



Felix

THE NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

Snack bar refit goes ahead

The Union has allocated £40,000 to refurbish the Union Snack Bar and the Entertainments Lounge over the Summer. Work has already begun on the refit, which, the Union hopes, will encourage more students to use the Union facilities.

The new Snack Bar will contain seating for one hundred people and will feature a lowered ceiling and an improved lighting system. The new serving area has been designed to reduce queueing time and will run on a self service basis with an extra till at peaktimes. The Union are buying new cookers, a food mixer, a dishwasher and new cutlery and crockery for the Snack Bar. The new Snack Bar will feature fabric wallpaper and will be decorated in what has been described as a subtle red, white and blue style. In addition, vending machines offering confectionery, sandwiches, rolls and hot and cold drinks will be installed in the dining area.

A catering consultant has been commissioned by the Union to improve the range of food on offer. Union Manager, David Peacock told FELIX that new Snack Bar will be geared towards healthy eating with vegetarian, low sugar and low fat foods. One or two meat dishes each day are also planned. 'We are trying to help people get into a good eating kick,' he said.

The seating currently in the Snack Bar will be moved into the Entertainments Lounge. A new stage is to be constructed in the Lounge along with a new lighting tower, paid for by the College, and a storage area for Entertainments Committee. The Dramatic Society will be installing new disco lights for the Union, and the Lounge will be



repainted. The room will be carpeted and a Dance Floor installed. Plans are also being considered for a second food outlet or a bar behind the serving hatch in the lounge.

In the Union Bar, woodwork will be sanded and stained and new brass lighting is to be fitted. The wooden panels at the bar entrance are to be replaced with glass panels in an attempt to make the bar more welcoming and the stonework will be cleaned.

Speaking on the modifications, Deputy President Chas Brereton said 'we have to compete with College and offer a good service to students. If we don't get them in the first week we lose them forever.'

A raised dias originally planned for installation in the Snack Bar over the Summer has been delayed until the Christmas vacation following a disagreement within the Union

Office over the choice of contractors. Union Deputy president, Chas Brereton told FELIX that former Union President, Sydney Harbour Bridge had asked a second firm to produce a quotation for the dias when the original contractors, Francis Bell and Austin were felt to be too costly. When the new contractors were found to be even more expensive it was too late for the original contractors to install the dias in time.

In addition to the work being funded by the Union, the College is providing £20,000 to refurbish the Union Central Staircase and the main toilets. The toilets, currently a gents, will be converted into toilets for male and female students.

Union President Nigel Baker said that he was relieved that work had started and added 'the Snack Bar will be a hell of a lot less like a refectory'.

Student Unions surveyed

Student Unions are alarmed by a nationwide survey launched by the Department of Education and Science (DES). The survey asks for detailed breakdowns of union finances, and voting procedures. It also contains an extensive section asking unions to evaluate the services they receive from the National Union of Students (NUS).

A twenty-one page questionnaire has been circulated to the Vice-Chancellors, Directors and Principals in seventy universities, polytechnics and colleges of further education. Brunel, Heriot-Watt, Bristol, Loughborough and Newcastle Universities are amongst those on the list. The questionnaires are due for completion by October 31, after which the Government will draw 'conclusions on the best action to take.'

City College Union President, Geoff Ellingham told FELIX that he was surprised that the survey asks students to quantify NUS services in monetary terms.

University of London Union (ULU) President, Stewart Jackson said that ULU view the survey with great concern and are very worried about the ramifications for student union autonomy.

The survey follows an announcement by Secretary of State for Education and Science, Kenneth Baker, in April. Mr Baker said the Government recognised that 'many individual students do not wish to be represented by the National Union of Students.' He went on to say that taxpayers' money should be used to provide services for students and not for political campaigning.

The survey shows a number of similarities to an Early Day Motion on the 'National Union of Students closed shop' put forward by

continued on back page.

Geology field work cut

The Geology Department will be dropping field work during the holiday periods and reducing lecture hours from the start of next term. The department believe that the number of staff student contact hours is excessive and all lecture courses will be cut to accommodate the changes. Independent Mapping projects over the Summer holidays will continue during the second year.

'In the past we have tended to over lecture which is bad for staff and students,' explained Dr Richard Selley, Head of Department.

The move is part of a general restructuring within the department which, amongst other changes led to the introduction of a group tutorial system at the start of the year. The department are also considering the introduction of a third year option in Management Science.

New offices

A new office block for companies liaising with Imperial College is due to be constructed in the space between the Civil and Electrical Engineering Departments. The Office Block, containing twelve office suites is due for completion by September 1989. The suites will be let out on short term leases to companies who are making use of Imperial College's research facilities. The cost of the building is estimated at a quarter of a million pounds.

Student vouchers

The Government is considering introducing student vouchers as a means of funding universities, according to a report in the Guardian. Under the proposal Universities would not be funded directly, but students would be given a voucher to be spent on a University of their choice. The scheme is reported to be receiving growing support from academics and Vice Chancellors.

Death on the Thames

The recent ULU Sri Lanka Society Dinner and Dance was ruined according to FELIX eye in the sky reporter, Charles Brereton, when the boat crashed into a bridge.

The starboard side of the craft was 'completely wrecked' and two people were injured as the skipper corrected too late to avoid a collision.

Panes of glass were ejected and ICU Deputy President Charles Brereton told FELIX that 'if it hadn't been safety glass it could have been bloody carnage'.

He went on to say 'it ruined our evening. It could have been death on the Thames'.

Fisher gets new locks

Following two break-ins earlier this month, the College plans to install a new lock system in Fisher Hall in Evelyn Gardens. The existing ten front door entrances will be reduced to three. A 'Corley' magnetically coded key system, similar to that installed in Montpelier Hall a year ago, will also be fitted to the front doors.

The current Union and Yale system will be replaced by an 'EVVA' master key system at a total cost of around £6000 from the College residence account.

Managing Surveyor of Residences, Peter Hallworth, told FELIX that the external door locks will be installed by the beginning of next term although the internal locks will not be replaced until Christmas due to problems with delivery.

Finance go-ahead

Estimates from clubs and societies, approved by Union Finance Committee for next year will be fulfilled despite a cut of £4000 by the College. Chas Brereton told FELIX that Union Finance Officer, Reggie Blennerhasset was confident that the shortfall would be met.

Car park to expand



Construction work to extend the main College car park by 50 places has begun on the North East side of the Queens Tower. The extension, due for completion by October is part of a £150,000

scheme to repair Imperial College Road. The extension will initially act as an overflow whilst repairs are made to the rest of the car park.

Obituary

Professor Neil Watson

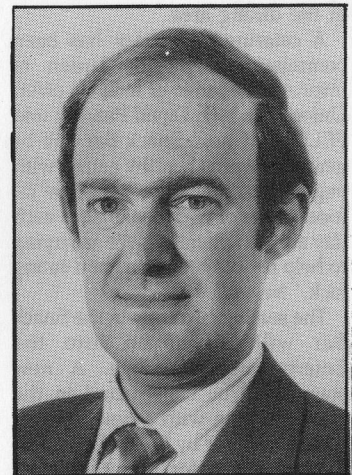
The untimely death on June 28 of Neil Watson, Professor of Internal Combustion Engineering at the University of London, following a fall at his home, deprives the engineering industry of one of its leading researchers and is an almost irreplaceable loss to the staff and students of the Mechanical Engineering Department.

Born in London in 1944, Neil Watson was educated at Allen's School and Queen Mary College. After a short period in the computer peripheral manufacturing industry, Neil joined the staff of Imperial College in 1971 as a lecturer.

In 1973 he initiated, jointly with Professor Janota, an industrially oriented post-experience course on turbo-charging which attracted participants from firms in the UK and continental Europe. At the suggestion of Dartmouth College, New Hampshire he repeated the course at the College and updated versions, given alternatively in the UK and USA became a regular and prominent event in the engineering world. Neil's qualities as a communicator were soon revealed and after won for him many awards in both countries for the excellence of his lectures and papers; he was subsequently greatly in demand as a lecturer and industrial consultant in the UK, continental Europe, the USA and Asia.

Despite the time and effort required by these activities Neil was a fully committed member of his department at Imperial College where he willingly continued to shoulder heavy teaching and administrative duties.

Neil's zest for work, his straightforwardness, his readiness to help others and his complete absence of egotism were qualities which made him a colleague who will greatly be missed. He is survived by his wife Elaine and two daughters.



The late Professor Neil Watson 1944-1988

Editorial **Calling all Postgraduates**

The Mormon Church. The centre pages of this issue contain a controversial opinion article on the Mormon Church. I would like to point out that the article does not necessarily reflect the views of FELIX or of the Editor. I have to say that I visited the Mormon Church on Exhibition Road earlier this week and that the people there were very friendly and very sincere about their faith. I would hope that Members of the Mormon Church would take the opportunity to put forward their side of the story.

Opinion articles will be a regular feature in FELIX this year. They represent your opportunity to put forward your views. Articles on any subject will be accepted provided they are not offensive or anonymous, although, with good reason, names may be withheld from publication at the editor's discretion.

The Union Refit. The refurbishment of the Union Refectory and the Union Lounge is not before time. Over the years the Union Building has been allowed to degenerate to its current shabby state. It is not surprising that students have shown little interest in the Union and its facilities. The refit is the most significant thing the Union have carried out in a long time.

This issue would have been much worse if it were not for the valiant efforts of the staff. Thanks to Dave Smedley for looking after the news, Doug King for taking the photographs, writing about Cropredy and dashing across half of London for a picture of Kenneth Baker, Steve Meyfroidt for his wacky pasteups, Dave Clements and Nigel Baker for the PG page, and Julian Butcher for his opinion article.

Postgraduate articles in FELIX are usually very few and far between, but that is now all going to change, I hope. We have a PG reporter for FELIX, we have three summer PG FELIXES promised (this being number two), and we have a new and enthusiastic PGAO (Postgraduate Affairs Officer, namely myself, Dave Clements) who is going to write some of these articles. All in all the aim is to let you all realise that there is a complete college outside the lab with activities to offer you and help to give you if you are having problems, and that there are plenty of people involved in running the place who are trying to make Imperial a better place to do PhDs and MScs.

The first question you may well ask, is what have we done up to now? Aside from the social aspects of the PG Group at IC (yes there is one), which provides money for departmental PG events, and arranges some events centrally, such as the PG Squash Tournament you will have read about in the last issue, we have been making it easier for you to get help in departments when things are going wrong. Up until last year many departments did not have a Postgraduate Tutor, since such a post was not required by College. I have certainly found the PG Tutor in Physics, who have had one for many years, to be very helpful in offering impartial advice on various aspects of my research. The good news is that now the College have seen that such posts are a good idea and have asked every department to assign a member of staff to the position of Postgraduate Tutor. You'll find a list of these below. You can now go and see these people if you have any problems you need impartial advice on, or to discuss matters you do not feel you are able to discuss with your supervisors.

However, we are not going to stop there. While the PG Tutors will be able to help with individual problems, more general difficulties and comments, about lecture courses for example, or PG common rooms, are not so easily handled by this route. Traditionally representations to departments on such matters has been the job of the Department Representatives (Dep Reps) who are almost always undergraduates. They do not feel they can adequately represent PGs and in many cases neither the PGs or Dep Reps know that this is part of their job. We are therefore proposing a system of Postgraduate Dep Reps. Once chosen/elected, they will be responsible for PG

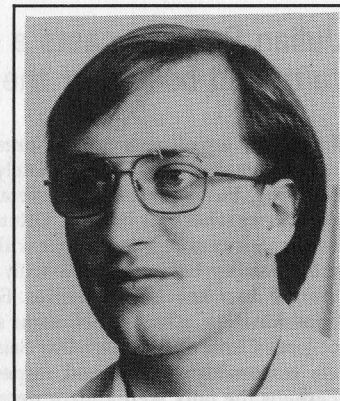
affairs within their department. These will be mainly social and academic matters. They will also sit on the PG Affairs Committee with the Union President and the PGAO. To raise issues within their own departments, they will be encouraged to set up their own departmental PG committees, with help from the PGAO and Union President, with representatives from each research group or section. An MSc representative should also sit on the committee from each major MSc course in the department. This will result in a formal structure through which PGs will be able to organise events and discuss problems with their departments and the Union. This is shown below.

It is understood that some departments already have committees similar to these, and so less work setting up the system will need to be done in those areas.

Once these committees are set up and running, it will then be possible to ask College for a Senior PG Tutor who would be responsible for all PG academic matters. David Goodgame, who will take over as Senior College Tutor in October, is in favour of this idea and so there should be no real problems in getting someone appointed to this post. The Senior PG Tutor will come from a different department from the College Senior Tutor so that students have the option of talking to someone outside their departments if they so wish.

At present undergraduate students fill in lecturer evaluation sheets at the end of the year so that the performance of individual lecturers can be assessed. It is hoped that this will be extended to lectured PG courses and PhD supervisors in the near future, and it is proposed that this will be done through the PG committees.

There are some fairly radical ideas in the scheme outlined above, with the first major obstacle being the traditional Postgraduate apathy



Dave Clements (PGAO)

about anything not directly related to their field of study. However, we feel that this is very important, both for helping individual PG students through the problems that some inevitably face, and so as to improve the overall level of supervision and PG course at the College. This should eventually lead to better these submission rates and a generally higher standard in IC postgraduates.

What we need from the postgraduates in the College now is some feedback on the ideas we have presented above and we'd also like to hear from anyone interested in becoming a PG Dep Rep. We will be holding an open meeting in the Union Dining Hall (that's on the first floor of the Union Building) at 12.30pm on Thursday 1 September. Anyone with comments on these proposals will be most welcome, as would anybody who is interested in joining in with the social activities of the PG Group, which will be expanded next year.

We can, of course, discuss any specific gripes or problems you have there or after the meeting.

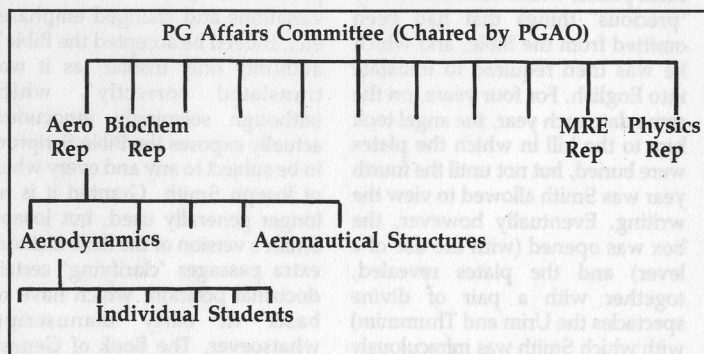
Hope to see you all at the PG meeting on 1 September.

Dave Clements PGAO
(Astrophysics)
Nigel D Baker, Union President.

XT ISSUE...NEXT ISSUE...NEXT ISSU

The next issue of FELIX will be on September 8th
Letters and contributions welcome

ISSUE...NEXT ISSUE...NEXT ISSUE...NE



God Chose America

Julian Butcher casts a critical eye over the faith and beliefs of the Mormon church.

I think we are all aware of the presence of the Mormon Church with its impressive gold steeple immediately opposite the Mechanical Engineering building, but it is surely less certain in most people's minds as to who they are or what they believe. Often they are regarded with some caution, being seen as not quite on a par with evangelical Christians, indeed rather more readily being equated with the Jehova's Witnesses due to their mutual door-knocking activities. For many they seem to be just another denomination, after all their name seems quite inoffensive—'The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints', and of course, the Mormon choirs are reasonably famous and respected throughout the western world. Perhaps the only well-known peculiarity about them is their history of polygamy, which found its way into the faith under Brigham Young, but which is no longer encouraged. My intention is to show that Mormonism is full of peculiarities, that it is not Christian and that its foundation is one of blind faith.

A short history runs something like this: In the early part of the last century a young American lad, who was a 'keen seeker after Truth', found himself totally exasperated by the disunity in the Church. He was particularly averse to the doctrinal nit-picking and apparent impotence of the Church with regard to spiritual gifts from God—(eg prophesy, healing, etc). The lad's name was Joseph Smith, and despite his having received a poor education, he was chosen and enabled by God to perform a great task. This task was declared to him by an angel, who appeared to Smith whilst in prayer, and who informed

Egyptian' spontaneously into English. This he claimed to have done, and the 'Three Witnesses', David Whitmer, Martin Harris and

...Mormonism is full of peculiarities...

Oliver Cowdry testify to this. (Martin Harris was the financier for the first publication). (Interestingly, the Mormons claimed to have consulted a respected authority on hieroglyphics with regard to the 'Reformed Egyptian', who is said to have recognised the characters and praised the text for its unique quality. In a later letter however, he denies this vehemently.)

The result of all this was the Book of Mormon—Another Testimony of Jesus Christ, which was claimed by Smith to have equal (if not superior) authority with the Bible. After all, if God had miraculously generated perfect translation through the Urim and Thummim, the Book of Mormom must be devoid of all errors and other translation problems, (such as idiomatic variations and changed emphases etc). Indeed he accepted the Bible's authority only insofar 'as it was translated correctly', which (although seemingly innocuous) actually exposes the Bible Scripture to be subject to any and every whim of Joseph Smith. Granted it is no longer generally used, but Joseph Smith's version of the Bible includes extra passages 'clarifying' certain doctrinal position, which have no basis in early manuscripts whatsoever. The Book of Genesis for example includes completely



The Mormon Church in Exhibition Road

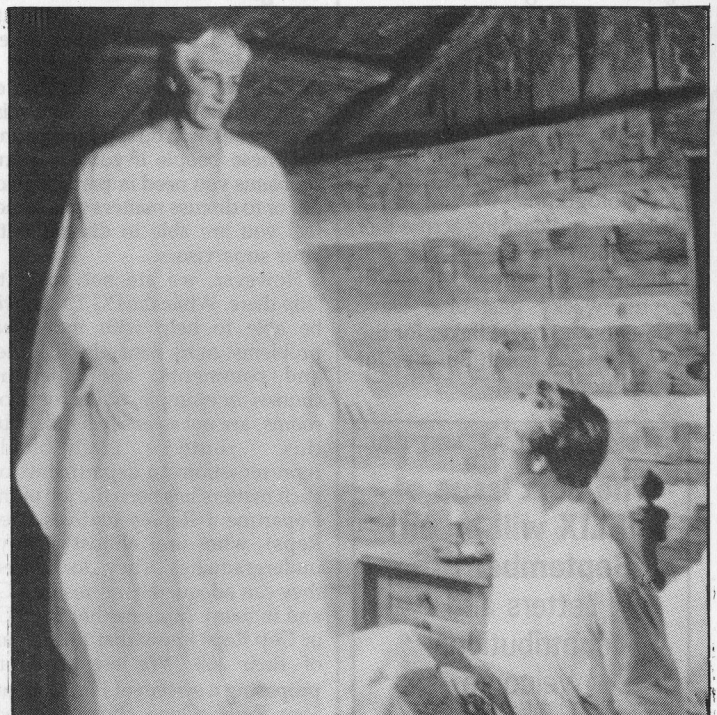
new passages concerning the rebellion of Satan, which Smith has inserted with impunity; since the Book of Mormon explicitly states that the Mormon Church leadership enjoys the privilege of direct revelation from God, the authority of which is comparable to that of Scripture, if not superior to it. (Hence polygamy under Brigham Young, when both the Bible and the Book of Mormon blatantly condemn the practice). This fact of 'divinely' inspired leadership (with apparently little constraint) is clearly the most disturbing aspect of Mormonism, its

foundation is shaky and open to abuse; especially in light of the fact that for the Mormon, God can be seen flatly to contradict Himself in Scripture and revelation.

The Book of Mormon claims to be a set of historical writings, handed down from generations of Jews who had travelled from the Middle East to settle in America around 600BC. Most of the pages are preoccupied with boring pseudo-histories of wars, factions and prophesies (and of course genealogies). A lot of it is padded out with straight copies of

Smith was miraculously able to translate 'Reformed Egyptian' into English

him of an ancient set of gold and brass plates, which contained many 'precious' things that had been omitted from the Bible, and which he was then required to translate into English. For four years, on the same date each year, the angel took him to the hill in which the plates were buried, but not until the fourth year was Smith allowed to view the writing. Eventually however, the box was opened (with the use of a lever) and the plates revealed, together with a pair of divine spectacles the Urim and Thummim) with which Smith was miraculously able to translate the 'Reformed



Moroni appeared to Joseph Smith in 1823

passages from Isaiah. This all reaches a climax with the appearance of Jesus Christ in America after his Resurrection appearances in Jerusalem.

Apparently then, Christ chose to recant His words in John 16.10: '...because I go to the Father and you will see me no more...' and to disprove Mark's words in MK 16.19; '...the Lord Jesus after He had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.' Rather, He went to America and preached over there.

The more improbable the history, the more attractive it seems to be. For example, the Jews were apparently transported to the Americas in pre-Christian, dish-shaped submarines, which had the facility of plugged air holes, to be unstopped upon surfacing, and which were lit inside by magically glowing stones. Miraculously the vessels reached the other side of the Atlantic all together and intact, with the task of establishing a community then being taken in hand. One problem with the history, although 'carefully mapped out to avoid inconsistencies, is the glaring presence of anachronisms, such as the 'compass' (not invented until the twelfth century AD) and the rather too familiar references to the 'horse' (which was not introduced to America until the Europeans arrived).

Actually the history is the least significant pointer to the Book's validity, for the prophecies and doctrinal assertions are far more illuminating in this respect. Without being too detailed, it is worthy to notice that the Book's prophecies regarding Jesus Christ far outstrip the accuracy of the Old Testament; and despite the Mormons' holding them to be evidence of the Book's divine origin, it is easier to see this rather as prophecy in retrospect. For example, Jesus' mother has her name prophesied, 'Mary' and her connubial state 'Virgin'. Neither is prophesied in the Old Testament, for although Isaiah 7.14 does forsee

The most offensive fact about Mormonism is its total intolerance for anyone else

Christ's birth hundreds of years before the event, the Hebrew may perhaps better be translated a 'young woman'. ('Behold, a 'young woman' shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel (God is with us).) That

most Christians believe in Mary's virginity before Christ's birth is not the issue, since what is being shown as over-accurate prophesy and a distinct obsession with making certain doctrinal points too abundantly clear—which leads to the next consideration.

In light of Smith's disgust at the Church for its wars over doctrinal issues, would it not seem only too likely that 'he' should pack the Book of Mormon with clear commandments which once and for all settle all the arguments? Indeed we find just this. When viewed in this manner, the whole book becomes transparent in a flash, for it is certain that whole chapters have been constructed for the sole purpose of making one or two assertions, embellished heavily of course with quasi-historical padding. Examples include the arguments over the existence of hell and the state of the soul at death, and whereas the Adventist's were arguing that Scripture may be interpreted as disclosing the fact of 'soul-extinction' at death and 'annihilation' of the wicked as opposed to everlasting torment, the Book of Mormon improves on God's Biblical revelation by bluntly affirming eternal torment and the transitional life of the soul between death and resurrection. I am not

The doctrines run into clear heresies

endeavouring to favour either view here, but simply illustrating my point. Another important one (yet ironical in view of later teaching by Smith) is Christ's deity. It is significant to understand that although His deity is clearly taught in the Bible, it is never stated bluntly in a way completely immune to misinterpretation. But again the issue is not here, but the fact of Smith's 'clarifications'. Christ is frequently and directly called God, in a way that permits of no personal discovery, and which rather obscures the beauty of the Trinity.

And now their weakest area—Joseph Smith himself. Regarding the above, 'Smith's' divinely infallible translation of the Book of Mormon clearly affirms the doctrine of the Trinity (again far more clinically than the Bible), and yet Smith is documented as having preached on the 'plurality of gods', in utter contradiction to the Trinitarian position, and today you will find that the Trinity is not fashionable for the contemporary Mormon, for he has been informed by Smith since the translation of the infallible Book, that he, and every other faithful Mormon, shall reach

The Mormons clearly state that all other Christians are of the Devil



equality with God the Father at some future date, and then proceed to govern his own universe in much the same way as our God (once human like us) governs the present one. This sort of contradiction is far from unique, and I feel it casts further doubt on Smith's authorship of the Book, which is the subject of the final paragraph. Also Smith's character is somewhat in doubt. Apparently, he at one point eloped with a young lady since her father would not countenance their marriage, for the reason that he knew Smith to have spent much time engaged in searching for hidden treasure with the aid of magic 'peep stones'. Although the observation will seem immaterial to the 'materialists', it is worth noting that the practice of divination is expressly forbidden in the Bible, and that this occupation hardly lends weight to the Mormon's evaluation of Smith as a seeker after Truth. As is the case with the Jehova's Witnesses with regard to the doubtful character of their founder Charles Taze Russell (prosecuted for selling 'miracle wheat' at exorbitant prices, amongst other things), the Mormon's are not keen on discussion of Smith's character, and seem to know little about him. Any accusation against him is, of course, immediately assumed to have been fabricated and to be Satanically inspired—which brings me to their view of the Church.

Perhaps the most offensive fact about Mormonism, is its total intolerance for anyone else at all. So much for Christ's prayer for the unity of His Church in John 17—the Mormons clearly state that all other Christians are of the Devil. Again this is fundamentally an assertion,

for looking at the general doctrinal teaching of the Book of Mormon (supposedly the basis of belief). There seems to be little difference between them and evangelists. So what is the problem? It is the pure assertion that the Mormon Church is, without good reason, the Only Church and so has unique authority to disciple Christians. Then of course with the extra teaching, the doctrines run into clear heresies and one is left with non-Christian Organisations with great power over its members, built on the foundation of a manifestly spurious Book, which seems Christian. The Mormon danger is in shifting Salvation through Christ onto the Organisation. (From a Christian perspective, it might well be injudicious to suppose that all Mormons are necessarily not Christian, for it is surely conceivable that some of them do know Christ, despite the clear fact that membership of the Organisation is not conducive to encouraging this relationship.)

And finally, Smith did not write the Book. The Mormons claim that he translated it in a few days, and that this time constraint and his semi-illiterate state verify the miraculous nature of the events. Again this is odd logic. As you will remember, Smith had four years of relative inactivity in which to write it (or copy it) in his own handwriting (had that been necessary), and although theories suggesting Smith to have possessed a dual personality (one side dull—the other containing hidden brilliance) have been forthcoming, surely the obvious solution points to his having either

The Jews were apparently transported to the Americas in pre-Christian dish shaped submarines

persuaded someone to write the book for him, or to his having been used by someone else as an unlikely prophet to astound the credulous. Whatever, as mentioned previously, Smith's subsequent teachings are by no means always consistent with the very carefully defined doctrinal assertions of the Book, and so his authorship is probably out of the question. And these later teachings, it must be recalled are in no way less authoritative than the Book, even though they conflict heavily at times, making the whole Organisation a house built on sand.

CROPREDY '88

The peaceful village of Cropredy in Oxfordshire reeled last weekend under the onslaught of thousands of fans attending the *Fairport Convention* annual reunion.

Cropredy, now the biggest festival of its kind in Europe, is really just an excuse to hear some of the best Folk/Folk Rock music around and to consume vast quantities of beer. This is apart from the main purpose—to bring the members of *Fairport* back together for their biggest gig of the year, and to unite any ex-members of the band who can make it.

For the crowd the entertainment started on the Friday night with a line up of three bands. First was a set from a bunch of celtic rockers, *Collaboration*, who played very fast and exciting arrangements of traditional celtic tunes. They were followed by an excellent solo guitarist *Mike Silver*. But the set of the evening was just over two hours from *The Richard Thompson Band*. Richard had been persuaded to reform his original band for the

festival and will be going on tour with them later in the year. Richard has released two collaborative albums in the past year, most notably the soundtrack from the BBC series *The Marksman*, and has an album of his own due out in the autumn.

Thousands of people camped out during the weekend. Those unfortunate enough to be on the far side of the site had about a half mile walk back. More people turned up by car on Saturday and by the time *Fairport* came on the festival field was packed to capacity. Weeks had been spent constructing the vast stage with superb lighting effects and an overpowering PA. It was possible to sit in your tent on the campsite and catch every note.

Saturday dawned clear and bright but by lunchtime, and the start of the entertainment, rain was threatening. The first performance was from *Sally Barker*. Sally plays guitar and sings a very classy blend of contemporary and blues. Despite having to perform first she did an

excellent job of warming the crowd up.

The change in programme was due to the late arrival of the *Kursaal* and a recently reformed 70s rock band.

Next was the superb *Filarfolket* from Sweden. This group has become widely acclaimed throughout Europe and *Cropredy* provided a rare opportunity to see them perform in this country. *Filarfolket* play a very exciting and danceable blend of traditional Swedish folk with distinctly Afro-Caribbean rhythms. This band also delighted the crowd by persuading *June Tabor* to make a surprise performance. In fact, the band so impressed the crowd that the number of encores considerably delayed the appearance of the next act.

By now it had started to rain but most people huddled under umbrellas or polythene rather than miss *The Steve Gibbons Band*. Steve emerged onto the Birmingham scene in the late 60s and joined the stable of the *Who* in 1975. Steve has continually produced a high standard of music though superstardom has eluded him.

Next came *Dan Ar Bras* with his electric band. Dan joined *Fairport* briefly in 1977 before starting his solo career. He played a selection of traditional melodies and his own compositions using the latest in electric music technology.

By this time the crowd were packed into the field and in a state of riotous enthusiasm waiting for the event of the weekend. *Fairport*

Convention was formed in 1967 and over the years has churned out countless albums and undergone numerous changes of lineup. The band broke up in 1979 only to reform almost immediately, largely unchanged since then.

It is since the band's reformation that they have been holding annual reunions. *Dave Pegg* (Bass, Mandoline) and *Martin Allcock* (multi-instrumental) flew back from Brazil, two days before the festival, where they had been playing with *Jethro Tull*, abandoning Ian Anderson and company in mid-tour. *Dave Mattacks*' (drums, keyboards) has spent much of the

year touring with *Ashley Hutchings' All Stars*, apart from being in demand for session work with all sorts of famous names. Apart from opening for *Tull* on their US tour with *Simon Nicol* (guitar, vocals), *Ric Sanders* (electric fiddle) has been working with *Andy Cronsshaw*.



June Tabor

In addition to the current lineup *Fairport* invited back *Jerry Donahue* who has most recently been supporting *Gerry Rafferty* on his album *North and South*, and *Chris Rea* on *Dancing with Strangers*. Also joining *Fairport* for their set were *Richard Thompson* and two Welsh lovelies *Sheila* and *Sheryl Parker* who provided additional vocals.

The set started with a few classic numbers including *Joni Mitchell's Carrie* sung by the *Parker Sisters*, several *Richard Thompson* numbers and a brief selection of instrumentals from *Jerry's* first solo album. After that the guests put in only brief appearances leaving *Fairport* to get on with their business.

Simon Nicol's vocals were as vibrant and evocative as ever. *Peggy* (*Dave Pegg*) played several very lively mandolin pieces as well as bass. *Martin Alcock*, as usual,

The multi talented Martin Allcock



Cinema

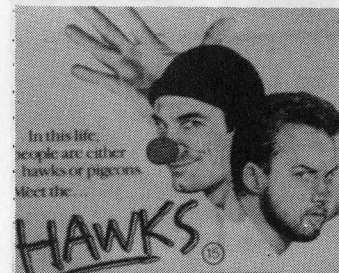
HAWKS

You would think that a film about terminally ill people would be a good recipe for a gloomy load of crap, but, in fact, the brilliant and often black humour in this film very adequately counter-balances any signs of sentimentality that appear. Bancroft (Timothy Dalton), a successful, if somewhat horny, English lawyer and Decker (Anthony Edwards) find themselves in the same ward and dying of the same disease. It is possible to see the humour in lines such as; "You wanna pack suicide in if it's just gonna depress you" when Decker is contemplating throwing himself off the top of the hospital building.

The idea of going out with a 'bang' occurs to the two men when Decker mentions a warehouse on five floors "Like a parking garage" in Amsterdam, and they finally agree that stealing an ambulance is actually the most appropriate and practical way of fulfilling their final ambition. Although very eager to get to the attractions of 'Sin City', they think that their luck is in when they see two girls next to a broken down 2CV and decide to stop to lend a hand believing that the two females must be French. They are not French, and on closer inspection it is doubtful whether one of them is actually a woman or a giraffe.

Timothy Dalton and Janet McTeer as the pregnant Hazel, fill the screen with an almost slap-stick comedy to make even the most depressed person feel happy. Go and see this film and come out of the cinema with a smile on your face and possible a tear in your eye (quite a combination, eh?).

Rose Atkins.



Angeles (where else?). Adopted as a child and whisked away to America, Jenny is trying to trace her natural parents, whose last known address is Diana's marital home. She rescues Diana from the clutches of the local gutter press (Jimmy Nail and Tim Spall) who are after Oliver's 'length', as it were. From there, it all goes horribly wrong. Jenny and Diana have the power to trap people in their dreams and turn them into hideous parodies of what looked uncannily like Roy Hattersley. The dreams become more and more horrific until the truth of Jenny's past is revealed.

Dream Demon is certainly a very frightening film, not least because it marks the screen debut of yet another Bloody Redgrave. The disturbing special effects were produced by Animated Extras of *Aliens* and *Company of Wolves* fame and the atmosphere is heightened by some well-freaky music from Bill Nelson.

If *Fatal Attraction* made the men who saw it think twice about having affairs, *Dream Demon* should be the film to make women think twice about getting married in the first place.

Rob Causey.

SHAG

Apparently, Americans have absolutely no idea that the word 'Shag' has anything to do with sex, in fact, I often wonder if Americans have any idea about sex at all and this film in places, would certainly serve to confirm my thoughts.

'Shag', according to this film, is a dance, well a kind of foot shuffle really, specially designed for the young middle-class white kids (not a black face in sight apart from the the big fat mama cleaner who comes out with things like; 'I ain't seen such hawny white fowks befaw'). Oh well, this dross must appeal to some people.

Rose Atkins.

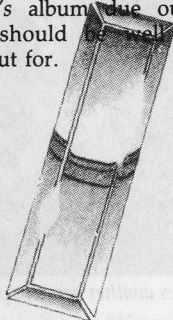
excelled at any number of instruments including playing a synthesiser through a midi interface to his guitar. We didn't see much of Dave Mattacks, hidden as he was behind a large Yamaha drumkit, but we couldn't miss his style. Ric Sanders, whose stage presence can be a bit overpowering, was his usual exuberant self.

As the band worked their way through a range of everybody's favourites the crowd swayed and some danced. Finally, after some three hours, on the second, or was it third? encore they played the number that has ended every *Cropredy* to date—*Meet on the Ledge*—and everybody sang along. Then it was over for another year. Most of us wandered back to our tents humming the last number, feeling strangely desolate. Such is the impact and atmosphere generated by *Cropredy*.

Filarfolket fiddler



If anyone wants to sample the folk-rock scene then I would recommend *Fairport's* album *In Real Time* recorded live at *Cropredy* in 1987 or *Jethro Tull's* album *Crest of a Knave* featuring Peggy on bass. Also worth hearing are *Sally Barkers* album *In the Spotlight*, and *Jerry Donahue's* *Telecasting*. *Richard Thompson's* album due out this autumn should be well worth looking out for.



Filarfolket fiddler

For those of you with a yen to see *Fairport Convention* live they will be playing two London venues on their forthcoming winter tour:

Wimbledon Theatre (SW19), January 8th 1989 and the Dominion Theatre (Tottenham Ct Rd), February 17th 1989.

Or alternatively catch up with them for their warm-up gigs at the Half Moon in Putney during December.

Review It

Would you like to become part of the FELIX reviews team?

If you would like to write about an event you think would be of interest to readers of FELIX, or if you want to go and see a free film preview or write a review of a good book you have just read pop into the FELIX Office and find out more!

continued from front page.



The Rt Hon Kenneth Baker MP, concerned over student union political campaign spending.

Timothy Janman MP, in December. The EDM, which is an undebated statement of support for an issue called for the Secretary of State for Education and Science to take action over the anomaly which allows the NUS to run a 'closed shop' whilst the 1987 Employment Act aims to 'significantly reverse closed shop arrangements.' More recently, Mr Janman proposed an amendment to the Government Education Reform Bill. The amendment has been described by the NUS as an attempt to outlaw union affiliation with organisations which do not provide goods or services.

Maeve Sherlock, NUS President told FELIX that the amendment could have affected union affiliation with sports leagues as well as with the NUS.

Sports cup win

Imperial College has won the Universities Athletic Union HG Messer trophy for the most improved College in this year's mens' sports championships. The mens' team came 12th out of 41 Colleges, an improvement of 22 places.

'I knew we'd done well by getting a few teams in the top 16 but I didn't think we'd done so well overall' said Athletics Clubs' Committee Vice Chairman, Mark Harris.

Imperial managed to achieve places in the top sixteen in many of the sports. The overall winners of the Championship were Loughborough University, with Birmingham University in second place. Imperial College has been a member of the Universities Athletic Union since 1983.

Further computer thefts throughout college

Since FELIX reported on computer thefts two weeks ago a further £14,000 worth of equipment has been stolen.

Thieves operating between Wednesday and Friday last week have stolen two printers, one a laser printer from Electrical Engineering, and a complete system valued at over £10,000 from Mechanical Engineering.

On two occasions keys were used to gain access to the equipment, leading College Security to believe that current or ex-members of

Imperial College may be involved.

Security Officer Terry Briley commented 'Imperial College is here to produce research and we are losing our product as a result of these thefts'. He added that Security were doing their best to control the thefts but urged College members to be more aware of security and to lock doors and challenge strangers at night.

Local crime prevention officers will be co-operating with security to advise freshers on crime prevention next term.

Paper recycling Project launched



The Ideal Paper Recycling Company depot receives another scrap paper delivery.

Imperial College Union has launched an eight week project to investigate paper recycling on campus. The project aims to set up a pilot recycling scheme at IC and to produce a report for distribution to other Universities, on the scheme's feasibility.

The project is being funded by Friends of the Earth and the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme (UROP) to the tune of £1000.

Richard Heap, the student selected to conduct the study told FELIX that white printed paper,

photocopier paper and computer paper where potential sources of income. He said that three recycling schemes were under consideration including a proposal by Westminster City Council which would involve free refuse collection in return for waste paper.

Trewin Restdrick told FELIX that Friends of the Earth have received a number of enquiries on paper recycling in universities. He went on to say that the project, if successful, could be reciprocated in other universities.

Evelyn houses merge

Mining House and Southwell House, in Evelyn Gardens, are to be joined to form a hall for 160 or so students by the beginning of next term. Ken Young, the present Warden for Southwell House, will be Warden for the new hall.

The decision to merge the houses was taken when Catherine Brown, Warden of Mining House, resigned to complete her PhD and Mr Young was appointed as Warden of Southwell House. The move is in line with the present Student Residence Committee (SRC) policy to move towards larger halls and should lead to an overall increase in the number of student rooms in the hall.

The SRC are also to consider the merger of Willis Jackson House and Holbein House next year. SRC Chairman, Brian Levitt told FELIX that the present all male Holbein House and the mixed Willis Jackson House may be interchanged in time for next year.

The cost of converting the two houses into one, by knocking walls through and converting triple rooms into doubles and singles will be met by funds left to the College by Mr P R Monk, an ex-lecturer at Imperial. The legacy of around £80,000 was left by Mr Monk to provide accommodation for members of staff. The new hall will house Mr Young and his wife in a larger Warden flat than is presently available and will provide further student rooms from the second redundant Warden flat. The naming of the new hall is currently under debate although 'Southwell Hall' and 'Monk Hall' have been mentioned as possibilities. Imperial College President, Nigel Baker, told FELIX that he and Mr Young preferred 'Monk Hall' as a possible name since they felt that renaming it 'Southwell Hall' could lead to ill-feeling from Mining House drinking club, 'The Diggers'.

New!

Professor G. New, from the Physics department, was appointed by the college rector as chairman of the Wardens Subcommittee on 22nd August. Professor New replaces former Linstead Hall warden, Richard Clarke.