word is a description of the nature of our existence; we would say we were conscious, sentient beings capable of free will

(the Bible is more concise because paper was short when it was written). In scientific terminology, the soul is a product of the complexity of the human brain and the way it is organised. If you believe in God, there is no problem in believing that he could recreate a soul by repeating the way a particular brain was organised. So individuality could survive death without there being an independent thing called soul.

Biblically speaking, the important thing about people is that they can make moral decisions and choose between good and evil. Life after death is almost a side issue to this choice. It only becomes a big issue when churches try to sell a happy eternity for money or obedience now. Mainstream Christianity has mostly concentrated on encouraging people to make the correct moral choice in

this life. Deathbed conversions are regarded as cynical, insincere and superstitious.

Most popular debate on the truth of Christianity seems to happen in complete ignorance of what Christians actually believe. Literalist parodies (only 144,000 people fit in heaven, for example) of what the Bible says or of what people believe, are set up to be clearly ridiculous. If any religion contained such nonsense then we would have to reject it.

But, if you disbelieve because of the parody, then you are deluding yourself. If you care about the truth, then you will find out what a religion really says, before you reject it as ridiculous. If religions are all superstitious junk, then we do not need parodies of them to show that they are untrue.

Steve Black, Chem PG.

Still soul searching...

Man's search for his soul (and woman's for hers) is too widespread and long-standing to be abandoned for the materialistic and rationalistic arguments of RG Fincher's article *Soul Searching*. Most of the human race for most of history has believed in survival after death so strongly that they have developed elaborate procedures to make sure dead soul go to their appointed place and don't get lost, or worse, hang around making trouble for the living. Sceptics are a tiny minority in the human consensus on this matter. That doesn't mean they must be wrong, but they might pause to consider that the rest of humankind might be aware of something they have overlooked.

The existence of souls, like the existence of God, cannot be proved or disproved. We can only weigh the evidence and make a judgement on the balance of probability. There is some evidence around to suggest that human personality can exist and be aware of itself apart from the body. There is a whole literature on the 'out-of-body' experiences of people who have been very ill, resuscitated after 'dying' on the operating table, or after drowning. The impression of the 'self' leaving the body and looking down on it in these circumstances seems to be common. That doesn't prove anything either, but it might make us question whether personality is as closely tied to physical molecules as the materialists think. I did have one student from mainland China, a party member and dyed in the wool communist, who came to me with a strange story. While he was studying here, his mother died in China. He

told me how his mother came to his room in England and talked with him for about half an hour. Everything in his beliefs and upbringing told him that was impossible, yet it had happened. He was forced to consider that if dialectical materialism was wrong about something so important, it might also be wrong about a whole lot else.

Why are we so hung up about the particular set of molecules we happen to be carrying around at the moment anyway? They are in constant flux and exchange. While you are reading this, part of your breakfast today is now part of the brain with which you understand these words. We replace every cell in our body in a seven year cycle, so you have already undergone total atomic translocation three times since you were born—some of us more.

I am not my molecules, I am a pattern of information carried by molecules which are constantly being picked up and discarded. In this College we are fully aware that information can be stored in a variety of ways, on magnetic tape, optical disc, bubble memories, or as words in a book, and can be transferred from one medium to another. St Paul said of the body before and after death, "It is sown a natural body and it is raised a spiritual body" or to put it in our jargon rather than his, the set of information which is me is expressed in a new medium with further potential for development when the molecular storage system crashes. It is an interesting possibility I rather hope to explore for myself

David Ashforth

Diary

What's On

FRIDAY

Circuit Training12.30pm.
Union Gym with Cross Country and Athletics Club. Everyone welcome. Free.

Orienteering12.30pm.
Brown/Green Committee Room (top floor of Union Building). Arrangements for following Sunday's event.

Friday Prayers1.00pm.
9 Princes Gardens (Basement); DHUHR (1.10pm), ASR and MAGHRIB. See Islamic Society.

5-a-side Football5.00pm.
Volleyball Court. See Islamic Society

Christian Union6.00pm.
Music Room, 53 Prince's Gate. 'Living Love' speaker: Paul Boughton. Free buffet.

C&G Motor Club Meeting 7.00pm.
Civ Eng Foyer. Scrutineering starts at 7pm at Kart Garage. If you don't have a drive please marshal. Free to marshals.

Halloween Disco7.30pm.
Holland Club Function Room. Bar extension till 1am (dress optional). Tickets £1.50 from Anneke Westra, Rm 034, Biotech Centre.

Latin American Society..8.00pm.
Union Building Lounge. Enjoy Latin American food and music.

SATURDAY

Shotokan Karate.....10.00am.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

Singaround7.00pm.
SCR (1st Floor Union Building). Bring yourself, your beer and your enthusiasm. Free! See IC Folk Club.

SUNDAY

London to Brighton Run ...all day
See Bo's trip to Brighton. Coach and lunch.

Wargames Meeting.....1.00pm.
Senior Common Room.

MONDAY

Curry Soc12.30pm.
Weekly meeting. Southside Upper Lounge.

Artsoc Meeting12.30pm.
SCR Union. Come to sign up and pay your money for tickets for forthcoming events, eat biscuits and drink coffee. Free to members (membership £1.50).

Recitation of Holy Qur'an 1.00pm.
9 Prince's Gardens. See Islamic Society.

Advanced Ballroom7.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

Shotokan Karate.....7.00pm.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

Beginners Ballroom8.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

Dai Rocking.....11.00pm.
IC Radio on 99.9kHz. The best in hard rock music thro' midnight including the featured album every week with David Williams. FREE!

TUESDAY

Christian Union8.15am.
Chemistry 213. See Steve Clark, Christian Union.

Audio Soc12.30pm.
SCR. Cheap records and CDs.

IC CathSoc Mass12.30pm.
Chemistry 231. Quiet and contemplation between lectures or exams. Food provided (50p). All welcome.

Ski Club12.45pm.
Above Southside Bar, sign up for lessons and recreational skiing.

Lunch-Hour Programme.1.15pm.
Read Theatre, Sherfield Building. The Oman Wahiba Sands Project by Dr Paul Munton.

Holy Qur'an Recitation ..1.30pm.
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

Islamic Circle5.30pm.
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

Group Meeting5.30pm.
Brown Committee Room. Everyone welcome. See Amnesty International.

Wine Tasting6.00pm.
Union SCR. Fine wines from New Zealand. £2 members, £3 non-members.

I Mech E6.00pm.
Informal reception at the Institution, 1 Birdcage Walk. Talk by Peter McCann of Tomorrow's World about the Virgin Atlantic Crossing. Free buffet.

Judo.....6.30pm.
Union Gym. Beginners welcome.

Caving Club Meeting7.00pm.
Southside Upper Lounge.

Intermediate Ballroom ...7.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club

The Fly7.00pm.
SFSoc show David Cronenberg's award winning film.

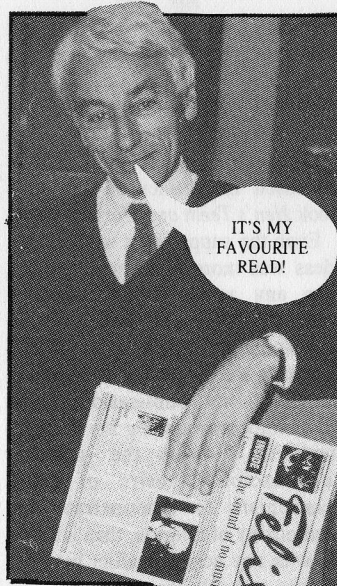
Chamber Music Society.7.30pm.
Freshers' Concert. Music Room, 53 Prince's Gate. £1 (75p members), includes glass of wine.

OpSoc Tour Rehearsal ...7.30pm.
53 Princes Gate. See OpSoc.

MethSoc Speaker7.30pm.
Chaplains Office, Basement, 10 Prince's Garden. Barry Homer will be speaking. Free to everyone.

Beginners Ballroom8.00pm.
JCR. 80p. See Dance Club.

Blank's Psychedelic Show 8.00pm.
IC Radio. Music programme with indie and psychedelic music.



WEDNESDAY

IC Gay Okay12.30pm.
Green Committee Room, Top Floor of the Union Building.

Circuit Training12.30pm.
Union Gym. Free to Keep Fit Club members.

Ski Club12.30pm.
Above Southside Bar. Meet for trip to dry ski slope for lessons and recreational skiing. Bring gloves and thick socks.

Caving Club Meeting1.00pm.
Union Snack Bar.

Wargames Meeting.....1.00pm.
Senior Common Room.

Sailing1.00pm.
Meet outside Southside.

DramSoc1.30pm.
DramSoc Storeroom. Acting workshop on mime.

Beginners Rock n Roll ...2.00pm.
UDH. 80p. See Dance Club.

Shotokan Karate.....3.00pm.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

Advanced Rock n Roll ...3.00pm.
UDH. 80p. See Dance Club.

ULU Meditation Group ..7.00pm.
Room 3A, University of London Union, Malet Street. Traditional breathing meditation. Everyone welcome. No charge.

Motor Club Night7.30pm.
Above Southside Bar. Free.

Christianity Course8.00pm.
Mech Eng SCR (Rm 702). Title: Who is Jesus?

THURSDAY

ICYHA Meeting12.30pm.
Southside Upper Lounge.

Audio Soc12.30pm.
SCR. Cheap records and CDs.

MethSoc Speaker12.30pm.
Huxley 413. Gordon Barritt, ex-president of National Children's Home will be sharing his thoughts. Lunch 50p.

Socialist Soc Meeting..12.45pm.
Brown Committee Room. All welcome. Contact Adrian Grainger (Maths 3).

Ski Club12.45pm.
Above Southside Bar. Sign up for lessons, racing team and the holiday at Christmas.

SFSOC Library Meeting ..1.00pm.
Green Committee Room, Union Building. Borrow books from our vast library, help plan future events and generally enjoy the only democroanarchic dictatorship at IC! Members only.

Lunch Hour Concert1.30pm.
The Music Room, 53 Prince's Gate. Penelope Roskell (piano).

Arabic Classes.....1.30pm.
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

Gliding Club Meeting.....5.30pm.
Aero 254. Arrange trial flights, lifts to Lasham, talks and then to the bar.

Orienteering Training.....5.30pm.
Union Gym. Social meeting held from 6.30pm onwards.

IC Choir5.45pm.
Room 342 Mech Eng. Everyone welcome.

Bridge6.30pm.
UDH. Pairs event. All welcome, partnerships arranged if necessary.

Judo.....6.30pm.
Union Gym. Beginners Welcome.

Real Ale Soc7.30pm.
Union Crush Bar. Your chance to taste immaculate beer at cost price.

Gay/Lesbian Group7.30pm.
ULU Building, Malet Street. Mens group room 3a, womens group room 2e. Meet weekly for speakers and booze.

The Lover Speaks8.30pm.
The Lounge. £2 adv, £2.50 on the door.

ICCAG Soup Run.....9.15pm.
Weeks Hall Basement. See Imperial College Community Action Group (ICCAG).

KENSINGTON GORE SW7

● **ALAN ROSE**, hapless ICU Deputy President, has been complaining in the bar recently that he hasn't been getting enough bad press in **FELIX**. Sorry to disappoint you, Alan! We've been racking our brains and can't think of a single thing you've done recently!

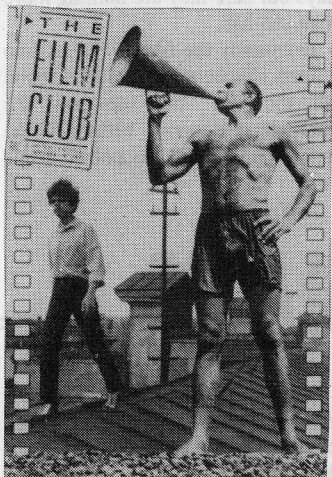
● **'CUTE' ROBERT GEE**, Athletics Clubs Committee (ACC) Chairman, didn't think very much of his five star rating in last week's *Kensington Gore*. Number one fan, Chris Martin, meanwhile was undaunted and has set up a Robert Gee is Cute Society. The new club has 25 signatures including the Top 3. It is still unclear whether this new club will be part of ACC, RCC or SCC.

● That's all for this week folks, Chris Jones...

PRE VIEWS

There seems to be a lot of Soviet material on the box this week: two films and an arts review on the Beeb and documentaries on ITV and C4.

Saturday evening on BBC2 (9.45-12.45pm) sees a film double-bill, opening with *The Swimmer*, a humorous allegory of life under three political regimes, only released in its



uncensored form because of Gorbachev's reforms. Following this is *Plumbum, or a Dangerous Game*; the story of ace scholar, Ruslan, who dreams of being a supercop, and infiltrates criminal gangs to pull off some amazing coups.

Review (BBC2, Sunday, 5.30pm) asks how far has the openness of the Gorbachev regime allowed the popular arts to flourish. The Guardian's Martin Walker reports from Moscow on fashion, cars, theatre, rock music, architecture and breakdancing!

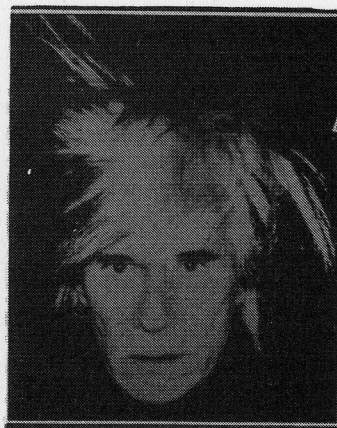
The Soviet theme continues over on ITV on Tuesday at 10.30pm with a look at the work of Pravda journalists all over the USSR. The final contribution to the week is another documentary, taking the lid off Soviet youth; punks, hippies and war veterans, called *Is it Easy to be Young*

(C4, Thursday, 10.15pm) *Ochen Glasnost!*

Those old enough to remember *Columbo*, that wonderfully clever 70s US detective series with Peter Falk in the grubby raincoat, will find the 1971 pilot film *Ransom for a Dead Man* (ITV, Saturday, 8.30pm) unmissable.

Unlikeliest scheduling of the week goes to C4 for *Equinox: Command & Control* at 10am Sunday. A repeat of yesterday's programme which looks at how nuclear missiles are fired, and what stops them going off by mistake.

The excellent *South Bank Show* (ITV, Sunday, 10.30pm) follows last week's brilliant programme on *The Smiths* (shame on you if you missed it!) with a celebration of the life and work of pop art legend Andy Warhol, who died earlier this year.



The C4 documentary series *The Eleventh Hour* continues on Monday at 11pm (when else?) with *The First Betrayal*; tracing the history of the British working class and socialist movement from 1914-1931.

My personal highlight of the week is another episode of that classic cartoon series *Wacky Races* (BBC1, Wednesday, 4.10pm). Not to be missed at any cost!

THE BARON

'Hurry up, Baron!' called John Secretary to Derek Dash as he passed Derek's office, 'or you'll be late to say goodbye to another group of citizens'.

Derek was getting ready to attend the citizens' leaving ceremony, held at the Royal Alan Ball. Today was the day when lots of citizens moved from Cheapskate to take up their jobs as money counters. Nearly all the citizens became money counters when they left Cheapskate; the only one who had not yet got a money counting job was still working in the citizens' bar.

Derek was trying to work out why all the citizens wanted to become money counters. The best explanation that he could come up with was that they were all too unimaginative to do anything else. It was certainly true that Cheapskate citizens were mostly very dull. In fact, if they had been any duller, Derek reflected, they would only be able to get jobs in Cheapskate itself. Expanding this argument in his usual logical manner, Derek was just working out how long it would be before there was only enough standing room for all the incredibly tedious people in Cheapskate, when John Secretary called to him to hurry up.

Derek sighed, put on his silly cloak and left his office, picking up a copy of the Cheapskate Annual on his way out. Derek enjoyed reading the new Cheapskate Annual, which had only just been delivered. As usual it contained lots of articles about what a wonderful place Cheapskate was and lots of pictures of people smiling a lot as well as three photo-love stories and a Dennis the Menace cartoon strip. Derek had particularly liked his own introduction to the Annual. 'I am continually amazed', he had written, 'at how wonderful Cheapskate is. There is no doubt that it was really wonderful before I became Baron, and, if indeed it is possible, I think it is becoming even more wonderful. There are bound to be huge numbers of people wanting to become Cheapskate citizens when they see how good the pictures are in our Annual'.

Derek admired his work for a few minutes whilst on his way to the Royal Alan Ball, and then put the Annual inside his cloak so that he would be able to read the Dennis the Menace cartoon during the goodbye ceremony.

Meanwhile, while Derek was reading the Dennis the Menace cartoon, there was lots of rushing about going on elsewhere in Cheapskate. All the important members of the citizens' Factories Club were getting ready for next week's fun-packed 'how to become a money counter' fair. There would be lots of exciting things going on; the citizen's would be able to play 'try to get the 10p piece out of the chief money counter's hand' and lots of other jolly games. The citizens in the Factories Club tried to convince all the other citizens that they were helping them to get jobs as money counters; in fact, everyone in Factories Club was being very very nice to all the important money counters who were visiting Cheapskate so that they could get better paid jobs counting money. (Everyone at Cheapskate was very dull, but members of the Factories Club enjoyed being dull).

This year, a few citizens had decided that they did not really want to be money counters after all. One of these was the head citizen, Whygate, who enjoyed his job so much that he was trying to make it last longer than the usual one year. At the last meeting of the citizens' committee Whygate had swept into the room very proudly (all 2000 sequins perfectly in position on his new dress) and announced 'we have decided to carry on running the citizens' office for an extra month'. The rest of the citizen's could not work out whether he had actually asked anyone else about it, or if he was using the royal 'we'....

Is Whygate going to marry Prince Edward?

Will the PHALIX Editor print a nasty article about the Factories Club this year?

What happened to Dennis the Menace?

Why wasn't Arthur Michael mentioned?

Find out in the next episode of 'The Baron of Cheapskate'.





The Witches of Eastwick

The sleepy New England town of Eastwick is a dull place. For three women living there, all single and strongly independent, life has lost its sparkle. Jane (Susan Sarandon) has just finalised her divorce, Alexandra (Cher) is a widow and mother who sculpts dolls, and Sukie (Michelle Pfeiffer) is a successful journalist who was deserted by her husband who left her with six children. Every Thursday they meet to relax and share their problems and a few drinks. 'If men aren't the answer, why do we always end up talking about them?' concludes Jane. Together they conjure up their ideal man.

Soon they learn of the arrival in town of a wealthy eccentric, Daryl Van Horne (Jack Nicholson). Intrigued by the stranger about whom everyone is gossiping, they soon fall prey to his charm when he claims to be 'just your average horny little devil'. He seduces all three women and they move into his huge mansion. However, back in town the rumours fly and after the local snoop Felicia (Veronica Cartwright) meets a sticky end the women decide the *ménage à trois* must come to an end. Realising their power, the witches and Van Horne set the stage for a battle of the

sexes.

Although outnumbered three to one, Van Horne is an ideal vehicle for Nicholson to play his devilish best. Here he has perfected the lunatic character from *The Shining* and he is simply superb as the manic demon, who asks 'Are women one of God's mistakes, like tidal waves?' when the witches start to get the better of him. Of course Nicholson steals the show, given the ability to run amok and snarl at the shocked townfolk. Underneath his charm is a spoiled teenager at odds with women, and in the three witches he meets his match. Strong performances by all three witches (in particular Cher continuing her diverse career) are enough to make this film great entertainment, but what I found unnecessary were the special effects which today are almost obligatory. I suppose they're a throwback to director George Miller's *Mad. Max* days but here they are nothing more than old hat.

Eventually the film dissolves into a flurry of special effects which round off the plot, but somehow the characters deserve better. Good entertainment with Nicholson at his best.

A.N.

RESTAURANTS

Vegetarian and under £3

Neal's Yard

Around the corner from Food for Thought, off Shorts Gardens (Covent Garden tube)

The food is not quite as good or varied as *Food for Thought*. However, it is cheap and usually less crowded.

Bunjies

27 Litchfield Street WC2 (Leicester Square tube)

Good food and folk music after 8pm for £2.

The Jazz Café

Newington Green Road, across from Newington Green (73, 141 and 171 buses)

Very good, moderately priced food. The music is free though the place is very small.

Omnivorous and under £3

Rice and Spice

Stoke Newington High Street, near Church Street N16 (73 bus)

Very plain decor but good Indian food. Bring your own bottle. There are also other, more expansive places nearby on Church Street.

Sole Mio

23 Gillingham Street SW1 (Victoria tube)

Around the corner from the *Seafresh Fish Bar*. Varied menu with pastas and omelettes under £2; a hearty daily special for £3.

Gaby's

30 Charing Cross Road WC2 (Leicester Square tube)

Selection of vegetarian and Middle Eastern food. Very much like an American diner.

Pollo Bar

20 Old Compton Street W1 (Leicester Square tube)

Unlike *Fatso's*, *Pollo* gives you enough pasta the first time round so you don't need seconds and the price stays under £3! Get there early or face a long queue.

Omnivorous and under £6

Café Pacifico

Langley Street (Covent Garden tube)

It is a shame Mexican food must be so expensive. This place is better than *Chi-Chi's* at Leicester Square and a bit cheaper.

J.B.

La Pergola

138 Gloucester Road (Gloucester Road tube)

If you've ever eaten Italian food before, *La Pergola's* selection will not excite you.

My companion's complaints to the elusive waiter, speaking in Italian commanded the attention of the chef: Yes, he admitted, the ravioli had come from a tin.

The apparently reasonable prices, which had enticed us there for lunch, are misleading: Unordered, the two salads which appeared with our main course—seemingly included—are extra (£1.50 each). Bread rolls are 65p per person (normally included in real Italian restaurants). With the obligatory 15% service charge it all adds up to make a light lunch into an expensive mistake.

Since the *Pergola*, *Bellavista* (132 Cromwell Road) and *Vecchiomondo Restaurants* (118 Cromwell Road) are all owned by *Lorenzo's*, you would be advised to be very wary about trying the other two (unless you're prepared to argue in Italian). S.G.

Jon Burden
Simon Griffin
Alex Noble

Horror story

The Fly, Tuesday October 27, 7pm, Mech Eng 220
Admission 50p members, £1.50 non-members (including membership)
David Cronenberg's version of the story about a scientist who finds himself turning into a gigantic fly—in this case, following a mingling at the genetic level by a teleport device he is developing.

Films coming also include *Scanners* and, as a Christmas treat, *Star Trek IV*. Members will be informed personally of these, also details will be in FELIX, every week, in What's On.

Also, all members are entitled to use the Society's megastic library; at the library meetings, 1pm, Thursdays, top floor of the Union Building; this is also the best way to find out what your Society is doing, and to suggest what you'd like it to do.

Windy races

The first round of the City and Guilds Motor Club championship took place last Saturday (17th October) in a gale-devastated Essex.

The six crews that entered the Country Treasure Hunt were faced with fallen trees and minor floods along large sections of the 35 mile route from powerless Billercay to South Woodham Ferrers. At one point the two leading crews had to wait for workmen to remove a tree before continuing.

The object of the event was to answer questions about buildings along the route and collect 'treasure' such as apples, hay, brambles, drinks cans and an 'original item' as a tie-breaker.

The first crew to finish, only two minutes late, were the eventual winners Dave Hobbs and Adrian Bourne in a Mini 1000, with a traffic cone as their original piece of

treasure.

Four more crews arrived during the next fifty minutes, the only non-finisher being the Citroen GS of Max Kallios and Henry Taylor whose hydraulic suspension failed.

Second was the MG Midget of Mike Putts and Club Captain Jon Stout with the late-starting 'Team Guilds' of Murray Williamson, Dave Osborne, Nigel Street and Guilds President Dave Tyler a fine third.

Messrs Hobbs and Bourne head the championship table on twenty points each, with Putts, Stout, organisers Tim Clark and Vanessa Palmer joint third on fifteen.

The next round of the championship is the Freshers' Rally, taking place tonight in Hampshire.

New members to the Club are always welcome, contact us via the Guilds Office.



Christianity and Sex



There are two Love-Gods in the world today: Emmanuel – one of Jesus' names meaning 'God with us' – and "Emmanuelle" – a twentieth century substitute for the real thing.

You can't shock God over anything to do with sex. He invented it! Emmanuel knows how sex works best and he gave us the maker's instructions – unparalleled enjoyment of sex within a relationship of unconditional commitment.

'I have come in order that you might have life – life in all its fullness' John 10:10

The aim of "Emmanuelle"-sex is the opposite – "Get what you can, take what you want, gratify your sexual urges now. And don't think too far ahead. Continue the liaison for only as long as it is enjoyable."

But instant kicks have long-term kick-backs; and everyone loses out.

Emmanuel comes to set us free from the deception of "Emmanuelle" and the debasement of God's gifts.

A series of events in week eight, Nov 23-28 organised by Imperial College Christian Union

8

A secret

Well boys, the militia are back! QT Soc is the biggest and zaniest club in IC, and we're on the look out for some new recruits. Meetings have been arranged to occur on Tuesday lunchtimes in Southside Upper Lounge at 1pm. First on the list of events is an alternative disco—to be held in a very unusual and secret location, and we have a comedy night in the pipeline. For the anarchists there will be QT stunts to liven-up UGMs, mascotry, kidnapping, infiltration, etc. Anyone interested in producing alternative videos, or writing and/or performing in the QT smoking concert sketch should turn up on Tuesday. Good on ya!

A certainty

IC Film Society presents *The Sure Thing*, a romantic comedy from the director of the highly acclaimed film *Stand By Me*.

Walter 'Gib' Gibson is an 18 year old student pre-occupied with junk food and sex. Alison Bradbury is a studious well organised all-American lady who has her future firmly planned. She loathes him on sight. But then they find themselves hitch-hiking across America, he for an encounter with what his best friend promises is 'the sure thing', she to rendezvous with her boyfriend.

The Sure Thing will be shown on October 29, at 7pm, in Mech Eng 220. Admission is 50p to members, £1 to non-members. Membership is available, and a bargain at the price!

What's in a curry?

Curry Soc's second outing takes place next Friday—a trip to the *Paramount*, one of the better curry establishments in the South Kensington area. Anyone interested in coming along should meet in Southside Upper Lounge at 12.30pm Monday lunchtime or on

Friday at 9pm. We look forward to seeing you.

Thanks to everyone who dropped a note asking about membership to either Bill Goodwin or Richard Wiles in the Mech Eng pigeonholes—we will be in touch shortly.

HOCKEY

Jolly hockey sticks: Part 1

IC 1st XI—2

Thames Valley 1st XI—1
Imperial College Hockey 1st XI opened their Middlesex League (1st division) account with an excellent win over Thames Valley at Harlington on Saturday. The win was all the more impressive because it was the first time that the new squad had played together.

Unusually for IC, the defence and new reshuffled midfield were the most influential units. The attack did, however, show bursts of the magic which won last year's University of London League title.

Once the attack has settled down together, and if the influential Vamadevan can recover his old 'wobble', this new-look side should stock up the Hockey Club's trophy shelf again this season.

Part 2

IC 1st XI—0

Spencer-Jennings Select XI—0
On Sunday the College's premier hockey side travelled to Earlsfield to be entertained by a Spencer XI specially selected from the London League Club's 2nd and 3rd teams by ex-IC impresario David Jennings. The side included several ex-IC superstars and were expected to present stiff opposition.

Skipper Justin Brooking, ruing the night before (or was it morning Anne?), sat out the first half, but was ably replaced by ULU player Brendan Farmer. The defence remained otherwise unchanged from Saturday, but the attack sorted three new faces in Gary Knartborough, Julian Firth and Richard Preston.

Spencer opened with a flurry of superb team hockey, pinning IC into their own half for nearly ten minutes. Were it not for excellent defending by Stonham and Garside, and tight marketing by the half-backs, centred on Paul Coleman, Spencer could have put the game out of reach in the first period. However, inspired by Brooking at half time and marshalled by the brilliant Coleman, IC took the game to Spencer in the second half. Despite creating many more goal chances, IC failed to snatch victory, but can be pleased with a draw against possibly this year's toughest opposition.



ORIENTEERING

Coaching first

Last Sunday, the Orienteering Club achieved a first! Their first coach! Enthusiasm has grown over the past few years and because of the number of new members, a coach was hired for the day instead of the usual minibus.

The days outing was to Gloucester Park in Basildon and was an introductory event for those new to the sport. The courses were set on mainly open land which was a little marshy due to recent rain. The courses were of different lengths and different degrees of difficulty; the hardest being a 9.1km Norwegian course for experienced orienteers.

This is different to a normal course in that parts of the course are given at each control and can either be memorised or drawn onto the map.

Everyone managed to complete their course without getting severely lost, the only major problem being bios lost en route.

The day was considered quite successful and the vast majority expressed an interest in continuing orienteering.

Anyone who is interested in trying orienteering can come to the training session on Thursday at 5.30pm in the Union Gym.

FIXTURES

HOME FOOTBALL MATCHES

Saturday 24th October: **Wednesday 28th October**

1st XI, Goldsmiths Cup

4th XI, KCH

2nd XI, QHC IV Cup

6th XI, KCH II

YACHT CLUB WEEKEND

13 places free for a cruise out of Southampton. Contact Chris Stubbs (ME 2) for further information.

RESULTS

FOOTBALL

IC 1st XI—3.....3—Goldsmiths

IC 2nd XI—3.....2—St Mary's

IC 2nd XI—1.....0—St Mary's

HOCKEY

IC 1st XI—2.....1—Thames Valley

IC 1st XI—0.....0—S.J. Select

FOOTBALL

First match drawn

IC 1st—3

Goldsmiths—3

After just one trial we faced our first match against Goldsmiths College. We were all a little unfit and rusty at first. Consequently we conceded a goal in the 24th minute. Periodically we started playing the ball about which was reminiscent of later years style of play. Then in the 39th minute we managed to breakthrough Goldsmith's defence to make it 1—1.

We started the second half a lot more confident and began to dominate the game. Against the run of play Goldsmiths managed to sneak a goal on the break.

In the 70th minute IC hit back. It was a text book move: the goalie threw the ball to the right touch line, the ball was laid square to Paul Dyson who took it up the pitch and passed it through the defence where Nigel Collier ran on to it and finished the move. In the 76th minute IC went in front from a solo effort by Paul Olden. In the last 10 minutes, with IC tiring rapidly, Goldsmiths equalised with a far post header to make the final score 3—3

Paul Dyson (Captain).

ROWING

Spring Regatta

After the racing on Saturday was cancelled due to damage from the gales on Thursday the two crews entered turned up for Sunday's racing still in good spirits.

In one of the first races of the day the Colleges Senior A coxless four comfortably won their heat and so getting a place in the final. The other crew an Elite eight followed suit, winning a place in the final comfortably.

The Senior A coxless four had a good start in their final and from this led the field for the whole race to win well. The Elite eight were not so lucky and lost to an Under 23 Gold Medal winning crew by just over a second.

Small Ads

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Wanted**—people to take part in a psychology experiment looking at the use of colour in computer displays. Free cup of coffee. Contact Darren Van Laar, School of Management ext 7136.
- **Guilds Rally Jackets** will be available from the Guilds Office from lunchtime today. Only £28 each.
- **Cars** parked in College—If you have a car parked in the car park next to Queen's Lawn IC Bike Club would be very grateful if you would move it on Saturday night 'cos we've got an autotest on Sunday. Thankyou.
- **Bean's Club EGM.** Would all club members, please contact one of the following immediately: Rodeger Houghton, Chairman (Maths 3), Paul Stanley, Secretary (Maths 2), Chris Stapleton, Treasurer (Aero 2). or via Holbein House.
- **BeetleSoc**—parts and service discounts. All VW owners welcome and non-owners welcome to love the bug. Contact Adrian Brimer (EE 2).

ACCOMMODATION

- **Small** room in shared house available from Nov 1 for PG. Streatham Vale £130 pcm exclusive. Contact Paul (P&A Biology) ext 7439 or Ray (Biotechnology) ext 7082.
- **Available** now. Flats for 4, 6 and 8 in South Ken, Lexham Gardens and Hamlet Gardens—£30. per person p/w. Contact Accommodation Office, 15 Prince's Gardens.
- **Single room** in large flat. Share with 4 males, nr Ealing Common tube (40 mins to College) £26 p/w exclusive. Tel: Doug 992 6870 after 6pm.
- **One** female in double room. Excellent cooking/washing facilities, TV, video, lounge. £28 p/w exclusive. Contact J Godfrey (Maths 3).

FOR SALE & WANTED

- **1 Thorens** turntable, 1 Ferrograph amplifier, 2 40W Telefunken speakers, 1 Armstrong tuner all in good order. Price negotiable. Contact M Sedgwick via Physics pigeonholes.
- **IC Ents Disco** for hire £25. Contact Ian Morris via Ents pigeonhole in Union Office.

PERSONAL

- **Sunday Club** (after Hammy Run). Jez demonstrates a novel method to help gurlies who run for chairperson.
- **Hug** a heffie today.
- **Thankyou**, whoever found and handed in my grant cheque. C S Dixon.
- **Lonely** RCS hack seeks female hairdressers (suitably qualified). Must have turbocharged hairdryer. Apply Dai, 130 Hamlet Gardens.
- **Fun-loving** male student seeks female company. Interests: women. Flat 130 Hamlet Gdns.
- **Lonely?** sexually unfulfilled? Kate Bush? Call at 130 Hamlet Gdns. I will solve at least one of the above.
- **Bushline**—Do you think you may be Kate Bush? Know someone who is? Bushline is open 24 hours a day at 130 Hamlet Gdns, genuine callers only.

Rent party

Dear Judith,

Five years ago, when I first arrived in College and moved into Southside, rent was £25 a week, which for 30 weeks was £750 out of a 1982 £2,000 grant—about 35%. Nowadays a room in Southside will cost £35 a week, and with the grant at about £2,300, 30 weeks rent will take a huge 45% off the grant. The rise in private residence is even worse. Every year students are paying an increasing proportion of their grant for the privilege of living in Central London. The situation is alleviated slightly with housing benefit, but plans are well advanced to remove this benefit from students.

In addition, if this week's London Student is to be believed, the Government plans to open up the rented accommodation sector, abolishing fair rents and making the renting-out of property widespread are going to push up rents by 200 or 300%. Property currently only rented out to students to avoid legal hassles will, if the law on renting is relaxed, be let out at 'market rates' in line with property values. Living in central London as an undergraduate (postgraduates can still claim travel back and so live further out) is going to be impossible. Accommodation will rise to cost more than the whole grant. London colleges will increasingly only attract 'affluent' students, never mind the Robbins principle (higher education for all who will benefit). Market forces and Thatcherism in higher education by the back door!

What can be done? Arguing with the College is useless—they have their hands tied by the Government. What we need is effective London-wide campaigning for accommodation *NOW!* As a first step, what do you think the effect would be if the body representing the students of the foremost science and engineering college publically announced that they are actively to discourage new students from coming to London, because of the accommodation crisis?

Chris Martin.

Musical rooms

Dear Judith,

We would like to draw attention to the lack of communication between the communication experts. Imagine our surprise, having booked the music room, in writing, last July, to be told, on our return to College, that there was no record of this. We were informed that this was due to the change of control in 53, Prince's Gate. No one on the new Management Sciences staff had thought to enquire whether there were any standing bookings. However, they were very helpful and agreed to honour our reservation. Unfortunately, this did not resolve the problems caused by the departmental switch as we were told, one working day before the rehearsal, that the room had been double booked. Fortunately, on this occasion, the club which had booked the only Union room containing a piano was willing to let us take over use of it. We consider that severe disruption was caused to our Freshers' event due to this gross error on the part of Management Science.

ICOS wonders whether the transfer of the Humanities Department to the Mechanical Engineering building is in the interest of ICU students or merely to further Imperial

College's financial ambitions. The lucrative industrial connections of Management Science may create revenue to fill the gap left in their budget when ICU regained control of the profits from the Harlington gravel. Part of the reorganisation has involved the removal of one practice piano from general use and of two others to the Sherfield Building. It will also include the refurbishment of the Music Room during the spring term, resulting in total exclusion of all users. It is unlikely that student societies will ever regain full use of this facility as Management Science have let it be known that they do not welcome student use of this room during office hours; extending until ten in the evening.

Work on the building appears already to be in progress, as we discovered to our cost when we went to make some coffee for the rehearsal and found that our whole store cupboard had vanished. Although this may seem trivial in the face of all the points above, the loss of a valuable urn could be seen as a financial disaster to a College society.

Yours sincerely,

ICOS Committee 1987/88

G Sturck (Chairman), M Lucking (Treasurer),

G Turner (Secretary), P Murphy (Publicity Officer).

Council chaos

Dear Judith,

I would like to reply to your editorial in FELIX 780 concerning the cancellation of last Monday's Council Meeting. That Monday I walked into the Union Office to enquire whether the notifications and agenda for the meeting had been sent out, and was told by Chas Jackson (ICU Hon Sec) that he had not yet had time to print and distribute them. In view of this, and knowing that very few Council members would turn up as a result, I asked the three executive members for their opinions. Having heard what they had to say I, as Council Chairman, decided to postpone Council until the following Monday. In the light of the recent "Not the Freshers' UGM" fiasco, I hope you will agree that it was more sensible to postpone the meeting until everyone knew about it, rather than have another inoperative, unrepresentative meeting.

I take full responsibility for this decision, and I apologise profoundly to those that had already set the evening aside for this meeting (I'm included in this category).

Yours,

Alastair J Seymour, ICU Council Chairman.

Wet and dry

Dear Judith,

I would like to pour out gems of wisdom to your readers like the sky is currently pouring out water, but I can't. I can, however, give out one pearl: I have noticed that when I press the little silver button near the handle of my umbrella that it springs open and covers me thus, miraculously, keeping me in a state of dryness even when it is raining. I hope your readers find this information useful and perhaps use it themselves.

Yours,

A no-longer wet ex-physicist.



Not so trivial

Whatever the after dinner pursuits of today's undergraduate, one question sure to crop up over the coffee is the correct approach to business success.

Across the board achievement at university has shown that success is not a matter of chance. Any route worth taking will be a demanding one, involving high-quality training for professional qualifications, enabling you to meet the varied challenges of a business career.

Throwing yet another six, you realise that it would be only sensible to join an accountancy and management consultancy firm able to set an outstanding example of performance and innovation.

Pondering the card in front of you, you'll realise that these are not trivial questions. The answer to the first one, fortunately, is simple.

Contact your Careers Advisory Service for a copy of our Graduate Recruitment Brochure. Alternatively, telephone us on Linkline 0800 282 679 or write to Stephen Boley at Coopers & Lybrand, PC G8, Plumtree Court, London EC4A 4HT.

We think you'll find the answers soon fall into place.

Coopers
& Lybrand