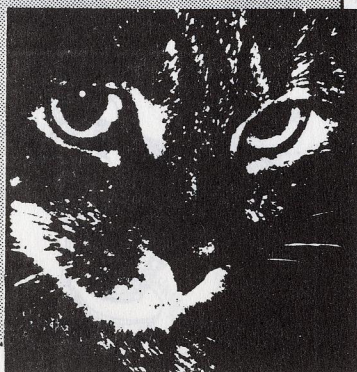


FREE!



Issue No. 787
Friday 4th December 1987

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Half man Half moustache

In a daring raid at Imperial College on Sunday, ICU President Ian Howgate was abducted by members of Surrey University Student Union and taken to a secret location in the heart of Guildford.

Most students only noticed their President's absence when he failed to attend the UGM on Tuesday, where his report was referred back until he money raised above £100 will be equally split between Surrey Rag and IC Rag.

On Wednesday, ICU Deputy

in a luxurious manner to which he was totally unaccustomed'.

Whilst in the area, the two sabbaticals decided to kidnap Surrey Vice President Dave Watson. The reasons for this action are, however, unclear. Alan Rose first said that they did it to secure Ian's release and then he said it was to make sure that they kept him.

At 3 o'clock on Wednesday Mr Howgate was taken to a student house, tied to a chair and given a severe haircut by a photographer from their Union newspaper *Bare Facts*, who described Mr Howgate's appearance as 'rather remarkable'.

He was later swapped for Dave Watson at the Three Kings pub in West Kensington but will return to Surrey if enough money is raised to give him a further haircut.

Ian told FELIX that Surrey was 'a really nice place' and that nobody had tortured him. A representative from Surrey said that they had captured Ian because 'it seemed like a good idea at the time'. Chas Jackson said later that the whole point of the stunt was to improve relations between Surrey and IC after members of several IC sports clubs behaved badly in the Surrey Union Bar. He felt that the stunt had been incredibly successful.

Donations to the Ian Howgate fund should be made in the Union Office before Sunday.



could present it in person. A letter from Surrey University Union to the UGM described their terms: £100 to cut Ian's hair; £200 to shave his legs and arms; £300 to shave the rest of his head; and £500 to remove *all* the hair from his body. The first £100 was guaranteed by ICU and any

President Alan Rose and Honorary Secretary Chas Jackson drove down to Surrey to investigate the position. They discovered that Ian had been continuing his Presidential work using Surrey Union's telephones. They reported that he seemed quite happy, having been plied with drink and 'kept



editorial

It's been a busy week and nothing's dropped off the litho—yet! I hope that you find at least one article worth reading out of the 28 pages this week.

Don't you feel sorry for Ian Howgate? It must have been really terrible being stuck down in Guildford for nearly four days. I wouldn't like to be stuck in Guildford for even one hour.

For all of you who did witness Tuesday's UGM, it is easy to see that decisions are made not on the validity of an argument but because of sheer numbers of people who wouldn't

normally attend a UGM but come because they have an interest in a motion. Congratulations to Roland Smith, Tizard Subwarden, whose excellent publicity persuaded Southside residents to turn out in force to support his motion.

The Honorary Secretary is a lazy toad—official

There is something that I wanted to bring up at the Union General Meeting on Tuesday but because it was a complete shambles we never got as far as the Honorary Secretary's

report before Quorum was called. Last week a few members of the FELIX staff made an arrangement with the Hon Sec that we would produce publicity posters for the UGM over the weekend if he would arrange to have them put up around College. He agreed. Our reasons were purely that we believed that rather than criticising the lack of publicity for UGMs we would do something about it. So we spent our weekend designing and printing 200 day-glo posters which were duly delivered to the Hon Sec at 10am on Monday morning. By Tuesday lunchtime there was one poster up in the Union Office and one which I put up in the FELIX Office, I suggest that Mr Jackson should pay the £30 they cost the Union to produce.

Secondly, he rang up on Monday asking if we could save him a space on the Union page for a report. I'm still waiting for the report and the Union page was printed on Wednesday. This is why the Union page contains very little to do with the Union!

These are very petty gripes in themselves but they're just small things in a long line of small things.

- Last week he told a club that a van was free and gave it to them when it had already been booked for a Rag Raid. Rag eventually had to hire a £140 van. This is not the first time something like this has happened.

- He promised to produce Exec News every two weeks in his election manifesto which the Hon Sec is meant to edit as a supplement to FELIX. It has come out once.

- The UGM started nearly half an hour late because the papers had not arrived.

- The first Council of term was cancelled at very short notice because notification and papers had not been sent out. The second Council was not cancelled although the same thing



happened again.

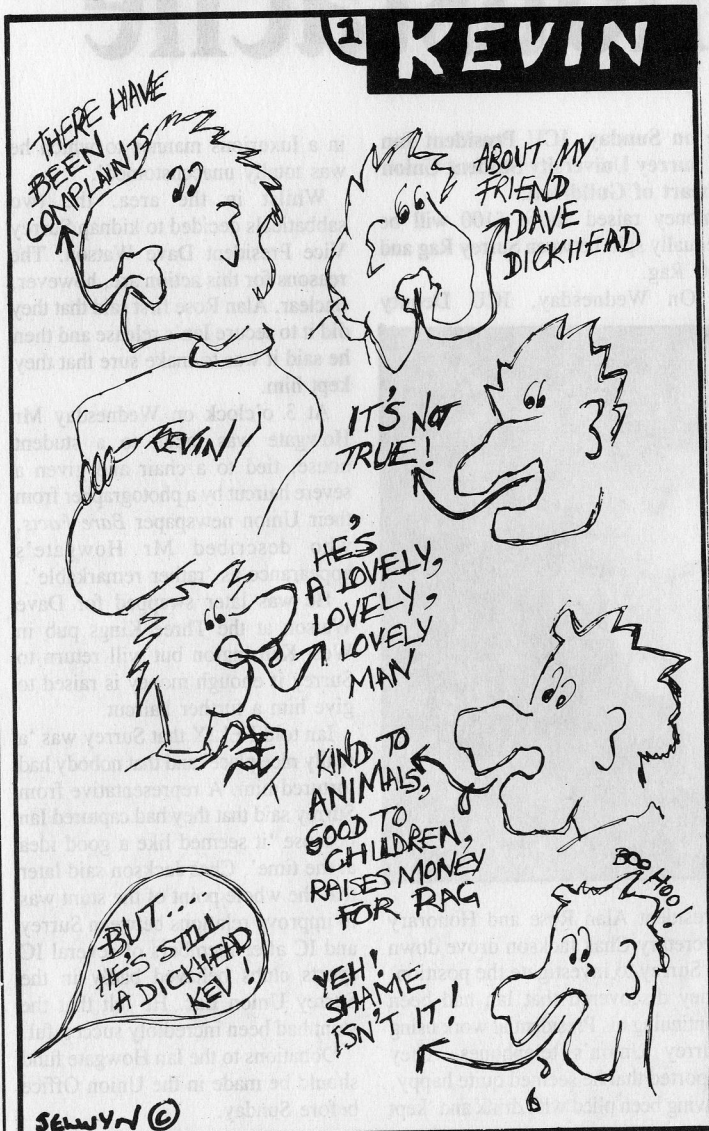
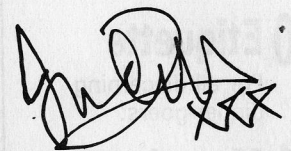
The Honorary Secretary has very little to do anyway so he/she should do the limited amount of work given to them to do—and do it satisfactorily. Otherwise he/she should be 'got rid of'. It only takes 2/3 majority at 2 consecutive UGMs. There probably wouldn't be any publicity anyway!

Next Week

There will be no FELIX next Friday as it is the penultimate week of this term. Instead there will be a bumper Christmas edition on Wednesday December 16. Deadlines for features is next Monday; for sports is Wednesday night; for What's Ons and Small Ads is Wednesday; and for letters is Thursday.

Sweatshirts

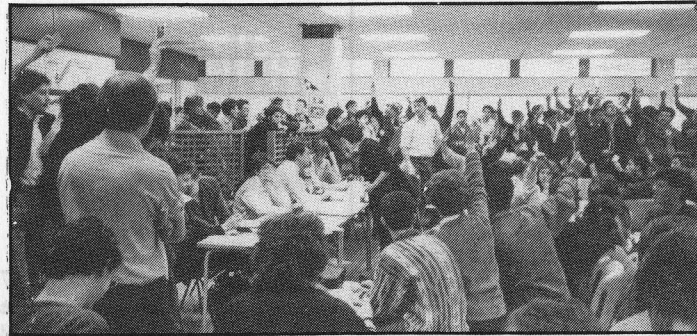
We now have a new stock of FELIX sweatshirts. We have the original black/blue design and a new limited edition black/purplypink. Both designs are on grey sweatshirts. They make ideal gifts for family and friends at just £7 (plug, plug).



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Features Editor.....	Dave Burns
Clubs Editor.....	Kamala Sen
Sports Editors.....	Dominic Strowbridge and 'Hector' Sullivan
Science Editor.....	Steve Black
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Con Man takes £1000 off student

This week a student was conned out of £1000 by a man posing as an Air France steward who needed to get home urgently. Claiming that he couldn't get the money himself due to gambling debts and a 24-hour delay in telexing money, the Frenchman gave the student fake gold bracelets and watches, and a false telephone number as security. This man has been operating in the Kensington area since the summer and several Imperial students have had their savings taken. Generally he picks on overseas students, and at a time just before the banks close. On this occasion he was driving a Fiat Uno.



A large audience witnessed possibly the most exciting UGM of this week on Tuesday in the JCR with lively debate on several issues by Chairman Alastair Seymour. The meeting was opened with the reading of a letter from Surrey University Students' Union about the kidnapping of Ian Howgate (see front page). The papers still not having arrived the meeting moved onto an emergency motion on smoking in the Union Snack Bar which was passed with an amendment to allow smoking to continue at the Lounge Bar. The papers then arrived and the minutes were passed unchallenged. A motion which instructed the Union to oppose the

formation of a postgraduate only hall in Southside, proposed by Roland Smith, was opposed by Gillian Cutter and Chas Jackson who had seconded an emergency motion to discuss the site and size of such a hall.

The original motion was passed on a vote and the Chairman ruled that the emergency motion need not be considered.

Debate was begun on a motion about attacks on Palestinian students at Bethlehem University, when Dave Williams proposed a procedural motion to return to the agenda and hear the Officers' reports. This was passed and quorum was successfully challenged.

BRIEF Kidnap 2

City & Guilds Union President David Tyler was kidnapped by the QT Society at Tuesday's Union General Meeting. He was later released because the £100 they asked for in order to keep him hostage was not raised. Mr Tyler is over 18 and has a 46" chest.

Appointed

The Union has appointed a Finance Officer to look after all the Union accounts. Reggie Blennerhasset, aged 26, has a diploma from the College of Commerce in Dublin and has previously worked for a shipping company and a scientific publisher. He is highly praised by his last employer, a City community centre and will start in the new year.

Crushing

Internal Services Officer Alistair Birch sat on a toddler in Norman's Snack Bar, it was revealed today. Mr Birch who was engaged in conversation at the time did not notice that the chair, in which he was about to sit, was occupied by the baby. Mr Birch, known to both his friends as Baby Crusher Birch, commented 'it was a close thing, but I nearly got him'.

Charcoal

Five fire engines were called to put out a fire in the Biology Department last week. Pedestrians in Prince Consort Road had noticed smoke coming from a ground floor window and had alerted the fire brigade.

The fire was caused by a piece of wood being left in an oven in the Timber Research Laboratory, it caused a lot of smoke but little damage.

Miracle

The Union Snack Bar passed its health inspection on Wednesday. To celebrate its success, they served ratatouille again.

Open day

The Royal School of Mines held its open day on Thursday. Between 200 and 250 people took advantage of this chance of seeing around the departments of Geology, Materials and Mineral Resources Engineering, and several companies put up displays showing the sorts of jobs graduates in these fields might expect.

Dr Flower from the Department of Materials, one of the organisers, said that although the number of people attending was lower than expected, he considered the event a success in terms of the interest shown. He was also pleased with the number of firms who took part in the exhibition. The industrialists themselves, despite the freezing cold in the exhibition marquee, were impressed by the effort put in by RSM students to make the event run well. It was also a good opportunity for students to meet potential employers.

Most of the people taking tours round the departments, guided by students, were sixth formers, a reassuringly large proportion of these were girls. Representatives of a couple of trade magazines also turned up. The De La Beche (Geology) Society provided coffee, while Chaps sold burgers. Other highlights of the displays were the 30 ton truck and 25 ton digger parked outside.

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Library access

The facilities, space and staff of the Lyon Playfair and Haldane Libraries are, at times, overstretched owing to heavy usage. We would like to ensure that these services first and foremost are being used by the staff and students of Imperial College. The only way we can do this is by being selective about the external users we admit. The Library is freely available to all serious readers but we find that we are being used increasingly by local tutorial and other private colleges. As from January 1 1988, we will be issuing external users with a Library admission card which they have to show when entering the

Library. This means that members of the College may also be requested to show their Library cards to the messenger on duty. All members of the College are eligible to have a Library Borrower's card and we would ask anyone who has not collected theirs to do so and carry it when visiting the Library. The Imperial College Union card will also be acceptable as a means of identification. We regret any inconvenience this may cause but we feel that it will be outweighed by the improvements in comfort and security.

Steal a child!

Do you know a child who might like to race a reindeer, shoot a snowman, bend a withe, bowl for a duck and dilly dally on the way? If you do, HURRY! Today, December 4 is the last day you, as a member of IC, can invite guests to the party with a difference.

The first surprise is that you'll be played into Sherfield by a musical wizard to meet a Father Christmas with empty sacks. He has hopes each guest will help him by giving something for him to take to a child who is a St Mary's Hospital outpatient from the homeless hotel families in Paddington and Bayswater. Sister Richie says that soft toys, picture books, crayons and mobiles are particularly loved, but whatever your guest brings, Father Christmas will beam with delight.

Everyone is invited to a delicious tea before the Entertainment begins. It will be Victorian Music Hall—an old time parlour entertainment almost forgotten in today's glitzy world. The

famous Pearly King, Larry Barnes and his Queen, will lead Cockney favourites interspersed with juggling, IC's own Magic Circle, poems, songs and a mystery production from DramSoc.

Although the party is designed for guests from 6 to 14, younger children may come if you're in charge, but you'll need to book them in today. Get your tickets before 5 o'clock from HUB, Sherfield 355 (ext 3021). £2 each child. Grown ups and under 5's free. Sorry, but no tickets at the door. We need to know exactly who is coming today.

If you are a student or otherwise too young to have a child on tap or are elsewhere for the day, how about sending us a toy for a homeless child? Drop it into HUB next week or leave it with Security at the Main Sherfield desk. You could make a lot of difference to a lot of 'bed and breakfast children' who might be in for a bleak Christmas.

Hallo Hallo

On Thursday 10th December 1987 between 10am and 6pm, in the reception area of the Sherfield Building, near the College Security Office, local police officers, including home beat officers for Imperial College, Clive Coleman and Duncan Law and the Crime Prevention Officer from Gerald Road Police Station, will be offering advice on all aspects of crime prevention, and also stamping pedal cycles. Any student wishing to speak to the local home beat officers can do so on 434 6374, Home Beat Office, Gerald Road Police Station, 5 Gerald Road, Victoria SW1.

The last Ents article of '87

Sad to say this is the last Ents article of 1987 so just let me say I hope you all enjoyed the gigs so far. On Thursday December 10 we have the last Ents event of term namely a Comedy Night in the lounge. Appearing are Felix (nothing to do with this paper) and witty musician, impressionist and stand up Johnnie Immaterial who's just plain funny and an interesting young lady by the name of Sea Monster. There should be some fun and games prepared by the compère and perhaps a few very cheap drinks. It all kicks off at 9pm but try and get there a bit before. Admission is £1.50 or 50p with an Ents card. Well there you are, short but sweet, have a good Christmas.

John Noble.



Hiya boys and girls! This is the 'tongue-in-cheek view of student life' but, the trouble is, it's reached that stage in the term when there's f**k all happening, so I've got so little to talk about. Either way there is something happening which I don't know, stuff it in the Maths pigeonhole. By the way my tongue is in my cheek and not between anybody elses, so don't go thinking I'll be inoffensive.

Firstly, I just tried a new Norman's omelette, now I admire the cooking and diversification this place is undergoing, but, gentle readers, unless you've got twenty-five minutes spare don't bother with the wait, my advice to you if you want a quick one is to invest in a pack of Norman's condoms instead.

Now I have just started noticing how halls are developing a CCU outlook on life. They have developed chants ranging from the boring 'everywhere we go...' from Linstead to the esoteric 'Bugabahstud, Bugabahstud, whangle' from Holbein. The spirit and rationality of mascotry has been captured in stealing one another's fridges. All the houses need to do now is develop the vaguely useful bits of CCU life.

I hear that at Tuesday's UGM a motion almost made it that each of the CCUs should adopt one of George, Zippy and Bungle from Rainbow as a mascot and Ian Howgate should invite Geoffrey over to give a talk. Personally I'm in favour of this because it will give added character to the CCUs for instance I'd like George for RCS because I like pink, Zippy (the pyjama case) and the RSM have a lot in common (they're all stuffed with materials). This leaves Bungle for C&G...

Rag Week is over, but who won the Killer game? It was real fun adding paranoia to College life, squirting the College security when they break into your house. Still the halls were annoyed. One house has even charged an £8 fine to one player for 'wilful damage to property'. The College authorities were so worried about damp in the Hamlet Gardens.

That's all I gotta say for now TTFN.

PS. Has anyone noticed how Howgate is an anagram for 'what ego'?

Small Ads

- **How to be** interesting—correspondence courses available from Paul Murray, Flat 9, 81 Lexham.
- **Famous** last words: Part 1—Rob Caul. 'Where's the bloody coach gone?'
- **Are** Bill and Ben still around or has Melons had surgery?

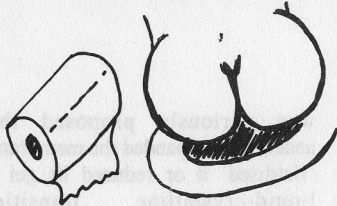
- **Baa**, Baa black sheep, have you any wool? No, Neil's got it all—he likes to have a reminder of the good times.
- **Is it live**, or is it Rob's socks?
- **Q:** Why has Dai Williams got a condom fetish?
A: Because he's a prick.
- **Dai** Williams could have been the biggest prick on the Godiva run.
- **Dai** Williams—be warned! You mess with the Wicked Willie Club at your own peril.
- **Lorraine** (from the hypnosis lecture) where are you now? James (the one who blew his nose).

- **Judith**, I promise I'll never kiss you again.
- **Have you read** my brilliant article on the letters page? (JP).
- **Angie** you really are a sex maniac!
- **Why did** you vote for Dave Tyler anyway? You should be ashamed of yourselves.
- **Do you** believe in the prevention of cruelty to posters? If so read the letters page.
- **Congratulations** to Holbein House! Evelyn Gardens Football Champions (87-88).
- **Give** the 21 Club cup to Beans.
- **Fridges wanted:** Contact Bernard Sunley.

KENSINGTON GORE SW7

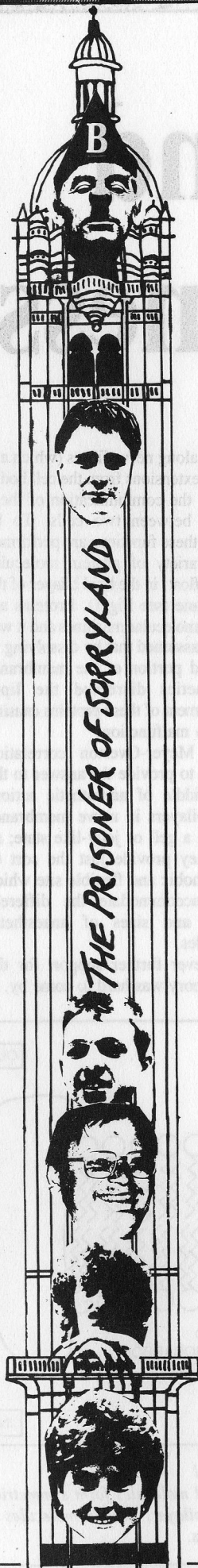
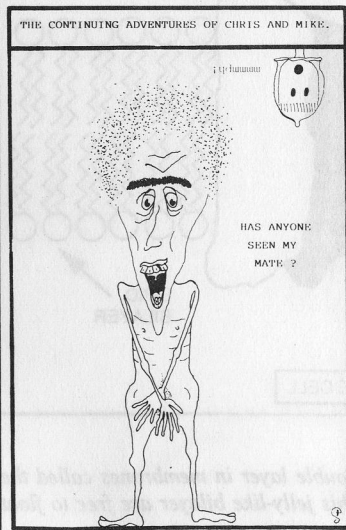
CITY OF WESTMINSTER

● **INTER HALL** rivalry has raised its ugly head again. Falmouth-Keogh are having a bitter battle with Southside Housekeeper Kate Rudlin over— toilet paper! Residents



became angered when they discovered that both Selkirk and Tizard Halls had soft paper whereas they had to make do with harder loo paper. The delicate bottoms of F-K are revolting! Leading the campaign for soft loo paper is Lloyd Ruddock, who edits the F-K Newsletter. Lloyd is determined that F-K bottoms should not be discriminated against.

● **CHAS 'A NOD'S** as good as a wink' Brereton never seems to give up. Not put down by his failures to attract members of the opposite sex at the Guilds dinners, Mr Brereton thought he would have another bash during his piano playing marathon. He instructed Rupert Clayton (who was collecting money while Chas played) to write the name of any female contributors in large letters and to jot down their vital statistics. We asked Chas whether this ploy had any success. Chas replied 'ah no, not again, you won't get anything out of me this time.'



THE BARON

'Release me, you beastly people', said Whygate, doing his best to look mean and menacing. 'I demand to be taken back to Cheapskate immediately. The citizens can't manage without me.'

'Silence!', thundered six huge Sorryland rugger buggers in unison. 'You're not going anywhere until Cheapskate has paid the ransom.'

Whygate was in a bit of a fix. At the weekend he had been captured by a mob of citizens from nearby Sorryland. All the Sorryland citizens were still very cross that the rugger buggers from Cheapskate had caused so much damage in their citizens' bar, and so had decided to exact revenge on Cheapskate. They had crept up on Whygate, thrown a blanket over his head, and bundled him into their getaway van.

Whygate had had a very rough journey to Sorryland. By the time he was let out of the van he was in a very bad mood indeed. The head citizen of Sorryland had greeted him in a very slimy manner.

'Mr Whygate, I presume', said the Sorryland head citizen.

'The scum of the earth, I presume', said Whygate, not wanting to be drawn into small talk with his captors.

'I see', said the Sorryland head citizen. 'Take him away and throw him into the deepest dungeon in the Sorryland castle', he commanded his rugger buggers.

Whygate had been confident that all the Cheapskate citizens would be arriving soon in large numbers to rescue him. Unfortunately, nobody had noticed that he had disappeared. In fact, it was not until the following day, when the Sorryland head citizen sent his ransom demand to the Cheapskate citizens' office, that the rest of the Cheapskate citizens realised he had gone. When the head citizen of Sorryland telephoned Cheapskate it was Chas Takeiteasy who answered the call, so it took quite some time for the message to get across.

'Hello, citizen of Cheapskate', said the Sorryland citizen. 'I am calling to let you know that we have Whygate.'

'I'm sorry, he's not in at the moment', said Takeiteasy. As usual he had only just got out of bed, and so was not quite with it.

'No, he's here', broke in the Sorryland citizen. 'And you're not getting him back until you give us one hundred pounds for our Rug collection.'

'Perhaps you could phone back after lunch', said Takeiteasy. 'I'm sure he'll be back then.'

Takeiteasy put the phone down, confident that he had dealt with another persistent caller in an effective manner. He was just about to crawl back under his pile of insurance claim forms when the phone rang again. It was the head citizen of Sorryland once more, and this time he sounded very cross.

'Now listen, meathead', said the Sorryland citizen. 'Either you get collecting or he stays in our dungeon. What are you going to do about it?'

Takeiteasy was still not quite sure what the caller was getting so upset about, but he was certain that he had heard the word 'meathead' so decided the call must be for Ego, the deputy head citizen.

'I think this is for you, Ego' called Takeiteasy. With that, he went back to his nest of papers and went to sleep.

'Hello, Alan Ego speaking, can I help you?' said Ego, picking up the phone.

'For the last time', shouted the Sorryland citizen, audibly foaming at the mouth, 'We've got Whygate here in Sorryland and you're not getting him back until we get one hundred pounds for our Rug collection.'

'You're just saying that to please me', chuckled Ego, always ready to play along with a practical joke.

'You don't believe me?', screamed the Sorryland citizen. 'Okay, have it your way. We'll send you some proof within the hour.'

Ego was still not too concerned. In fact he thought it was quite pleasant not to have to put up with Whygate's usual frenzied antics. Only an hour later, however, Mrs Jolly Hockey Sticks got the fright of her life when she discovered a ransom note wrapped around half of Whygate's moustache in an envelope from Sorryland.

'It's disgusting', she shuddered.

'Yes, but at least he'll have to shave the whole thing off now', quipped Ego. 'But how are we going to raise the money. I don't think the citizens will give a hundred pounds just to have Whygate back.'

'I know', said Mrs Jolly Hockey Sticks. 'Tell everyone that they'll keep him if we raise the money. That's bound to work....'

Will anyone see Whygate again?

What does he look like with only half a moustache?

Which bit of him will be sent back next?

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

Ignorance and Unconsciousness

Before the discovery of anaesthetics in 1846 surgical operations were very dangerous, very painful and very much a last resort.

Deaths on the operating table were frightfully common. Lucky patients could expect to be knocked out by a blow to the head or with large doses of hashish or alcohol.

The more unfortunate were simply held down while the surgeon went about his bloody business.

Medical science has come a long way since the nineteenth century; in this country alone more than three million operations a year are performed with relative comfort to the patient. However this impressive fact tends to obscure the reality of anaesthesia research; nobody knows how anaesthetics work.

That is not to say that many people have not tried to elucidate how anaesthetics induce unconsciousness but leave respiration and blood circulation relatively unimpaired. The heart of the mystery is that, as a class of drugs, anaesthetics are completely bizarre; xenon gas is an anaesthetic; so is alfaxalone, a steroid compound; so is decanol, a long chain alcohol. What is it about these diverse chemicals that makes them anaesthetics? Do they all act at the same site in the brain or at a number of different sites?

Many drugs one action

One unifying feature is that anaesthetics are all relatively inert and apolar (or hydrophobic). This latter fact was demonstrated at the turn of the century by Hans Meyer and E Overton in 1900. They found that the potency of an anaesthetic correlated closely with its solubility in olive oil! Now olive oil is simply a mixture of lipid molecules (these are just long chains of water-hating hydrocarbons with a water-liking group on the end) and since the membrane (or skin) covering nerve cells in the brain is also partially composed of lipids it seemed an obvious target site. Many people suggested that anaesthetics exerted their effect by dissolving in the lipid portion of the membrane and somehow shutting off the cell.

It was a very attractive hypothesis. Nerve membranes are responsible for both the transmission of electrical

signals along nerve fibres (which are simply extensions from the cell body) and for the communication of these signals between two cells. To be precise these functions are performed by a variety of protein molecules which 'float' in the lipid bilayer of the membrane (see Fig 1). Proteins are elegant molecular machines and it was widely assumed that by dissolving in the lipid portion of the membrane, anaesthetics disrupted the lipid environment of these proteins causing them to malfunction.

The Meyer-Overton correlation seemed to provide the answer to the basic riddle of anaesthetic action. Lipid bilayers in nerve membranes exist in a gell or jelly-like state; as such they provide just the sort of hydrophobic and flexible site which could accommodate the different shapes and sizes of anaesthetic molecules.

However further support for the lipid theory was hard to come by. It

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE
SPECIAL

was variously proposed that anaesthetic expanded the membrane, 'fluidised' it or reduced its gel to liquid-crystalline transition temperature. These were attempts to explain how anaesthetics in the membrane might ultimately inhibit the protein activity essential to the cell's proper functioning. In the 1960s, when artificial membranes were studied extensively, all these effects were indeed found. But at concentrations of anaesthetic which induced unconsciousness they were tiny, if not negligible.

Putting the lights out

This was a big problem. Nevertheless the persuasive power of the Meyer-Overton correlation was sufficient to maintain interest in lipid theories of anaesthetic action—particularly in the absence of a plausible alternative. In

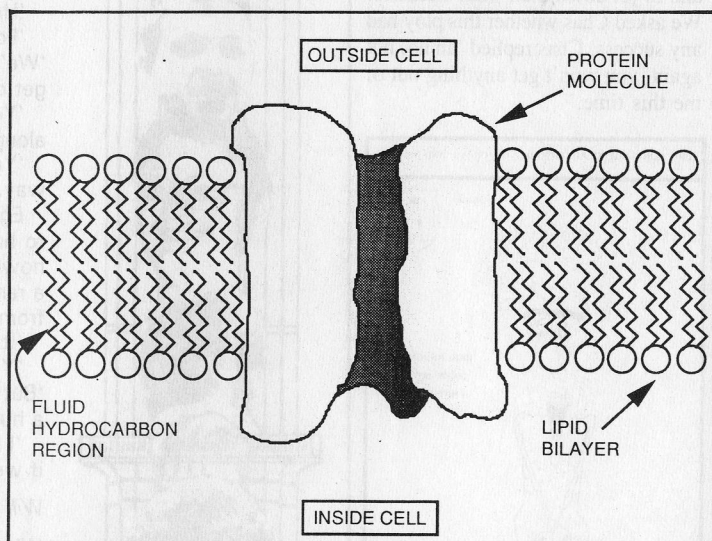
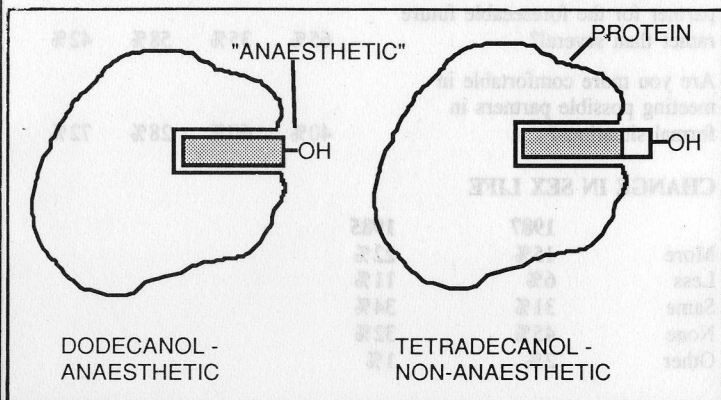


Figure 1
Lipid molecules form symmetric, double layer in membranes called the bilayer. Protein molecules in this jelly-like bilayer are free to float sideways.

Figure 2

Dodecanol and tetradecanol (12 and 14 carbons atoms long respectively) can only cover up the same surface area (shaded) by binding to a protein pocket. This may explain the 'cut-off' effect.



1984 all that began to change. Nick Franks and Bill Lieb of Imperial College found a protein that was inhibited *directly* by a wide range of anaesthetics. This was a striking result. It overturned previous notions about the nature of proteins. Compared to the lipid bilayer protein molecules are rigid constructions; it came as a great surprise to see a protein pocket, which was designed to fit one particular compound, binding a whole variety of compounds, namely anaesthetics.

This remarkable protein is firefly luciferase, an enzyme which catalyses the light emitting reaction of luciferin, ATP and oxygen (fireflies use the light to recognise each other in the dark). It showed a sensitivity to the presence of anaesthetics not seen with lipid bilayers: at concentrations of anaesthetic which normally induce unconsciousness the light output of the reaction is reduced by fifty percent. Franks and Lieb showed that anaesthetics block the reaction by binding to the hydrophobic pocket on the protein normally reserved for luciferin.

Of course firefly luciferase is not the site of anaesthetic action since it is not found in the brain. However it does not seem unlikely that a protein pocket like the one on luciferase could be found one or several of the thousands of proteins known to be operational in the brain.

'Cut-off'

The concept of the protein pocket of finite size as the site of anaesthetic action is proving useful. It can be used to account for the phenomenon 'cut-off'. This is observed, for example, with long chain alcohols: dodecanol is a very potent anaesthetic (only a tiny concentration is needed to anaesthetize) but tetradecanol, which is actually more hydrophobic, is not an anaesthetic at all. The anaesthetic

potency of long chain alcohols therefore 'cuts off' for molecules greater than 12 carbon atoms in length.

An anaesthetic is driven into a protein pocket mainly in order to remove its hydrophobic surface from contact with water (or the aqueous environment of blood). The strength or tightness of this binding is determined largely by the surface area which is removed. This interaction is a reversible, dynamic one; molecules constantly enter and exit the pocket but at any given moment a certain, fixed proportion of the available anaesthetic molecules is bound. The tighter the binding, the greater the proportion bound.

If one assumes that dodecanol fills the pocket then tetradecanol will not bind any tighter since it can only remove the same surface from water; the rest sticks out of the pocket (see Fig 2). Therefore the same proportion of molecules is bound to the protein. However the total number of tetradecanol molecules available is less because it is sixteen times less soluble in water than dodecanol. Consequently a much smaller fraction of the protein molecules is inactivated—not enough to shut down the cell. Lipid theories have yet to successfully account for 'cut-off' because tetradecanol is actually more soluble in lipid than dodecanol.

Nonetheless the debate goes on. For example, anaesthetized laboratory animals wake up if they are subjected to high pressures: will protein theories be able to account for this so-called pressure reversal? Luciferase may provide the answer. One thing is certain though: protein theories have dramatically altered the landscape of anaesthesia research and although the true mechanism of anaesthesia has not yet been sighted, we are probably much closer to it.

Stephen Curry, *Physics PG*.

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



by Steve Black

I would like to thank Stephen Curry, who is a postgraduate in Biophysics, for the article on anaesthetics. He works in the group that has done the work on Luciferase and is currently pursuing other useful ways to explore how anaesthetics work. I am willing to bet, though, that no theory of anaesthetic action explains how some Imperial College lectures can induce selective unconsciousness in the higher reaches of the brains of their students.

Anyone else out there who is doing interesting work, is welcome to write about it; I am always happy to receive contributions. I can be contacted on int 4642, via the FELIX Office or the Chemistry postgraduate letter racks.

British science and CERN

Last week's *New Scientist* contained an editorial opposing any moves to pull out of CERN, the European Particle Physics laboratory. There were very few good arguments in it. Personally I'm against it, and here are my reasons.

The reason why some people are considering pulling out is simple: SERC, which has to pay the subscription, no longer has the money. Last year, exchange rate fluctuations increased the sterling cost of the CERN subscription by rather more than SERC had left in the bank. The government only stepped in at the last minute to make up the difference: if they had not, then SERC would have been unable to fund any other new science in the UK this year. Even apart from such crises, many people think that there is simply so little money available for science that something big has to go; the quality of *all* our science will suffer if it does not.

So what excuses are there for giving CERN priority over the rest of British science? First there is the political argument: international cooperation is good for us; prestigious international collaborative projects promote world peace and harmony etc... If this is true then the Foreign Office ought to be paying for it, after all, that is where the money from other countries often comes from.

The other main argument is based on the popular appeal of Particle Physics. The fascination with fundamental things is supposed to be one of those primal urges driving people into science in the first place. Good *Horizon* programmes are made about Particle Physics, and lots of people watch them. Supposedly, if we abandon a popular area of science, then fewer people will want to do science. To me, £65 million seems rather a lot for the scientific equivalent of the sex symbol.

A less and less frequently used argument is the one that says: Particle Physics is bound to discover something useful someday. Nobody believes this any more.

Historically, high energy Physics gets the money because it is an offshoot of the nuclear weapons programme, and because so many of the people in a position to make decisions were involved with the programme. But it now consumes far too much and is giving nothing back in return. There are plenty of other areas of science where the same amount of money would yield very considerable returns. Chemistry, Electronics and Geology, for example, are all critically short of money now. All these put together probably don't spend as much as CERN; all would show large returns of useful science for small increases in money spent.

It will be bad if Britain has to pull out of CERN: Particle Physics may be useless, but it is fun and it is good for scientists to work in multi-national groups. It is also a lot better than spending the money on Star Wars. It would be embarrassing to the country, and to the Government if SERC decide to pull out. But if the Government refuses to give SERC enough money they will have no choice: banging particles together may be fun, but it's not worth destroying the rest of British science for.

Features

Student Survey

THE RESULTS

Of the surveys distributed only 3% were returned. 63% of the questionnaires were returned by men and 37% by women.

Numbers in each year	1987	1985
1st Year	34%	40%
2nd Year	31%	17%
3rd Year	27%	33%
4th Year	2%	1%
Postgraduate	6%	9%

Drinks per week	1987	1985
None	15%	28%
Hardly at all	15%	15%
Once	13%	15%
2-5	55%	30%
More than 5	2%	12%

	1987		1985	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Did you attend a single sex school?	33%	67%	40%	60%
Did you take a year out?	27%	73%	36%	64%
Did you realise the ratio was 6:1 men to women?	69%	31%	74%	26%
Are you homosexual?	2%	98%	0	100%
Do you live in hall?	64%	36%		
Would you prefer to live in a mixed hall as opposed to a single sex hall?	100%	0%	86%	14%
Do you feel self-conscious when people of the opposite sex see you in your bathrobe/nightclothes?	22%	78%	11%	89%
Would you prefer there to be more women on your course?	70%	30%	81%	19%
Do you feel that either sex is more capable of doing your subject?	10%	90%	18%	82%
Are you at all uncomfortable about having to compete with the opposite sex?	9%	91%	6%	94%
Do you find it easy to make friends with both sexes?	81%	19%	79%	21%
Do you find it embarrassing to talk about sex with members of the opposite sex?	22%	78%	19%	81%
Are there any subjects which you would not discuss with close friends?	27%	73%	30%	70%
Would you ever try to pair off your male & female friends?	29%	71%	29%	71%
Are you looking for a boyfriend/girlfriend at the moment?	35%	65%	40%	60%
Are you looking for a sexual relationship?	27%	73%		

Do you have a boyfriend/girlfriend outside of College?	41%	59%	35%	65%
Would you rather have one partner for the foreseeable future rather than several?	65%	35%	58%	42%
Are you more comfortable in meeting possible partners in formal situations?	40%	60%	28%	72%

CHANGE IN SEX LIFE

	1987	1985
More	15%	22%
Less	6%	11%
Same	31%	34%
None	45%	32%
Other	2%	1%

I was expecting the results regarding love/sex to be very different when comparing 1985 with 1987 due to pressure put on by the threat of AIDS but the only marked difference is that more people are abstaining from sex and wanting just a close physical relationship instead.

MEN'S RESULTS

	1987		1985	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Do you belong to a mostly male club?	19%	81%	30%	70%
Would you describe yourself as chauvenistic?	24%	76%		
Do you ever feel that girls in your class fail to take the subject as seriously as you do?	7%	93%	10%	90%
Are you ever conscious of being patronising towards women?	44%	56%	26%	74%
Do you worry that girls will mistake friendliness for sexual advances?	57%	43%	41%	59%
Do you find girls approachable or intimidating?	75%	25%	29%	71%
Is having a girlfriend important to you at this stage?	60%	40%	53%	47%
Do you feel hurt when a woman lets you down?	80%	20%	33%	67%

WOMEN'S RESULTS

	1987		1985	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Do you belong to a mostly female club?	17%	83%		
Would you describe yourself as a feminist?	28%	72%	30%	70%
Do you feel that men patronize you?	22%	78%	37%	63%
Do you feel threatened by the behaviour of men around you?	17%	83%	37%	63%
Did you think the male/female ratio would improve your love life?	11%	89%	12%	88%
Do you ever take advantage of men?	17%	83%	20%	80%
Do you think it's then man's job to make the first pass?	28%	72%		

THE FIFTH COLUMN

Aesthetic Design

—Looking good?

Design is more than the creation of a functional device; it is as equally concerned with the aesthetic appeal of the final product. This is the belief of Mr Paul Ewing, coordinator of the Industrial Design Engineering course run jointly by the Mechanical Engineering Department at Imperial College and the Department of Industrial Design at the Royal College of Art. The two-year course (for engineering graduates) was set up in 1980, with the aim of 'combining the function and logic of engineering with the imagination and beauty of design'.

Much of the original funding was provided by the Royal Commission for the 1851 Exhibition, and most of the students are themselves supported by the Science and Engineering Research Council.

In their first year, the students are encouraged to develop their appreciation of such things as colour, form and texture and also their ability to communicate through sketches and models. After the cultural desert of traditional engineering course, as Mr Ewing put it, 'It brings out the creativity that was there from primary school—like taking the lid off the box'. But everything is kept in perspective with courses on production, materials and business studies.

The second year is spent on a major design project, the results of last year's work being exhibited recently in the Mechanical Engineering Foyer. Each student chooses his own project, the emphasis being on a balance of engineering and industrial design. The student is then responsible for the whole spectrum of design from original concept, to testing and through to manufacture.

Projects on display included:

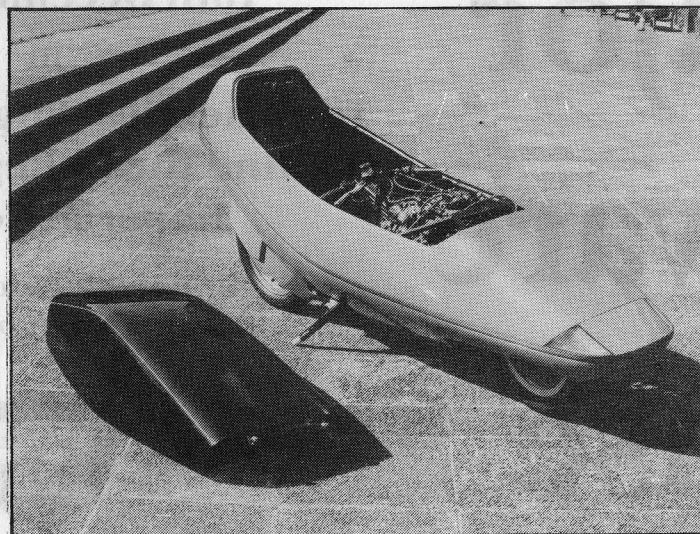
- **Stairlift for disabled people**—with fold down arms for easy access.
- **Saucemaker**—with 'innovative vibratory mixing system'.
- **Enclosed motorcycle**—perhaps a little noisy for the rider.

● **Portable wind energy converter**—at 23kg and a fold-down size of 1.5m, a little cumbersome. But to find fault with those projects is to miss the point, Mr Ewing believes, as even one of the more successful designs; the folding bicycle by Mark Sanders (an IC graduate), took two years of further development and funding before reaching production.

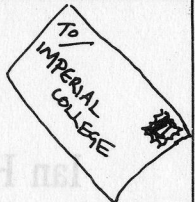
Judging the success of the course is not easy. Past projects have gone on to win national and international design awards, such as the coveted Braun Design Prize for a sewing machine in 1983. Past students have gone on equally to design consultancies and industry, with firms such as Jaguar and GEC actually sponsoring students on the course. Notably, one graduate is currently design manager at Lewmar Marine, a company whose wares grace both the Americas Cup and Howard's Way!

Interest in the course is steadily growing; this year there were 65 applications for the 15 or so places and next year Mr Ewing expects around 100. But, while companies like the concept, they are less forthcoming with actual participation.

In the future Mr Ewing would like to see aspects of the course integrated into the standard engineering degree. But whether or not this will actually happen remains to be seen.



Letter from St. Mary's



I suppose this piece is written for all those people who toil ceaselessly behind the scenes to ensure the success of any large theatrical or musical event. This weekend I have been the object of irritation for 60 'artistes'. I know that people who work behind the scenes have on many occasions suffered the same, perhaps worse fate.

Here at St Mary's we are in the production week of the musical *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Since the run is for a full five days, finishing tonight, the small amount of equipment hired for the week arrived that Friday and had to be fully functional for the dress rehearsal at 9.30am on Saturday.

After arguing with the assembled cast for one and a half hours last Friday to vacate the small area so the lighting people could gain access to point and focus the lights, we worked until 5.30am on Saturday morning. Up again at 8.30am, we ran into problems delaying the final run-through. After being pushed around for the past two weeks because 'the cast needed to rehearse on stage' one expected a little tolerance as the fault was not ours, but a piece of desk control cable multicore was found to be wired incorrectly when returned to the company.

The impression I received last weekend was that the stage and lighting were evil messages in the way of true artistic development, and that whatever one strives to perform, miracles are not quite attainable. So for all those people who toil all hours that God sends and who barely, if ever, gain the true rewards they deserve, these are the people that make it all possible and without them there would be no performance.

Next week at our Recreation Centre following the musical, from Monday to Wednesday DramSoc perform *Stags & Hens* (???) by Willy Russell (which I recommend after seeing rehearsals). Performances start at 7.30pm and tickets are £2. The address for those interested is 38 to 36 Sussex Gardens (Paddington tube for Edgware Road). All are welcome so come and see how medical students really behave—nothing like the rumours, but much worse.

College for Etiquette

Ian Howgate, Union President, now wishes to become custodian of correct behaviour at College events. He has inspired close inspection of codes of etiquette which every Imperial student should know and observe at formal dinners.

In the outside world, whether rightly or wrongly, it may be necessary to know how to behave properly at formal occasions in order to get on in life, commented Mr Howgate. He sees this as being part of all round education of College students.

So here are a few guidelines for the next formal dinner:

Dress

Gentlemen—The ticket for the dinner will usually indicate the type of dress which is acceptable. 'Black tie' will require a dinner jacket, black tie, trousers and shoes. A dark lounge suit may be also worn at such occasions although this would usually be indicated on the ticket. 'Tails' self-evidently means tails are necessary. Occasionally at a formal dinner coloured bow ties may be worn but they must be dark (sorry Ian, no pink

with yellow dots).

Ladies—A short dress is acceptable for a 'black tie dinner' although a long dress will be needed for a 'tails' dinner. Ladies should never go to a dinner almost topless, at a dinner dance a strapless dress may be worn, but at the meal a stole or shawl must also be worn.

Before the meal one should stand behind the chair until grace has been said (this is more likely to occur in the outside world than at a College dinner). If taking a lady, then pull her chair out and push it back before sitting down yourself.

At the end of the meal and generally after the speeches there will be a toast to the Queen. Between the start of the meal and the loyal toast you should not get out of your chair unless absolutely necessary. Also do not take

off articles of clothing (eg jackets, ties) or undo top buttons.

Passing the Port

The loyal toast is made with the port so don't drink it before the toast. The port is passed clockwise (ie to the left) around the table. Operate the decanter with the left hand. If serving the lady to your left (there is some discussion as to whether it is necessary to pour out a lady's port for her, so this may not be needed) then serve her first and pass the port around her back. Ideally the port should never touch the table, a glass, or the right hand.

At the end of the meal leave whenever everyone else starts to leave, and if taking a lady pull her chair out for her. If members of the academic staff are still sitting then excuse yourself.

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The Marathon Man

Why did Chas Brereton miss the Hypnosis lecture last year? Why does he want to become a merchant banker this year? Is this article just more blatant self-publicity? Read on to find out just what it's like to play lift music for 40 hours!

Introduction.

If you were in the JCR on Tuesday 17th or Wednesday 18th November then you would have heard music—but not of the usual IC Radio variety! Instead, you would have heard what has been described as 'Interesting Cocktail Music'. For the third year running, I played the piano for 40 hours during Rag Week. This article is intended to give an insight into how this event has run for the past 3 years.

Where did it all start?

I first had the idea of doing a piano marathon in 1984, when I came to IC. I had heard about Rag Week and the various events taking place—including the 1,000,001 down darts marathon. I considered that a sponsored piano-marathon would be an ideal way for me to get involved with Rag at IC. Unfortunately, I did not know enough about Rag or the way the Union worked to organise the event that year. The next year, however, I was able to ask John Ingham (Rag Chairman 85/86) to help me organise it.

I started collecting sponsorships amongst friends in my department and amongst members of the various clubs and societies to which I belonged. I also approached Dep Reps and asked them to take sponsorship forms to the students in their respective departments. The event itself took place in a notable absence of publicity in the most unlikely of venues: the Brown Committee room at the top of the Union Building. In fact, it nearly didn't happen at all; at 5.55am the Beit Quad Security guard was searching frantically for the keys to the OpSoc room so I could get in and use their piano!

In spite of the lack of publicity and the teething problems encountered with any event that takes place for the first time, I raised £401.50 that year.

1986—things get a bit better...

Last year I was determined to get myself organised well before the marathon. I needed a better venue, for a start. The Sheffield foyer was suggested as the place which has the most people passing through it daily, but Security would have none of that. So I settled on the JCR. I was able to borrow Rob Northey's piano (used for refectory functions). The other main consideration was getting sponsorships. I had been booked to play the piano at some of the Guilds Fresher's Buffets early in the term, so I took advantage of this to get sponsorships from those present. This accounted for the bulk of the sponsorships obtained. During the marathon itself I was able to rely on Man Tai Tseung (Rag Chairman 86-87) to provide me with helpers who would make numerous cups of coffee and go round collecting sponsorships from people in the JCR. The morning hours weren't too bad; people were always popping in (Drink-a-Pub-Dry survivors were still crawling back to IC at 3am!) including a delegation from QT Soc! I finished on time at 10pm just as Martin Taylor's Hypnosis lecture was ending.

Collecting the money was not so easy this time. I had 500 names from every department on the forms and there was no way I could go and see all of them. I tried sending notes to all concerned but the response rate was abysmal. In the end I raised £805.37 out of the £1,700 on the forms. The fact that I was working in the Centre for Biotechnology during last year didn't help!

Third year blues

I was in two minds as to whether to do this event this year. On one hand it seemed natural to continue and try to raise as much money for Rag as

possible. On the other, this being my final year was not going to make collecting easier than before.

I decided that if I was going to collect more money than in previous years I would have to iron out all the problems faced in past years. Lack of publicity was a major problem in the past, but this year the marathon was an official Rag Week event and as such appeared on all the posters. I also designed and photocopied my own posters.

On the sponsorship front I played at all the RCS and Guilds fresher's dinners and was able to collect money from people as they sponsored me; this has meant that relatively fewer people need to be chased up from each dinner as opposed to the amount of money which has been collected already. In fact, I've been to 25 fresher's dinners since I came to IC—but bought a ticket for only one of them (highly dubious, Chas!)

At the time of writing (1.06 am, Tuesday 1st December) the total amount pledged on the forms is £2,300ish of which about £1,200 has been collected already.

Criticisms

On the face of it, it looks like a lot of money is going to be raised for Rag. Nevertheless, my piano-marathon has come in for criticism from various people. I feel it is only fair that answer some of these criticisms.

First, several people have complained at the methods I use to get people to sponsor me. Some have asked me whether I want to become a Timeshare/double glazing salesman (no, I want to become a stockbroking yuppie!). I make no apologies whatsoever for adopting a "hard-sell" approach. In many cases I had to "cold-call"; i.e. approach total strangers from scratch. I learned quickly that you do not raise thousands for Rag by taking no for an answer. Briefly, there are 3 sorts of people, (i) those who will readily sponsor me, sometimes without me

having to ask them, (ii) those who will sponsor me but need to be "sold on the idea" (by far the majority), and (iii) the mean b*st*rds who don't give a sh*t about the good work done by charities and the help given to them by IC students. I won't name names but these people know who they are and why I have little time for them.

Others have questioned my motives for doing the marathon. The best "excuse" that I heard was that last year I did the marathon to restore my Union credibility after screwing up my second year exams! I can only say that in view of the time and effort involved in organising the marathon this is pretty feeble. I certainly wasn't thinking of my "credibility" after being without proper sleep for a day and a half. I should point out that I actually lose money on this event—I don't claim back any of my expenses (this year has cost me about £25).

Finally, some people have asked what happens if they don't pay. Last year a Physics fresher asked me if I would be "sending the boys round" if she didn't pay up! (Yes I can still remember you asking!) I can do without such cynicism; I have no means of enforcing people to pay other than appealing to their consciences.

Next year

...I won't be here. I would be disappointed if this event died because no-one could play the piano for 40 hours (believe me it's not all that difficult). Most of the time I churned out improvised 'elevator/restaurant/background music'; I don't mean to boast but it requires very little effort to produce this sort of music for hours on end! If there are any pianists out there would might be interested in doing this marathon next year I would be more than glad to give them the benefit of 3 years experience.

This article would be incomplete without thanks to everyone who has ever helped me with the marathon in whatever way.

Charles Brereton

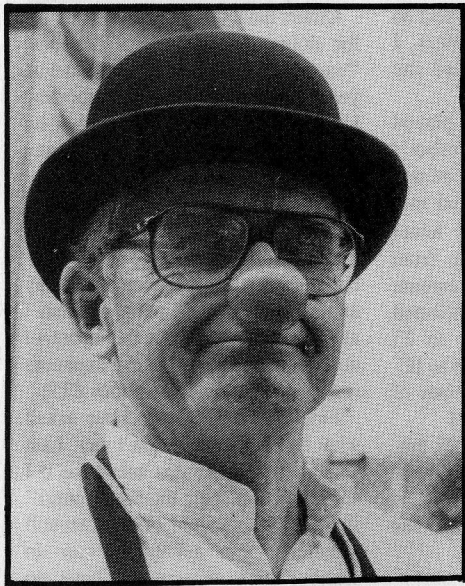
The Cat

Listen in on **Naughty Ian's** spanking

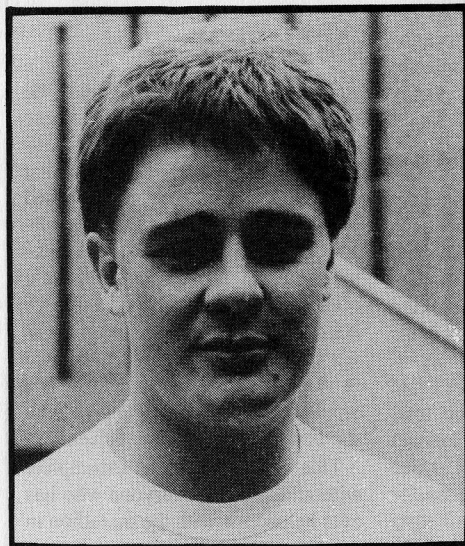


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ARTHUR USES JOHN SMITH AS CASH POINT CARD — OFFICIAL



Smith: 'It's been Hell'



Arthur: spent money on boat

Boat club benefactor Michael Arthur is using his boss, Imperial College's favourite secretary, John Smith, as a magic money card.

The shocking news came to light at the Boat Club's annual dinner last week, when Smith, clearly suffering from severe strain, let it slip that he had been subjected to this degrading treatment.

During his after dinner speech, Smith, visibly shaking and very possibly nearly at breaking point, blurted out: 'I am the bit

of plastic that Michael Arthur puts into the Queensgate Trust when he wants to get money out.'

cover up

Though he later tried to pass off his comments as a joke, Smith was clearly relieved that the truth was finally out in the open. He said earlier this week: 'I am glad it's all over. It's been hell.'

'piss off'

FELIX reporters tried

to interview Michael Arthur at his home yesterday, but were told to 'piss off' by Mr Arthur when he opened the door.

Mr Smith said that he hoped other people in his position would be able to come forward and expose the culprits.

Mr Smith is 57. A source said yesterday that Mr Arthur was over 18.

Gentleman Geoff

Geoff Parsons is making quite an impact as President of RSMU. Dave Burns reviews Mines and talks to Geoff about the Union.

The 'Time Out' Student Guide this year gave special mention to the Royal School of Mines in its write up of Imperial College. It put forward the famous image of Hon Porn Night, drunken mindlessness and all the other popular misrepresentations of burly, sexist, racist bigots working their way through university in an alcoholic haze.

Anyone who cares to take a look at the Royal School of Mines in this new year, will see that this view, which has been waning in recent times, is crumbling under the leadership of Geoff Parsons as the President of RSMU.

The beginning of this term saw a revamped Mines union office and a new pride in the identity and image of Mines. The change has been a long time in the offing. For much of the seventies mining students tended to be the more mature students, who prided themselves on a work hard, play hard, drink hard life style. As the nature of courses in Mines changed, and the age of entrant to the College dropped, less experienced students were trying to uphold a tradition which they did not have the ability to carry off.

The Royal School of Mines Union had always been fiercely independent, a closed social group which could not be swallowed up by the rest of College. The change in nature of Mining students, meant that RSMU was slowly being overwhelmed. With less organisation and commitment among students the 'Mines' identity was being lost.

When Ian Howgate became Geology Department Representative,

he began to highlight the fact the Mines image should be changing. While Ian moved on to ICU, Geoff Parsons has exploded onto the scene in Mines and taken a completely new approach to the problem.

Upon meeting Geoff Parsons you are immediately struck by his strong character. He is calm, business like and very organised. You are greeted with courtesy, invited to chat with him in the office and politely helped with any questions. In short Geoff is a real gentleman. I caught up with him after a Mines UGM and talked about the new direction RSMU is taking.



Geoff stands out from the crowd...

The majority of the credit for the complete renewal of the Mines Office goes to Geoff. His years on the athletics circuit—he is the British high jump record holder—have given him many contacts within business, and the confidence to deal with them. He's reluctant to discuss precisely where all the finance for the office comes from. It is likely that the companies concerned were loathe to reveal their involvement to competitors, or, it has been speculated, they may have involvement in South Africa which the Union could find embarrassing.

Geoff is rightly proud of the office. 'I like to think I could bring the Chairman of ICI in here without worrying he is coming into a beer-drenched hole which smells of puke.' The office itself could easily be any executive office, plush carpeted, large chairs, and all the paraphernalia of wealth. It is immaculately clean and well organised. Much of the paperwork from years past has been thrown out, and only relevant material remains. As we sat and chatted, the place was busy with Union activity. It is firmly established as a place where the business of RSMU goes on. Socialising is left to the bar and the coffee room. Geoff feels the office has promoted 'self-pride in Mines' and in time the students will reap the full benefits. While jobs in the mining industry in this country become increasingly hard to come by, contacts with industry can only help in the long term.

The Mines UGM I attended was the best behaved and organised CCU meeting I have seen. Geoff seems to command attention and respect from within the Union, as do all the executive. The Union structure has been reinforced and apparently all the reps who are supposed to attend do so. Events are well publicised and attended.

Geoff is clearly not accomplishing everything himself, but he is demonstrating the sort of leadership and guiding influence which the other CCUs could do with.

The new image of the Union has also promoted a good staff-student relationship. The Dean and Heads of Departments were all present at an evening to open the new office, and staff members were much in evidence at the freshers' dinner.

RSMU may still be the smallest CCU in the College, but right now it is presenting the best face of any, and its President is head and shoulders above the rest. The new approach within Mines is one which Geoff thinks ICU could well do with. It certainly appears to be doing wonders for RSMU.

They were...
THE

FASHION VICTIMS

FELIX sent models Andy and Sue down Kensington High Street to discover what everyone should be wearing this Christmas. Armed with one camera, a notebook and no money, they tried on as many expensive clothes as they could. Unless Daddy's incredibly rich you won't be able to afford any of these!



Concept Man supply Andy with a print shirt, £14.99 and frosted jeans, £20.00.



Coat £150
Trousers £75
Shirt £45
Hyper Hyper

Andy looks camp in a black leather jacket for £95 in Ken Market.



Susan finds a jacket of the 60s for £40 and Andy's Hi NRG look cost £50 for the jacket and £25 for the pleated pegtops.



From Pierrot in Hyper Hyper, Susan in a £200 black dress.

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Yes Prime Minister, Vol 2

Jonathan Lynn
BBC £9.95

Hot Money

Dick Francis
Michael Joseph £10.95

The Duty Men

Peter Gillman
BBC £10.95

Guinness Book of

Records 1988

Guinness £8.95

Lyle Official Antiques

Review 1988

Tony Curtis
Lyle £12.95

The Times 1000 1987-1988

Times Books £22.50

Touring England

A.A. Publications £24.95

The Times Concise Atlas of the World

Times Books £55

Burkes Guide to Country Houses Vol. 1 Ireland

Mark Bence-Jones
Burkes Peerage £18

Burkes Royal Palaces of Europe

Hugh Montgomery-Massingbird
Burkes Peerage £12.95

Goffs Business Travellers Guide 1988

Guide Associates £8.95

RAG

Get Santa!

Santa Claus has grown disillusioned with reindeer and mince pies. He has become depressed at the thought of having to deliver billions of presents in just 24 hours. He is getting old and feels the cold more nowadays. That is why he has decided to go AWOL—but for a good cause. He has joined forces with the Elimination of Leukaemia Fund (ELF) in order to raise money to fund nursing staff and equipment at Kings College Hospital.



Four Londoners are diagnosed with Leukaemia or a related cancer every day. If they are lucky they face injections, medication and blood transfusions while doctors work to kill off the cancerous cells in their body. But there is a real shortage of beds, nurses and equipment to treat Leukaemia. ELF aims to build a new treatment unit at Kings College Hospital. Santa and ELF are raising this money by holding a giant Santa Hunt around London on Sunday 13th December. All IC students can join in the hunt, starting from the Time Out offices in Southampton Street at

4pm. It is a ten-point trail to Santa and should take 1-2 hours. Once you've found where he is, you can join the party! Money is raised by sponsorship for every checkpoint you successfully discover. There are some very good prizes as well. There will be a draw from everyone who finds Santa for a Wintersun week for two in Luxor, Egypt, and the best fundraiser wins a £500 day at Way In at Harrods plus a Psion Organiser II.

A limited number of sponsorship forms are available from the FELIX Office.



Duck Noodle Soup

Whilst in Soho last Sunday, having just gorged myself on a selection of delicious Chinese cakes and gallons of fresh tea from the Kowloon in Gerrard Street and although feeling a little worse for wear for eating too much, it struck me that I should try my hand at a little Chinese cuisine. With a budget of only a fiver I scrapped the idea of treating myself to a wok and seeing as it is necessary to be in a position of *professional upward mobility* to have such a utensil in one's kitchen I decided that I didn't exactly qualify and considered my position, as typesetter operator for FELIX, as being, in contrast, *absolutely stationary*.

Anyway putting all these thoughts out of my head I set about gathering together the ingredients for 'Duck Noodle Soup'. The meat for this recipe was bought in what I can only describe as a Chinese duck shop, also in Gerrard Street, where I managed to overcome a slight language problem and ordered half a duck which was magnificently jointed by a man with a big cleaver and very nimble fingers who *doesn't* drink at lunchtime if he's got any sense. After purchasing my duck (which comes ready-cooked) I headed for the nearest supermarket where I was confronted by lots of tea varieties, types of noodles, and Chinese people all of which made life a little more difficult. Back in the sanctuary of my kitchen in Mitcham I set about preparing the soup and the recipe is as follows:

Ingredients for 3 people:

- Chicken stock
- ½ a cooked duck
- ½ lb dried noodles
- ¼ lb Chinese leaves (or similar vegetable)
- Salt and pepper to taste

Method:

Cook the noodles in a large pan of boiling water until they break apart and soften slightly, wash in cold water and drain for a minute or two, transfer the noodles and the duck into the stock (which should be boiling as well) cook all this for about five minutes and at the very last point add the chinese leaves. This recipe is so easy and getting the ingredients can be great fun—so have a go!

Diary

What's On

FRIDAY

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

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

GLC Meeting1.00pm.
Union SCR (above Norman's). Free coffee available. Sign up for: Greyhound racing at Walthamstow, 'Best Years of Your Life' at the Man in the Moon, City visit. Place are limited.

Friday Prayer1.00pm.
The Union Building. See Islamic Society.

Lecture3.30pm.
Magnetism lecture. Physics lecture theatre one. Celebrate the end of the course with a party. Free.

ICSO Concert8.00pm.
Great Hall. The Planets Suite and other works. Conductor: Richard Dickens. £2.50 (students), £1.50 (others), £1 (advance).

SATURDAY

GLC Greyhound RacingEvening
Time to be announced at Friday's meeting. 14 places left in an enclosure with 4 bars, food, etc. £2.50

Shotokan Karate10.00am.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

Tang Soodo4.00pm.
Union Gym. Instructor P W Yap (4th dan black belt) beginners welcome. £1 members.

SUNDAY

Wargames Meeting1.00pm.
Senior Common Room.

MONDAY

Rock Soc Meeting12.30pm.
Southside Upper Lounge. Interested in any form of rock? Come along!

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'an1.00pm.
9 Prince's Gardens. See Islamic Society.

Golf Practice5.30pm.
Union Gym. See Golf Club.

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

Shotokan Karate7.00pm.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

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

Tang Soo Do9.00pm.
Southside Gym. Instructor P W Yap (4th dan black belt). Beginners welcome. £1.00 members.

Guilts & RCS Radioshow9.00pm.
Prizes, good music and all the latest gossip!

TUESDAY

Christian Union8.15am.
Chemistry 231. See Steve Clark, Christian Union.

Guinness & Gossip12.30pm.
Sailing Club meeting above Stan's.

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

Boardsailing12.30pm.
Regular meeting in Southside Lounge to organise trips.

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

Third World First Debate1.00pm.
Brown Committee Room.

Guilts 'Trial' UGMJunchtime
Dave Tyler and other notables on trial for various offences...bring your tube pass, you may need it.

QT Soc Meeting1.00pm.
Southside Upper Lounge (or Pizza Bar). Plot-hatching extravaganza! New members welcome.

Holy Qur'an Recitation1.30pm.
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

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

Amnesty Meeting5.30pm.
Brown Committee Room. Everyone welcome.

Port Tasting6.00pm.
Union SCR. Including a 1970 vintage port, white port and many others. £2.50. See Wine Tasting Soc.

Judo6.30pm.
Union Gym. Next beginners' course—January.

Caving Club Meeting7.00pm.
Southside Upper Lounge.

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

Concert7.30pm.
Twentieth Century Music. Kings College Great Hall, Strand (Charing Cross of Holborn tube). FREE.

OpSoc Rehearsal7.30pm.
53 Princes Gate. See OpSoc.

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

Dai Rocking9.00pm.
IC Radio, 999KHz. A deranged drunk plays his favourite rock music, hard and soft but all LOUD!

WEDNESDAY

Sailing12.30pm.
Meet outside Southside.

Explanation of Holy Qur'an1.00pm.
9 Prince's Gardens. Talk given by Dr Darsh. See Islamic Society.

Wine Tasting6.30am.
Outside Beit Quad. The Wine Soc French trip. Set your alarm clocks.

IC Gay Okay12.30pm.
If you can stand the embarrassment of people thinking you are going to War Games Society then the Society for Lesbian and Gay Students meets in the Green Committee Room, Top Floor of the Union Building.

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

Golf Meeting1.00pm.
Sudbury. Regular weekly meeting.

Caving Club Meeting1.00pm.
Union Snack Bar.

Wargames Meeting1.00pm.
Senior Common Room.

Beginners Rock n Roll2.00pm.
UDH. 80p. See Dance Club.

Shotokan Karate3.00pm.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

Advanced Rock n Roll3.00pm.
UDH. 80p. See Dance Club.

ULU Meditation Group7.00pm.
Room 3A, University of London Union, Malet Street. Traditional breathing meditation. Everyone welcome. No charge.

Guilts Motor Club7.15pm.
Mech Eng 750. Meeting for everyone concerned and afterwards in Southside Bar for scalextric

championships.

THURSDAY

MethSoc Meeting12.30pm.
Discussion on a relevant subject.

ICYHA Meeting12.30pm.
Southside Upper Lounge.

AudioSoc Meeting12.30pm.
Cheap records and CDs in the Union SCR.

Socialist Society Meeting12.45pm.
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.

Amnesty Day1.00pm.
JCR. Human Rights Day stall. Please come!

SFSOC Library Meeting1.00pm.
Green Committee Room, Union Building. Borrow books from our vast library, help plan future events. Members only.

Arabic Classes1.30pm.
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

Gliding Club Meeting5.30pm.
Aero 254. Arrange trial flights, lifts to Lasham, talks and then to the bar.

Orienteering Training5.30pm.
Union Gym. Social meeting held from 6.30pm onwards.

Judo6.30pm.
Union Gym. Next beginners' course—January.

BUNAC6.45pm.
Work in USA or Canada meeting at University College Lecture Theatre (Goodge Street tube). Proof of attendance is compulsory for those eventually applying to either programme.

Gay/Lesbian Group7.30pm.
ULU Building, Malet Street. Room 2e for speakers and booze (and dancing later if you're feeling daring enough to come out to a nitespot. Who knows—you might enjoy yourself.

Comedy Night8.30pm.
In Lounge. £1.50, 50p with Ents card.

Soul Express9.00pm.
IC Radio. Danny & Ken present the best in soul, dance and house.

FELIX will not be appearing next Friday. There will be a bumper Christmas edition on Wednesday 16th December.

Upbeat

Weekend Viewing

Ibiza is a really nice place if you can find a spot unpopulated with Brits in their coffee-coloured shorts and socks and sandals. Yuk! Unfortunately the Spaniards are so chuffed that Barcelona has been chosen to host the 1992 Olympics, they have decided to have five years of celebrations leading up to them! This summer saw the first

Just Another University for an hour. I saw the preview last week and there are classic shots of IC, the Rector, the Departments, etc, as Laurie Taylor does his bit for his old university. Would you believe it, but the only bit of student activities they show apart from working in the lab is FELIX! It's true. In one hour they devote maybe five minutes to students outside of the lecture theatres and of those five about



in an annual series of pop concerts leading to the Games set in Ibiza. The BBC, in their great wisdom, have decided to screen highlights of this event on Saturday (BBC2, 7.35pm) including Marillion and Freddie Mercury with Montserrat Caballé. I just can't wait until 1992!

If you're kind of kinky, *The Film Club* (BBC2, Saturday, 10pm) is showing two films about male obsession. One is French and sounds unmissable: 'two women exercise a form of sexual terrorism' on the hapless hero! The second is *Man of Flowers* which is 'profoundly erotic'? Mmm, sounds interesting.

For those of you following the hideous *Dancing Days* (Channel 4, 11.30am, Saturday), it's just getting so exciting! Carlos has finally found out Julia's true identity and is still madly in love with her! Watch tomorrow's episode to find out what will happen next.

There are some really crass programmes on Saturday night. I really pity the masses who look forward to their TV dinner with *Blind Date* (ITV, 7.15pm) and *Copy Cats* (ITV, 6.45pm). Don't do it! There is a programme you must watch on Channel 4 instead. At 6.32pm tomorrow they will be screening *Not*

three minutes are devoted to FELIX, an interview with last year's Editor David Jones plus lots of shots of the FELIX megastars.

Talking of crass programmes there's *Laughs from the Palladium* (ITV, Sunday, 7.15pm). Don't you just hate Jimmy Tarbuck? This programme is meant to be highlights of the comedy they've featured but I don't think it's even worth turning on the set.

What is worth watching is the glorious *Spitting Image* (ITV, Sunday, 10.05pm). This is the last in the current series; shame! Worth ten times what *Laughs from the Palladium* is worth! *Spitting Image* is followed by a *South Bank Show* (ITV, 10.35pm) devoted to Eric Clapton. It traces his life from his childhood in Surrey, through to his success with the sixties pop group the *Yardbirds* and supergroup *Cream*. It features his years of drug and alcohol addition. Torrid tales!

Night Network features *Jethro Tull* (ITV, Monday, 1am) and if you can bear to stay up all night there's *TV Censored Bloopers* (ITV, Monday, 4am) which claims to be hilarious out-takes from American TV based on *It'll Be Alright on the Night*.

ICCAG Soup Run9.15pm.
Weeks Hall Basement. See Imperial College Community Action Group (ICCAG).

FRIDAY

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

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

Friday Prayer.....1.00pm.
The Union Building. See Islamic Society.

Video Evening7.00pm.
More House (53 Cromwell Road). A Methsoc/Cathsoc event including a documentary on U2 and a film. All welcome.

Guilds Motor Club7.00pm.
Scrutineering for tonight's rally.

SATURDAY

Shotokan Karate10.00am.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

Tang Soodo4.00pm.
Union Gym. Instructor P W Yap (4th dan black belt) beginners welcome. £1 members.

End of Term Party6.30pm.
JCR. Organised by IC Friends of Palestine. £3 (non-members), £2.50 (members). Food included.

SUNDAY

Wargames Meeting1.00pm.
Senior Common Room.

MONDAY

Rock Soc Meeting12.30pm.
Southside Upper Lounge. Interested in any form of rock? Come along!

Curry Soc.....12.30pm.
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'an1.00pm.
9 Prince's Gardens. See Islamic Society.

Golf Practice.....5.30pm.
Union Gym. See Golf Club.

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

Shotokan Karate7.00pm.
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

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

Tang Soo Do.....9.00pm.
Southside Gym. Instructor P W Yap (4th dan black belt). Beginners welcome. £1.00 members.

Guilds & RCS Radioshow9.00pm.
Prizes, good music and all the latest gossip!

TUESDAY

Christian Union.....8.15am.
Chemistry 231. See Steve Clark, Christian Union.

BUNAC12.30pm.
JCR. If you would like to work in Canada or the USA next summer come and talk to IC's rep.

Guinness & Gossip12.30pm.
Sailing Club meeting above Stan's.

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

Boardsailing12.30pm.
Regular meeting in Southside Lounge to organise trips.

Ski Club.....12.45pm.
Above Southside Bar, sign up for lessons and recreational skiing.

QT Soc Meeting1.00pm.
Southside Upper Lounge (or Pizza Bar). Plot-hatching extravaganza! New members welcome.

Holy Qur'an Recitation1.30pm.
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

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

Amnesty Meeting5.30pm.
Brown Committee Room. Everyone welcome.

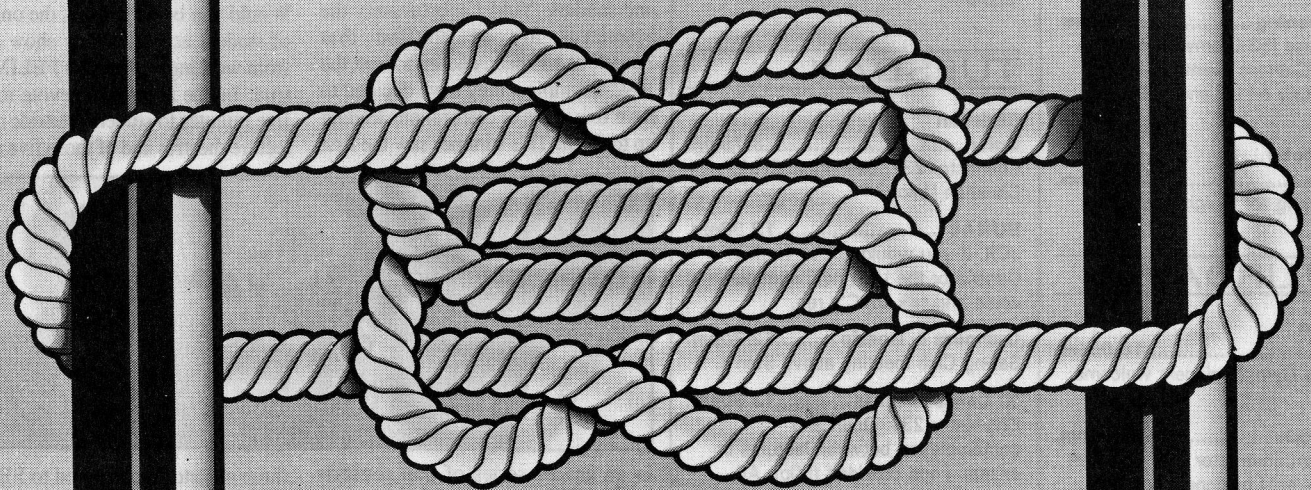
Judo6.30pm.
Union Gym. Next beginners' course—January.

MethSoc Pub Trip8.00pm.
Meet at Chaplain's Office. Yes, the first official MethSoc Pub Trip and Christmas Dinner.

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

Dai Rocking9.00pm.

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Wish You Were Here

Two notable debuts are made in one of the hits of this year's Cannes Film Festival, *Wish You Were Here*. One can quite understand why Emily Lloyd, the sixteen year old star of the film (and only just sixteen when it was made), has aroused so much media interest, and since become something of a celebrity. Quite apart from her slightly unusual tomboyish good looks, she gives a performance of astounding maturity for one so inexperienced. Credit must also go to actor/writer David Leland, here directing for the first time, who has created the realistic and interesting character played by Lloyd and, around her, a closely observed picture of postwar provincial Britain.

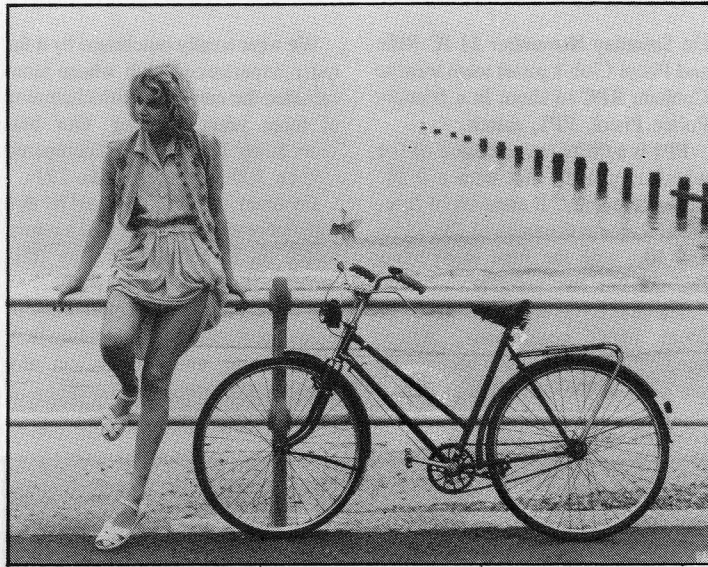
Lynda is growing up in a small conservative and close-knit seaside town, which she finds unrelentingly boring, and where she cannot hold down a job due to her rather tactless lack of self control. She lives with her stiff-lipped, petty-minded father and younger sister. Her mother, the only real symbol of love in her life, having died when she was young. The relationship with her father is important for he is totally incapable of handling or understanding his headstrong and sharp-mouthed teenage daughter, and the resulting lack of affection is clearly one of the major aspects affecting Lynda's personality. Confusing sex with affection she drifts through a series of encounters until she meets Eric, convincingly played by Tom Bell, a friend of her fathers and local cinema projectionist, who sees that he can abuse Lynda's innocence. Her life is thrown into further disarray when she becomes pregnant by Eric, and the rest of the film is devoted to the dilemma she feels about the child.

Wish You Were Here is simply an excerpt from Lynda's life and certainly doesn't attempt to answer any questions, which I thought made the ending rather weak. However, what makes the film special is undoubtedly the character of Lynda. She has a heartwarming combination of innocence with cheeky rebelliousness, exemplified by her constant use of semi-rude insults like "cock off" and "up yer bum", that could only occur in an adolescent girl. But she also has a resilience and intelligence that gives the film a note of optimism.

Both Leland and Lloyd are to be congratulated, *Wish You Were Here* certainly deserves the amount of acclaim it has recently received and, if it is a true reflection of their talents, I look forward to their next projects.

K. A.

FILM



MUSIC

Howlin' Wilf and the Veejays

Not much to be said really. If you were there you will have enjoyed two hours of sweaty excitement. If you weren't, you missed the best way to spend a pound on Thursday night.

The band appeared late—as is usual—but with a better excuse than some others (they had to be torn away from the quiz in the Snack Bar). All the members played with talent and enthusiasm to create a compulsive rhythm. They are not the sort of band to have any major recording success, but then again who wants to listen to this sort of music being played by your local medallion man DJ or even in the comfort of your own squat? It's hard to have any desire to trek half-way across London and pay something around £4 when bands of the same calibre appear in the Lounge on an almost weekly basis for a fraction of the cost.

If you weren't there, give yourself a hefty kick and turn up for *Real Sounds of Africa* on Thursday.

R.C.

Kotcheff, Aaron
Rupert Clayton
Thomas Greig
Aidan Kershaw

BOOKS

Going Solo by Roald Dahl

Roald Dahl is undisputedly an excellent storyteller but he should never be judged by television productions of his work. Television only shows the content of his writing, and misses his masterful control of the English language.

However, having said that, *Going Solo* certainly does not rely solely on good writing as Mr Dahl has squeezed more of interest into the three years this book recounts than others fit into a life time. One starts off with an insight into colonial types as the author travels to pre-war Tanzania, but we are not permitted long to dwell on that before the war breaks out and he is seconded into the army. Before joining the RAF he almost dies in a crash before even seeing the enemy, then with no air combat experience he is thrown in at the deep end. Of course we know he survived and this means we can look forward to another volume of his full and varied life being published.

Unlike other autobiographies which seem to be merely blowing the authors' own trumpets, Roald Dahl, who does have every right to show off the life he has led, tells his story with absolute modesty that is a delight to read, and should be read by everyone.

Published by Penguin at £3.50.

T.G.

THEATRE

Kiss Me Kate (RSC at the Old Vic)

They say that *Kiss Me Kate* is Cole Porter's best musical, and has been seen almost non-stop by audiences since its first performance in late December 1984. After sitting through the RSC's production, it is easy to see why.

It opened in January 1987 and contains not only all the standard 'musical' offerings: lavish sets, chorus numbers, solos and duets, but also refreshing attempts at innovation in the direction, design and choreography. This is amply exhibited in the first number *Another Op'nin, Another Show*, where chorus members provide their own illumination, with small hand-held lights, creating a delightful spectacle and proving that the RSC's wealth of talent extends to dancing and singing as well as acting.

The story concerns a production of *The Taming of the Shrew* starring Fred Graham (James Smillie) and the legendary Lilli Vanessi (ex-wife of Mr Graham). Their bickering on-stage (helped by the Bard) is mild compared to the exchanges off-stage, where no help is needed. The 'play-within-a-play' seemed the weak point of the evening. The costumes and acting were (we take it) purposefully over the top, but unfortunately the actors let it become a little *too* much. The story started to fade and one became slightly more aware of the sets and lights. But help was at hand in the guise of songs including the brilliantly delivered *I Hate Men* by Kate (alias Lilli Vanessi, portrayed by Nichola McAuliffe) although they didn't quite blot out the memory.

As with so many musicals, the second half heralded the beginning of the end, the sub-plots started to conclude and the main plot was slowing down. But just as this was becoming noticeable on came the gansters (their relevance to the plot being a little too complex to mention here) and we were treated to undoubtedly the best number of the evening in *Brush Up Your Shakespeare*. Fitting *Coriolanus*, *Romeo and Juliet* et al into rhyming couplets is not easy, but Mr Porter gave us both pace and humour with the most delightful of subjects.

He's been described as the best songwriter this century, and a trip to see this very enjoyable musical, will make you see why.

A.K.

BASKETBALL

Flying low

UAU First Round

IC's basketball team found themselves wandering through low flying clouds in NW10 very early last Sunday morning in search of the first rounds of the UAU.

It proved to be an eventful day with the team virtually running the whole show, such is the poor level of organising by the UAU. Consequently it was after clearing the gym of the previous evening's effluent (it might be added, with no help from the arrogant Brunel University squad) that play could actually commence.

IC's first two games, against Brunel and LSE, were very tough but proved useful training. The bench should be congratulated for their sportsmanship for giving LSE a standing ovation when they reached 100 points!

The final game against Kent was a real nail-biter, the score fluctuating up to plus or minus 10 points. At half time the IC squad got fired up for a blistering second half. Steve Ancell covered more court in ten minutes than in the previous game and with support from Adam Galambos, Spencer Sherwin, Mark Ridgill, Stuart Martin and the rest of the team, successfully clawed back a 9 point deficit in the last minute of play. The IC substitutes, on the bench at that time, were in full cry with lashings of advice on how to bury Kent. The last seconds saw the team go ahead by 2 points and successfully fend off Kent's frenzied last stand.

The day ended with an excellent display of control from LSE who slaughtered a, now less arrogant, Brunel. IC now has the prospect of the second round to look forward to.

RIFLE & PISTOL CLUB

Friendly shooting

On Saturday November 21 IC Rifle and Pistol Club's pistol team went to Cobham RPC to shoot in a friendly Police Pistol, PP1, match.

PP1 is a thirty round course of fire which is usually shot with a 0.38" calibre revolver. It consists of three timed stages at distances of 25m, 15m and 10m with the final stage being two shots in two seconds.

The match was shot outdoors in far from ideal conditions, which handicapped the IC team because we are used to the comforts of indoor shooting.

We were totally outclassed by a far more experienced club whose team included the current British champion of three years standing. Our best score being 284 out of 300 compared to their 300 followed by two 297s.

However, we are undeterred by this experience and have arranged a return match on St Valentine's Day (this time we'll do the massacring!).

We are still open for membership. If anyone is interested in joining then please come and see us, on any weekday lunchtime, at the range in the Sports Centre.



RUGBY

7 in a row

IC 1st XV—30
Guys—9

IC stretched their unbeaten run to seven games after a good performance against Guys in the second round of the Gutteridge Cup despite missing four regular first team players.

From the start Guys came out strongly winning a good ruck and maul ball and pinning IC in their own '22'. After absorbing the initial attack IC hit back with a double switch move leaving Jez Quirk only three players to beat and scoring under the posts. A few minutes later from a good rucked ball A Watson fed T Paul who put Jez away for his second try. Guys hit back with a penalty to make the score 10-3 and from the restart S Blamo coming into the line gave Simon Hall space on the left wing to run in from forty yards beating three men on the way. IC stepped up the pressure and with minutes to go to half time A Watson ripped round the blindside to score the last try of the first half.

In the second half, Guys with the wind came back but good tackling by the back row kept Guys out. Then came the run of the match. Inside his own half Andy Watson broke blind from a maul, shrugged off the hooker, dummied the winger and fly half, side-stepped the centre, before passing to the hooker in the corner. From the resulting scrum M Tilbury drove down the blindside for the first of his two debutante tries. Guys then scored a consolation try before M Tilbury crossed again to make the final score 30-9.

ORIENTEERING

Going schizophrenic

Last Sunday, the Club attempted to go schizophrenic and attend two events in the same day, half the Club going to an event in Nottingham and half to Berkhamstead.

The area at Nottingham, in Sherwood Forest, was flat and runnable and due to the icy conditions, some orienteers skated across part of their course.

However, the group going to Berkhamstead failed to reach the event and even failed to set off from College due to the fact that the

minibus that had been booked had been given to another club, without prior notice.

One success of the weekend was Tom Foster coming fifth in the British Night Championships on Saturday evening.

The results have now come through from the Karrimor Mountain Marathon held in late October. Orienteers Matthew Lynas and Dave Clarke came 120th out of a field of over 300 on the score event, a very creditable position for their first go.

SAILING

Amazing manoeuvres

After a few delays, the team made an early start for Bristol. It was another cold Saturday morning.

On arrival at the Chens Valley Reservoir, the ice was removed from the boats in preparation for the big race. Despite favourable forecasts from the captain (Richard Jarman) there was only a patchy light breeze, and it was still cold. Roll tacks were to be the order of the day, this made Jenny Burton very nervous. Apostolos Leouidhopoulos did not

capsize however, and went on to do some amazing tactical manoeuvres, only a few involved collisions.

Although Bristol's second team put up a good fight the final score was 4-1. Our infamous ladies' team fancied their chances but unfortunately time ran out. Luck was on our side.

Many thanks to Bristol, especially for the overnight accommodation and special transport.

KARATE

Hi ho silver

Dawn last Saturday saw twenty of our enthusiastic if weary-eyed squad members and supporters boarding a coach together with Caesar Andrews (3rd dan) bound for the National Student Championships at Keele. Guest celebrities at the event included Britain's top instructor Andy Sherry (6th dan) and Frank Brennan British and European Grand Champion (4th dan).

Although it was cold and frosty at six in the morning spirits were still high after last week's successes at the Portsmouth Invitation Tournament. By ten o'clock most of the participating universities and polytechnics, nine in all, had assembled and the seventeen teams were desperately trying to warm up in the sub-zero temperatures.

The competition kicked off in more ways than one with the men's team kumite. Both of our teams fought well displaying strong technique and good spirit. The A team (P Urbana, K Sayers, A Kerley, O Kawaji, R Newton, S Taylor and O Abbosh) succeeded in fighting through to win the bronze trophy only being stopped by the eventual National Champions, Wolverhampton.

The squad's next successes were gained in the ladies' individual kumite: J Spicer easily taking the silver and S Lindberg battling through to collect the bronze. The men's individual kumite turned out to be quite a challenge. S Kawaji reached the quarter finals with very creditable performances also coming from K Sayers, P Urbana and J Rogers.

As the remainder of the competition progressed it became clear that despite 'extraordinary efforts' in the kata sections last week's splendid total of ten trophies was not to be beaten. Cambridge University, the highest funded of all the squads, once again displayed how much they have benefitted from recent trips abroad including Japan, by retaining the National Team Kata Championships.

Tomorrow sees the start of the British Universities Karate Championship held at the National Sports Centre, Crystal Palace. A predominantly IC team (13 out of 20) coached by Imperial's instructor Caesar Andrews will be representing the whole of London University.

The squad would like to thank Caesar for his dedication to Shotokan karate at Imperial.

BADMINTON

Sean wins a rubber

The usual collection of IC Badminton megastars arrived at Nottingham University on Friday evening to do battle once more in this annual event. There was a little more at stake this year since everyone would have liked to repeat the triumph our first ladies pair had last year—they became ladies' doubles champions!

The first events were the men's and ladies' singles where a few surprises were in store, and no one was more surprised than Sean who won a rubber to reach the second round. That was his lot though! Trevor did remarkably well to win 2 and reach the third round where he was narrowly beaten by a county player from Leicester University. The best performances in the singles however came from Uta. She reached the last 16 where she unfortunately came up against the number 2 seed from Birmingham.

In the ladies' doubles Julie (half of the championship pair from last year) and Uta strode through to the quarter finals where they met the top seeds,

and eventual winners, from Loughborough. In the men's doubles two pairs played through two rounds each before being defeated. Sean and Simon had a tremendously narrow victory over a pair from Liverpool before being out-manoeuvred by the top pair from UCI (boasting the runner-up in the men's singles). Bhavot and Trevor, on the other hand had more convincing victories and managed to reach the last 16 by virtue of having a bye through to the second round.

In the mixed doubles everyone lost. Enough said!!

The weekend was the usual mix of good badminton, good company, plenty of nervous tension, and great fun, and I'm sure everyone enjoyed themselves. The finals were some of the best I have ever seen at UAU (especially the ladies' singles) and it was particularly nice to see a Brunel pair win the mixed, rather than the Loughborough's and Nottingham's of this world.

MORE RUGBY

Brums Drum RCS

RCS 1st XV—12

Birmingham University 4th XV—28
On Wednesday (18th) morning the RCS Rugby Squad and a set of shirts gathered in Beit Quad for their annual fixture in Birmingham.

The coach left late and arrived even later with just 15 mins before kick off. Captain Pert and Spock had problems with their navigational equipment.

The first team started one man short. Despite dropping the ball on the line, the captain's boot put us into an early lead which we retained until early in the second half. The second half we played into the wind and lost

touch with the 'hackers'. Then out of the blue midway through the half Dave Wilson barged his way through for a well deserved try. This recovery saw the back row linking with the backs well in the loose. Notable performers C Owen, Tubby Wilson, S Fairhead, Bryn, Boyce and Spock-'Bardiver'-Dobson. It was in this period of RCS domination that Spike Boyce was brought down brutally and had to leave the field. The game then just seemed to slip away and before we knew it they had scored two in the corner to seal the game.

HOCKEY

Convincing loss

IC 1sts 1

Southgate Adelaide 5

On Saturday, IC 1sts played unbeaten Southgate Adelaide in the Middlesex league. Adelaide, the home side, were evidently well prepared for the top-of-the-league clash and quickly took the lead from a brilliant short corner routine. Due to IC's slack hockey and lack of discipline, the club side scored a further four goals before the inter-

val. Having lost the game in the first 35 minutes, IC started afresh in the second. Despite coming out 1-0 winners in that period, IC lost the match convincingly on goal difference. If IC are to win the honours that they are capable of this year, they will have to approach their matches with a much more professional attitude.

CROSS—COUNTRY

Tearing down

We've had two more outings and both with good turnouts I'm pleased to say. At the London Colleges League in Battersea Park we had 16 runners making three full teams (and Jane). The course was over a flat 10km course consisting 3 laps of a 2 mile circuit. The course has previously been used for the AAA Championship. Performances of note came from Bubertus Schulte-Huxel (22nd) and Mark Ashby (26th).

Our next race was at the Whitenights Relays in Reading. We again had three teams entered and with good selection the teams were fielded according to anticipated performances. In a very strong field of 80 teams, and over a fast 2½ mile course around the campus of Reading University, our first team did well to show in the top 25 teams with the second and third teams following closely behind. Many thanks to our president Professor Inman for his support at this and other races this term. Thanks also to those in the team who suggested we should have a tour of Reading after the race. Most enjoyable!

Finally, I have to mention the University of London Championships, tomorrow Saturday December 5. As a result of some mindless individuals tearing notices from our board the list of people for this race was missing for some time before a new one was made up. If you still want to run but are not sure if I have your name then please go to the noticeboard *today* for details.

Women
appeal

Any women interested in playing in a 'friendly' league against other women's teams, including KQC, St Georges, Goldsmiths and St Barts, please contact Martin Bradley, Physics 3 or via football pigeonhole in Union Office. He will try to organise some games.

Next week...

Mega reports on fencing and korfbal.

Societies Page

Articles longer than 100 words are liable to be cut if space is tight. Please mark what you think is most important before handing in articles.

AERO

Plane trivia

Who was the first Arab in space? What is the national airline of Malawi? These and even more obtuse questions were asked at the Royal Aeronautical Society's Aero Challenge (a sort of aviation Trivial Pursuit), held on November 27. Two teams from IC faced competition from 18 other university and polytechnic teams. Both teams survived the initial round-robin, but unfortunately IC 2 bowed out in the quarter-finals. After much nail-biting, IC 1, consisting of Steve McParlin (capt), Phil Chandy and Nick Lay ('The Muttley Crew'), managed to reach the final, where they faced the defending champions, the dreaded Glasgow Engineers. IC started shakily, but gradually drew ahead to finish with a clear winning margin of 185-95. The victors were presented with the Aero Challenge shield by the quizmaster, Raymond Baxter, and were invited to the RAeS annual dinner to be re-awarded the shield by the president.

Many thanks to Dave Johnson-Newell for turning up in response to a panic request for team members and staying to score (mug!).

WEIGHTS

Total beginners

The Weights Club has, up until now, been unsuitable for total beginners. However next term instruction will be provided for anybody who is interested in weight-training. The initial training will give participants a general introduction, upon which more specialised training, for whatever goal, may be built.

Anybody at any level, who is interested in weight training for whatever reason, is welcome. This is just a notification of plans for next term. Details will be given in the next issue of FELIX and at the beginning of next term, though training sessions will be at lunchtimes next term.

MOTOR

Race circuit

Members of Guilds Motor (and sporting motorcycle) Club hired the Goodwood race circuit last Saturday for a day of general testing. Each driver had three twenty-minute sessions of track time with experienced instructors for newcomers.

As always, safety was of utmost importance with a full complement of flag marshals, fire extinguishers and an ambulance.

SNOOKER

Handicapped

Thirty-two people entered this year's open competition which was held in the Snooker Club during last week. With over 200 club members, this was a pretty disappointing tournament.

Play proceeded on Monday evening and by semi-final stage there were, rather predictably, only committee members left, although Chairman Richard Wiles had a close scrape in the quarter finals against Graham Greenaway of Civ Eng. Graham was robbed of a 2-0 lead by a desperately unlucky foul in the second frame. It proved to be the turning point of the match and he eventually lost 3-1.

The final stages were a gruelling test since much pride was at stake. The final result was as follows: Open Champion 1987: Martin Hall, Runner up Richard Wiles, third place Andy Poon and fourth was Clive Roberts. The highest break was 31, scored by Wiles.

Looking ahead, Snooker Club hopes to run a handicap competition before Easter, but what handicap do we give? We presently have a big break chart and soon we are starting a ladder. These are two very important ways of assessing a player's ability. By giving players a handicap everybody has an equal chance of winning—or so the theory goes. So my advice to all members is to join the ladder! It's worth it because the Easter handicap is the tournament of the year.



DIGGERS

Pub gold

This Tuesday (December 8) Diggers Club is organising a sponsored charity pub crawl run along the lines of a game of golf. Teams of four are required to take, on average, four 'shots' per 'hole' on an eighteen hole course. Points are acquired per shot taken with sponsorship being paid on a per point basis. Money raised will go to IC Rag (50%) and Imperial Cancer Research.

A shot is taken by drinking one half of beer/lager, a short or a pint of soft drink. Bunkers and differently parred holes are included on the course. The course itself consists of a number of holes around College.

As golf is a civilised game played by civilised people, anyone behaving in an ungentlemanly or unsportsmanlike manner, for example throwing up, will be considered to have lost his/her ball, their team will consequently be fined one or more shots at the marshals' discretion.

Prizes will be awarded to the team scoring the most points and the team raising the most money. These will be engraved tankards kept behind the Union Bar for use by team members until the following year's tournament.

If there are any more interested people could you contact the following asap:

Nigel Baker (Chem Eng 4),

Mike Oxley (MRE 2),

Greg Wright (Physics 3).

£2 per team green fees is payable, all of which will go to charity.

SRI LANKA

Cup of tea

The Sri Lankan Society's 'drink a cup of tea for Rag' proved to be a success. The stall held in the first half of Rag Week may well have broken new ground by the involvement of an Overseas Students Committee society in Rag.

Only the best, pure Sri Lankan tea, considered by connoisseurs to be the best in the world, was served. The tea was supplied free by the Ceylon Tea Centre.

Tea and Rag Mags were sold generating a total of £124. My thanks to everyone who helped. I was pleasantly surprised at the number of people who helped despite being non-members, simply because it was for Rag.

PHOTO

Dark hole

Photosoc has suffered the past few years by having a membership solely of shadows who disappear at unearthly hours down a hole in Beit Quad. After weeks of scratching and scraping at the old paintwork, the same dark hole has now been redecorated and a new high-profile club is emerging.

Photosoc offers everything you would want to develop and print black and white or colour films and Club members can get cheap films, paper and chemicals through bulk purchases with the Club. If you don't know an f-stop from a bus stop you will be given your first black and white film and even shown how to develop it and print up the results—so don't be afraid to show your ignorance. There will be a special meeting for new members in the upper part of Southside near the side entrance on Tuesday at 5.30pm where you can lounge around and ask any questions. If you're already keen to join then bring the usual passport sized photo along so that you can be issued with a glossy membership card.

For regular members, or if Tuesdays aren't your scene the Club meets Thursdays at 5.30pm in the Brown Committee Room at the top of the Union Building near STOIC.

If any previous members of Photosoc have anything stored in the darkrooms contact Sophie Jackson (int 4541), Phil Turner (int 7488) or come along on Tuesdays 5.30pm, Southside.

AMNESTY

Human rights

Mark Thursday December 10 on your calendars! It is Human Rights Day—an officially sponsored UN Day which started in 1950 to celebrate the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The IC Amnesty group will have a stall in the JCR at lunchtime so do come along.

What does Amnesty International do? It is a worldwide movement, independent of any government, political faction, ideology, economic interest or religious creed. The activities focus strictly on prisoners. At IC we have adopted Ivan Starovoi of the USSR, imprisoned for the mere wish to practice his religion as a Jehovah's Witness. We take part in campaigns, eg the current focus on torture in Syria (FELIX Nov 13). We also have an Urgent Action scheme: when a person is in imminent danger of being tortured or executed, needs urgent medical help, has 'disappeared' or any case where his/her human rights are threatened, we quickly send off letters and telegrams to the relevant authorities.

Letter writing is really easy! All you have to do is show your concern about the prisoner and make a simple request. It is very important to be polite and respectful and *never* advance any political/religious ideas. It is preferable to give an indication of who and what you are. By all means write in your own language. A short, simple letter is better than none at all.

Even if you are not a member of our group, please send letters for prisoners mentioned in FELIX and contact Guy Sims or Monique Yeo (both Maths 2) for further information.

Show you care! Do something—you are so lucky to be free to choose what you believe in—help those who can't.

ORCHESTRA

Endangered

The Planets, Friday December 4, 8pm, Great Hall.

'One egg or two?' shouted Isobel Holst up the stairs to her husband. 'One, and there's no need to shout,' he rebuked as he descended the stairs.

It was a normal Monday morning chez Holst in January 1930. The world was still taking in the Wall Street crash but had not yet suffered the real crisis of the pre-war era—bodyline bowling. Gustav picked up the Times as he attacked his breakfast. A smile came to his face as he noticed that Surrey had won again.

At that moment the calm was broken by a whirlwind coming through the door in the form of the luscious Imogen, a 23 year old beauty and devoted daughter.

'Why are you smiling, dad? Have you got the sixth form today?'

(It is an interesting fact that Gustav Holst spent all his life teaching at girls' schools.)

'Imogen! Don't speak to your father like that; you know why they won't let him teach little boys.'

'Oh, shit!'

'Gustav! Language!' cried the exasperated Isobel.

'That bastard Lowell was right after all.'

'What are you talking about?'

'They've found Pluto. Another planet. Some smart arse professor at that brain factory behind the Albert Hall. My music's ruined. What am I going to do?'

'There, there, dear, it's all right, no one will notice. Perhaps you could add a bit on the end.'

Come to the Great Hall tonight at 8pm to find out. Also on the programme is Debussy's Iberia (bring your sombreros) and Saint-Saen's cello concerto.

QT: the official history

Continued from last week...

The time was ripe. One dark night, the Kama-Sutra and its, by now, numerous offspring emerged from under their rock, assumed human form and infiltrated the decadent society that had evolved around them.

Within days they had acquired the reputation of throwing great parties,

being great lovers and greatly irritating humanity with crazy stunts...

To be continued.

We meet at 1300hrs every Tuesday in Southside Upper Lounge or Belushi's depending on how hungry I am. Everybody is welcome. Be there!

Admission

Dear Judith,

I was interested to read Nigel Whitfield's views on my opinion article *Is FELIX Biased?*, and particularly his comments on the news story *Irresponsible Ian*. I am forced to concede that on this occasion I did not have time to listen to the tapes personally, mainly because printing problems in FELIX demanded the completion of two fairly hefty features by Wednesday. However in this case the facts were confirmed by two separate sources, one of whom is a prominent member of IC Radio. I regard their account as totally reliable and I have no reason to believe that the two sources had collaborated in some way to tell me a porky pie.

I do not think that Mr Whitfield actually disagrees with my interpretation of the interview, but the issue can easily be resolved if Mr Whitfield feels strongly about it. All Mr Whitfield has to do is rebroadcast the interview on IC Radio, or to print an accurate transcript in FELIX.

I acknowledge, however, that in an ideal world I should have listened to the tapes myself, and in fact I had made arrangements with Mr Whitfield to do so. Having worked in FELIX himself, Mr Whitfield must realise that when things go wrong one has to do the best one can in the time available. Nevertheless I would not have included the section in question had I not been entirely convinced of its authenticity.

I do not think that any of Mr Whitfield's comments are relevant to the point of the article, namely that there is a lack of communication between FELIX and Ian Howgate, that this is a bad thing, and that it is in everyone's interest to see the situation resolved.

Yours,
Bill Goodwin.

It seems that poor old Bill is still under the misapprehension that we don't communicate. We try to communicate but communication is a two-way thing dear!

Dreadful

Dear Judith,

Regarding your letter (issue no ?) from Bryan Adams, the dreadful Canadian folk singer, I'd like to mention that while I was sitting in the Holland Club recently, someone came up to me and asked if I was Roger Serpell. Roger Serpell is, of course, the well-known chairman of the Holland Club, and also possibly better known as a great admirer of 'Stagefright', the greatest band in the whole history of the whole world, the only band capable of making their audience chant in unison: 'Don't Bogart the sick bag my friend, pass it over to me'. I suggest you start a competition for your readers to see if anyone can point to someone in the College bar and catering world whom I do actually resemble. Having checked with my mother, passport and birth certificate, I am Moore Lyttle, little known ex-manager of those radical organisations.

The Breakaway Union Bar & People's Republic of Stan's Bar.

Pro flans...

Dear Judith,

As a member of Mech Eng 1 and Guilds Hitsquad I found Mr Dyson's letter fascinating. The whole idea of flanning is that a friend can demonstrate friendship or an enemy despite (I decline to classify Mr Dyson's case) by paying £1 to charity. One assumes that all students wish to contribute, whether actively hitting or passively being hit, to the Rag effort. If they do not wish to be hit for whatever reason (whether it is on grounds of health, ability to cope with the experience, being a humourless bastard etc) they can purchase immunity. For those sporting characters who wish to join in the game but fear for their contact lenses, badges were also available which would prevent the Hitsquadders from going for the face. The same holds true for glasses. So, when the time comes for the hit to be executed wearers of glasses and contacts are safe as are people with immunity. If the victim hasn't bought immunity then it is both superfluous and fun-destroying to have to ask him beforehand whether he is getting flanned.

'But I didn't know', cries Mr Dyson to which my reply is that there were posters all over College, announcements in FELIX and Guildsheet and little people in masks, scarves and white coats trotting around College flanning nine people in Mech Eng 1 before Mr Dyson's turn came round. The other 4,500 students in College knew that it was going on, why not Mr Dyson? Is he totally oblivious of what goes on around him? ('Yes' scream those who know him!) I do sympathise with his anxiety about his eyesight and it would indeed be tragic if anything should happen to him. But that's what immunity is for and with the best will in the world one can only do so much in the way of enlightening and warning the general populace without sending every student a personal message announcing the fact. (Our Dep Rep did in fact make an announcement before one of our lectures so, in effect, everybody did get a personal message!) I regret any inconvenience caused to Mr Dyson and hope that next year he'll be better informed. This letter should help him remember if he bothers to read it.

Yours sincerely,

Manthos 'Max' Kallios, Mech Eng 1.

...Anti Igor...

Dear Judith,

I wish to clarify a few points raised by Mr Dyson in last week's issue, regarding the flanning of poor defenceless students such as himself.

First of all, it seems ludicrous to me that he did not know anything about the Hitsquad, since it had been advertised greatly during the previous weeks. I am a member of Mr Dyson's Mech Eng class, and I know of ten people in this group who were members of the Hitsquad and who freely let people know what was going on. There was also a clear poster on the noticeboard outside ME220, where most of his lectures are held. If Mr Dyson wanted to partake in any university life then it was his responsibility to read the noticeboard—no one else's. This, allied with previous publicity in UGMs, the Freshers' video, Guildsheet and FELIX show that Mr Dyson has a blinkered and totally naive life.

Secondly, I would like to point out that I was a member

of the Hitsquad, taking out many hits during the week, but unfortunately not Mr Dyson's. He writes of medical problems, and I do sympathise with him. I would like you to know, however, that three years ago I had 'major' surgery to my nose which means that I quite often have nosebleeds if it is knocked, as could quite easily happen when carrying out a hit. This can be a 'traumatic experience'. Due to the fact that the operation also involved plastic surgery, the skin around my nose is allergic to shaving foam. This proved to be quite uncomfortable when wearing a shaving foam covered scarf across my face. So, Mr Dyson, why are you so uptight? I can only assume you have an inferiority complex. I can't imagine what you would be like if your doctor told you that you wouldn't breathe through your nose again if it was broken. That's what my doctor told me.

If Mr Dyson had come out of hibernation to notice all the Hitsquad publicity, then he could have obtained a warning badge from the Guilds Office and we would take care when hitting you not to get the foam in your eyes, as I'm sure the many victims with contact lenses will confirm. Neither do we hit anyone hard intentionally. It may only happen by accident if the student retaliates.

Lastly, I am one of your fellow residents at International Hall, and I do not mind going back every day, smelling of shaving foam and sweat after hits. After all, it is for charity, and a lot of people have some good laughs about it, especially the people who paid for the hit (usually friends), and usually the victims themselves. It is not just the people in the Hitsquad who have the fun.

So come on Mr Dyson, how about joining in with life for a change. University life is not all work and no play. These are my own opinions and nothing to do with the Union.

What a pity you don't know who paid for the hit. Not mentioning any names, if you had any common sense you may work out that your laboratory group had something to do with it.

Yours,

An Official Guilds Hitsquadder.

In a good cause?

Dear Igor,

I was deeply hurt and almost fear-stricken by your cold and cutting letter in last week's FELIX. Its content was both factually inaccurate and heartbreaking.

I, for one, should know exactly what occurred as I actually carried out the hit. Firstly, you were obviously aware that the Hitsquad were 'on manoeuvres' since you shouted, 'I can see you down there waiting for me' when you first sighted me. The fact that I replied, 'Don't worry we're not waiting for you', is irrelevant!

On your arrival at the ambush point, my partner and I approached you and flanned you on the top and back of your head. You had actually bent over and covered your face before we made the hit so I can honestly say that the only time you had foam on your face was when you last had a shave—you do shave, don't you?

On a less technical note, it sounds like you can't take a joke, you've got one hell of an imagination and you're incredibly square. It's no wonder that someone took out a contract on you.

Finally, if you were the slightest bit interested in Guilds you would know about the hard work that we and the other CCU's put into Rag to raise money for some very worthy charities.

Yours,

K McC.

Small Ads

ANNOUNCEMENTS

● **Restringing** of squash and tennis rackets. Contact P Skipworth via Chem Eng 2 letter racks.

● **Party? Party?** Hire the professional disco with the power, experience and prices to satisfy. Budget systems and up to 4kw sound and 5kw lighting effects. Hans Beier 870 8112.

● **Queen** convention at Southampton, April 22-24. Contact Lisa Ingram, LSII asap if you're interested.

● **DocSoc Xmas Party**—Wednesday December 4, 7.30pm, jazz band, disco and refreshments available. Holland Club Function Room. £1.50 from Mark Taylor, DOC 2.

● **Mines Ball:** Tickets now available from RSM Union. Do not miss this end of term extravaganza.

● **Guilds Motor** Club rally jackets available now from Guilds Office for only £28. See Adrian Bourne or Jon Stout.

LOST

● **Clangers video** in region of Union Bar last term. Contact Al Birch c/o Union Office.

FOR SALE

● **'96**—A history of sexual frustration'. Pre-publication copies available, £15 from QTSoc.

● **BBC 'B' Computer** with DDFS, OS 1.2, Basic 2, View, Mega Rom, software, books, etc—£180. 400K, 40/80 track disc drive in metal case with own PSU—£90, Grafpad 2 for BBC—£35. Contact G Payne, Physics 3.

● **Ford Cortina** 1600, N reg. tax, MOT, mechanically sound, good runner. £175. Phone int 6002 or 748 5039

● **Rega Planar 3** turntable with RB300 arm. £140 ono. Demonstration available in South Ken. Apply to George Lock, Mining 3, through MRE pigeonholes or RSM room 150.

PERSONAL

● **First IC Radio** had the gang of four. Now SFSoc brings you the gang of three. They should form a company—a very limited one of course.

● **Nigel**—So what does 69 taste like or should we ask Tonia?

● **What** do you call 120 monkeys in a lecture theatre that holds 200—a 2nd year Physics EM lecture.

● **Does** Simon Turner still attend Imperial College? The boys from Bishop's demand to know.

● **Simon**, a 9 week hangover ain't bad, but don't you think it's time you sobered up for the Christmas parties. Guy and Richard.

● **If you** sit a monkey at a typewriter for an infinite length of time what do you get—2nd year Physics EM notes.

● **Safe** lectures are here—put a condom on your lecturers head.

● **Dear Norman**, please can I order a cheese and mushroom omelette for next Wednesday.

● **Get off** your backside and listen to Uranus—ISCO tonight, Great Hall, 8pm.

● **Dai**, following your temporary residence last week we have decided to grant you associate membership only, the Committee, the Penthouse Club.

- **Girls** don't believe everything the survey says. Relationships available as platonic or physical as you like. No fees except for equipment. Most weekends, the Penthouse Club.
- **130 HG** is the Penthouse Club.
- **Ladies**, we are currently auditioning for our Christmas fair. Applicants must be female, bring your own tutu, we'll provide the trunks. The Penthouse Club.
- **Mike** recommends the ribbed ones.
- **Lorraine** (or Loraine) when you've finished letting your fingers do the walking, why not run them through my hair. Ladies Liaison Officer, the Penthouse Club.
- **Do you** get bored on Sundays? If so you can't be listening to IC Radio between 7-9pm. 'The Show with no listeners'—with incidental chat and blah from James (horny one) & Linzi (orange hair).
- **Linzi** I love you! Piggy.
- **I will** have to get you drunk and seduce you'—quote from Angie.
- **In preparation** for Christmas get into the spirit of things and come to port tasting.
- **Mags**, only 4 more days.
- **What** happens on the 8th?
- **C.U.V.P.** 20.08.12.1987.
- **Is 20** past it or will she cope?
- **Dr Fazbender** says 'I know the road turns left, but let's try a bit of cross-country driving'.
- **Q.** What's the difference between Dave Tyler's brain and Wormwood Scrubs?
A. Wormwood Scrubs has lots of cells!
- **Ann** reckons 7's easy making love to Chas' piano marathon music.
- **Rag Quiz** scores (contd): Ifran 17, Jeremy 20, Kate 38, Ann 56.
- **Wanted:** girlfriend for lonely chemistry fresher. Apply Sean, Room 13, Beit Old Hostel.
- **Dr Fazbender** says, '110mph is the most economical speed for a Sierra'.
- **We hear** that there's more than one nancy boy in SFSoc.
- **Why** is cuboid waiting till after Christmas? Cuboid is square.
- **What is worse** than a spying cube? A cuboid in love.
- **The Caped Avenger** offers FELIX an X-rated xclusive, xmas, xtra-special, xxx xxx, Judith, the Caped Avenger.
- **Mr D J Nokes** or anyone who knows his whereabouts, please contact S Kilmurray c/o Underwater Club urgently.
- **Dr Fazbender** says, 'don't dent the van, that's my job'.
- **Xxxxxmas**, see you in Sydney, a.m.l. Chris.
- **Need** a wheelclamp removed? Need to get that troublesome chastity belt removed? See Andy, Level 7.
- **I'm really** enjoying reading FELIX now, Chris.
- **Chris** (I think—the guy with the braces anyway!). I was wondering if you'd like to come out to Sydney or Bali some time. Give me a ring or drop me a line, S.x.
- **Adieu** (au revoir?) to all on level 8. Oh, and the funny lot on level 7. Off to warmer climes. Special thanks to Indy for services rendered and Mike 'hot-stuff' (air anyway) C.Sam.x.
- **Kebab, Kebab**, my lift home for a kebab.

Down the drain

Dear Judith

Last week The London Student mentioned IC again. Under the headline 'Imperial louts wreak havoc' the report gave an account, from ULU's point of view, of IC Rag's 'drink-a-pub-dry'. Luckily for us they didn't mention Rag. What they did mention was that, among other things, IC students stripped the walls of signs, let off a fire extinguisher and were found urinating in corridors. According to TLS, IC caused over £1000 worth of damage.

Of course, their report was exaggerated, but even so, what good does this do IC? When I enquired as to why the ULU Bar was chosen for this event I was informed that it was because 'ULU are a bunch of commie lefties and we hate them'. I was also told that 'Ian wanted us to trash ULU', although I find this hard to believe.

I admit that when ULU was first chosen I put up no fight. But when another pub offered Rag 50% of their profits if we chose to drink them dry and ULU was still insisted upon I began to wonder about the point of having such an event for Rag. The argument is that any pub that knew we were coming would 'stock up' and we wouldn't have a chance of drinking it dry. But how much chance did we have of draining Mergers?

It's not just the fact that Rag gave up the chance of raising a considerable amount of money, nor the fact that Imperial students are once again condemned as 'louts' that really saddens and depresses me, but the fact that no one seems to care about IC's reputation.

Perhaps it is something to be proud of that more and more colleges want to ban us. Perhaps we should go on until we are totally isolated—that would really show them wouldn't it? Then we could all have a jolly good laugh when no one wants to apply here anymore and Mines closes due to lack of students. Perhaps we could celebrate by going to Mergers.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Barrett, Rag Secretary (April—December 1987).

Serious and sorry

Dear Judith

At last—a serious letter from me (how boring!). Firstly, I am not pleased with whoever pulls down my posters. If you are heterosexual then it should not effect you. Don't flatter yourself that a homosexual is likely to 'make a pass at you'—I for sure do not fancy anyone just because they are male, any more than you fancy anyone who is female—well except maybe in C&G, where there are only four or five females so you can't be choosy (I should know—I'm in Mech Eng!). If you are bisexual/gay, then I feel sorry for you if you are so insecure and scared to be yourself that you feel the need to destroy anything that reminds you of your own sexuality.

Secondly, WOW!!!

Some people have actually contacted me and I have met them and talked to them. They said they were gay, but were terrified that their friends would find out. To me that says something about their friends. Do you realise that your bad attitude may be making one of your friends very, very unhappy?

PS. Sorry if this letter is directed mainly at men—there

are more of them and they are generally more intolerant than women. Please write and tell me if you disagree/agree with what I have written.

James Papa (Mech Eng 2),
Lesbian & Gay Welfare Officer

NUS radicals

Dear Judith,

I am writing this letter with a view to publicising the rebirth of IC's more radical societies. Pro-NUS. I have no wish to provoke major debate at this stage as plans to relaunch the society are still in a state of flux, but I would ask any undergraduates or postgraduates who have any interest in this area, regardless of political persuasion, to contact me via the Physics pigeonholes in the Blackett Building. Views from people who may have had held previous NUS positions prior to coming to IC would be especially welcome.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Gribbon, Physics 1.

Space trap

Dear Madam,

Thanks for a great SciTech column on 20.11.87 but Steve seems to have fallen into the same trap that has been carefully, I must say, prepared for our so-called liberal press, by the Military Industrial Complex (MIC) of the USA. The MIC are pleased with attacks on SDI as being dangerous and unrealistic; at least they give the programme space and legitimacy that it certainly does not deserve. The main issue is simply whether the largest debt-ridden nation in the world today, can afford such a massive mismanagement of resources in the face of its present financial unhealthiness.

Yours sincerely,

D C Azubike, PG3.

Hard times

Dear Judith,

Times must be hard in the Physics Department when one of its students considers himself unusual in having spoken to members of the opposite sex (Steve Mercer, FELIX 785). Maybe Mr Mercer should consider joining PATA. However, he was not asked to explain why he is uniquely qualified to talk about abortion. What he was asked to explain is why 'a woman can choose to end the life of her child simply because it is still in the womb' (Hugh McKenzie, FELIX 784). He tried to do this on the grounds of the 'unwanted complications' caused by the unborn. He didn't seem to notice that the born can bring about 'unwanted complications' too. Does he support infanticide as well? Bu: for some theory about 'hypnotic regression' he says lit.else.

Surely he has a better argument than this.

Yours faithfully,

Matthew Soane (Maths 2), PATA Chairman.

ULU want toilet training

Imperial students on a Rag event caused £1,175 worth of damage in the ULU building during Rag Week. The event was 'drink-a-pub-dry', although, according to ULU President Jon Tilsead, because the effect the IC students had on the other customers, the takings were actually down on the usual amount and they had more beer left at the end than normal.

ULU Vice President (Services) 'Norm' Robinson is to bring the matter up at the next General Union Council. Most of the £1,175 damages are to replace signs that were stolen if they are not returned, although damage was done to the building and some students were caught urinating in a corridor.

After the event Mr Tilsead wrote to ICU President Ian Howgate complaining about the behaviour and endorsing some Union cards they had collected from some of the students involved. He suggested that 'toilet training' could be arranged for some of the offenders.

Mr Howgate has replied by

apologising for the damage caused and indicated that he is tracking down those students concerned. He told FELIX he was 'very disappointed' that the event got out of hand and that the idea of going to ULU was that any profits would go benefit students.

Music Room protest

A protest against the loss of College music rooms is to take place on Tuesday December 15. A carol concert is being held at lunchtime (12.30pm) on that day, outside the Senior Common Room in Sherfield. All College musicians are welcome to turn up, as is anyone who wants to help make the point. Singing ability is not important.

For further details ask Richard Squires, SCAB Chairman.

RCSU debt

The Royal College of Science Union is facing severe financial problems due to large College bills which have not been paid over the last five years. The College bills come to over £5000 which cover debts to Central Stores and Refectories. There is the additional burden of a £500 loss made on the Freshers' dinners this year.

RCSU Honorary Junior Treasurer David Williams said yesterday that the main debts arose during the period of office of the former RCSU Senior Treasurer. They have only come to light in the last year when Dr Ken Bignal took over the job of Senior Treasurer. He discovered that no College bills had been paid and that dinner monies had not been collected. Last year when the debts were unearthed it was decided that all the Union's assets would be realised. The Union still owes College over £5000 which will have to be paid back as soon as possible.

Mr Williams believes that the debts arose due to 'bad attitude in the Union about spending'. Most sections of the Union have overspent. He said that as soon as this year's allocation runs out clubs, activities and publications will have to stop.

Gas alert

A spray can containing a tear gas derivative was let off at the end of a gig at the University of London Union (ULU) last week.

Following an argument between two women after the band, one of them let off a 'mace spray', containing the gas, in the other's face. The sprays are intended to be used by women in case of attack, and although they are illegal in the UK they are freely available on the continent.

The spray was completely emptied which, in the packed hall, caused a very unpleasant effect and the room emptied very quickly. There were reports of students coughing and with eyes streaming, and in the confusion the offender escaped.

ULU Vice President (Services) 'Norm' Robinson told FELIX that, short of a full body search, there was little hope of stopping incidents such as this.

In the next FELIX

**THE
CHRISTMAS
SPECIAL**
on Wednesday
December 16th



Wacky Stories
Boat Club
Feature

Why do they do it?

Fur or Against?

With the onset of winter do you wish you had a nice fur coat or perhaps some leather gloves—or have you succumbed to the anti-fur publicity?

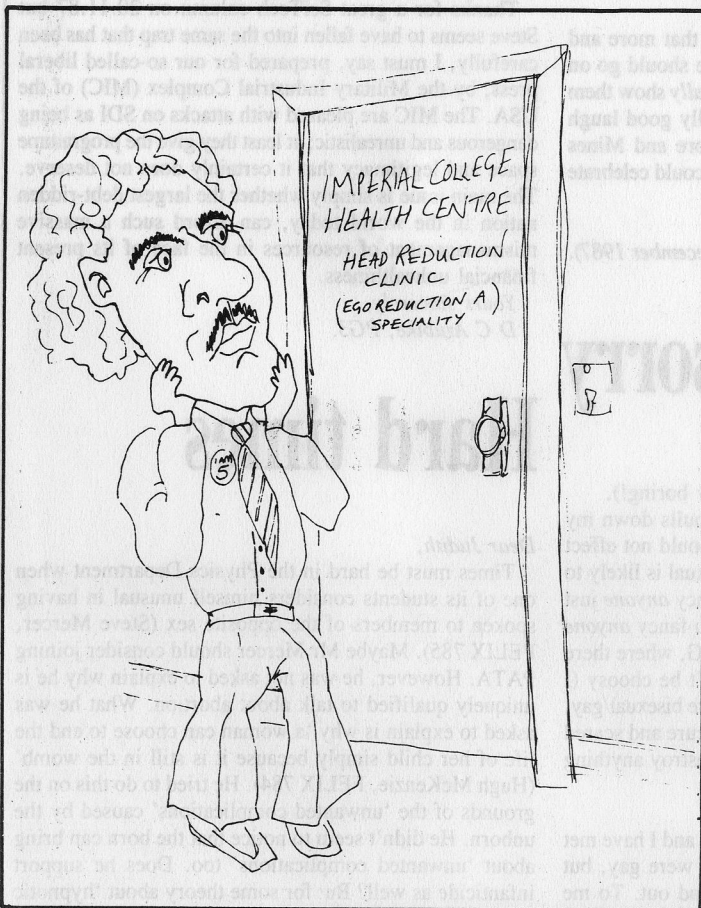
Wacky Features

Wacky Letters

FREE GIFTS

*all this and more in
your soar away
FELIX*

Quote of the week—'I think it's one of the most boring years FELIX has been produced'—Dave Tyler.



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