FELIX

The Newspaper of Imperial College

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Daylight Robbery

Twelve thousand pounds worth of equipment were stolen in one evening from college premises during the summer. The theft in August was particularly blatant; two computers, an oscilloscope and several charge amplifiers were taken from a single room in the Civil Engineering department.

According to college security there were no signs of a break-in on the digitally locked door. The theft can be timed to at least the nearest half hour, as a printer on a recurring twenty minute cycle produced a 10pm readout but not a 10.20 one. A college security spokesman said that up to thirty-seven people knew the lock combination and stated 'a more selective access system is required.'

The civil engineering theft was not an isolated incident. Late in August a computer was stolen from the Bessemer Building, in addition there have been numerous wallet thefts during the summer vacation and several answer machines have gone missing.

College security are also concerned about the ease of access to some college residences. Head of security, Terry Briley, recommends that students get to know as many people in their hall as possible and that they challenge any strangers on sight.

Imperial Racism?

During the summer a previously unknown Imperial College based group called 'Academics For Free Speech', (AFFS) produced a four page A5 leaflet concerning the gas chambers at Auschwitz and Majdanek, used to exterminate 6 million Jews during the Second World War. The anti-semitic nature of the material roused concern throughout Imperial as it claimed to be 'printed and published by Academics for Free Speech, Imperial College, London.'

Felix was made aware of the publication and its contents by a local newspaper in South Shields on the north east coast of England. The paper received the leaflet in the post in mid-August and immediately telephoned Felix to find out if the printing work was done by the Imperial College Union Print Unit, part of the Felix office. Having no knowledge of the publication, Felix made enquiries around the College, all of which drew a blank.

The publication described the findings of Fred Leuchter, the US execution equipment expert, and mentions David Irving, the controversial 'revisionist' historian. The material, of a highly antisemitic nature, supported the findings of Leuchter's report which claims that in no way could the chambers at the concentration camps have been used for the execution of such a number of people within the time span of the war. It also severely attacks the various groups that have been outraged by his report and the book based on it.

On hearing about the document, that had been faxed to Felix, the Rector, Sir Eric Ash, said that 'I cannot believe that this is Imperial College Academics' and continued by saying that 'There are a lot of nutters at Imperial College, but I cannot believe it came from here'. Senior administrative staff were extremely surprised when presented with a copy of the publication and comments varied from 'this is the first I've heard of it' to 'we will be looking into it'.

Imperial College Security Officer, Terry Briley, thought that the document could be considered to be 'an incitement to racial hatred', illegal under British law. He claimed that one of the government's security departments he called 'special operations' was interested in the case.

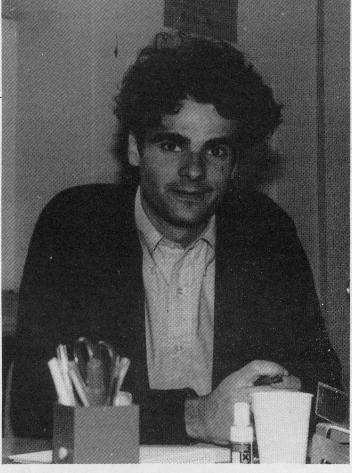
Student Hardship

Fifty percent rise in students seeking help over summer

Students have experienced greater hardship this summer than in previous years according to figures compiled by the Union Welfare office. An example includes the number of students seeking financial assistance which trebled in July and September compared to the same time last year. According to Stefano Ruis, who took up the post of Welfare Officer at the beginning of September, there has been a fifty percent rise in the total number of students seeking help over the summer months.

The problems facing many students were firmly rooted in financial insecurity. withdrawal of housing benefit meant students lost a lot of help they would otherwise have had,' he said. He is very concerned that once money required for such necessities as food, rent, books, bills, poll tax and so forth are set aside from the standard grant, there is a very considerable shortfall. 'The socalled compensation for the loss of housing benefit (ie student loans) does not really address the issue, claims Stefano. He advises students to 'budget unless they're going to get into serious debt.

For those that are already in financial difficulties or who think that they soon will be, Stefano can arrange debt counselling and can even help negotiate with creditors. This was a service that was run by his predecessor, Yve Posner, and one that he hopes to continue. Stefano is concerned that worries over money will affect not just students academic performance but also their emotional well being, 'Debt always does' he added.



According to as yet unpublished government figures that have been made available to Felix staff, which include the administration costs of the student loan scheme, the government is making as much as a fifty percent saving by abolishing housing benefit and holiday income support for students. The government appear to be expecting

students to pick up the tab in the form of large overdrafts. £3,000 debts are not unheard of amongst third year students at Imperial. Stefano fears that current student financing will 'discourage students from poorer families from going into higher education unless they are prepared to be saddled with large overdrafts.'

Private Parks

In future years, Imperial College students may have to pay to enter Hyde park. This possibility follows the decision by Mr. Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, to privatise the maintenance of the eight Royal Parks. Those against this move believe that it may be part of a larger strategy to put the control of all Royal Parks solely into the private sector. Amongst the protestors are the Transport and General Workers Union, to which the parks' current employees belong.

On Tuesday 17th September, campaigners rallied in Holland Park at the opening of the Japanese Gardens by Prince Charles. Police presence was heavy and complaints were levied against police behaviour, saying that they had been 'bullying' anybody obviously connected with park preservation.

Meanwhile the campaign continues and the wheels of government continue to turn. Those wishing to take action should write to their MP, or the Prime Minister.



Prince Charles at the opening of the new Japanese Gardens, in Holland Park, now privately maintained.

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Evacuation of Mech Eng after Hydrogen Sulphide Gas Alert

Mechanical Engineering was evacuated at 5.15pm on Thursday after dangerous levels of hydrogen sulphide were accidentally produced in the building's drainage system.

A drain had become blocked on Level 1 and a private drain cleaner company had been called in. A company employee attempted to unblock the drain by pouring 93% sulphuric acid down it. The gas reacted with a mystery material in the drain and copious amounts of hydrogen sulphide filled the room. According to Ian Gillett, of the college safety unit, low levels of the gas are not dangerous but it desensitizes the nervous system so that when levels do become toxic there is a danger that they are not noticed. The gas is therefore dangerous, and since in this case it originated from the drains system, the entire building had to be immediately evacuated. The building remained empty for eight hours until the gas levels subsided.

New Bookstore Manager

Imperial College Union Bookstore has a new manager. Neil McCluskey left earlier this summer and has been replaced by Jill Gibbons. Ms Gibbons left working for Marks and Spencers 18 months ago to go around the world.

'I didn't want to work in a big organisation', she said, 'I wanted to be in charge of making a go of something.'

Music Library Reorganisation —New Assistant

The Haldane library will have a part time music assistant to replace Chris Gutkind who left at the end of July. Janet Smith, Haldane librarian, told Felix that the Management and Planning group of the College Administration had initially refused to replace the music assistant, but after an appeal by Mrs Czigany, the college librarian, the college decided to compromise.

In addition to a half time music assistant, the college will pay for a new security system for the music library. Music will be issued from the ground floor reception desk, while the Haldane entrance will be permanently closed.

There are plans to move the entire Haldane library stock to the ground floor 'at some point during this academic year', which will cause disruption for a while. For the short term, the Haldane music library will endeavour to keep to the present opening hours.

Students Charged for Linen

Home students will no longer be provided with free linen when they arrive at college residences. Housekeepers have been instructed by college accommodation management to offer linen packs for sale to students. The original policy included overseas students but it has been amended after student union intervention.

The linen packs contain two sheets, two pillow cases, a blanket and a bed cover. Most packs have been made up from the old linen, common to all halls of residence. According to Ms Gaskin, the Garden Hall housekeeper, students rarely used the blankets that were once provided as many people arrived with their own duvets. 'If they turn up with nothing they will be able to buy something,' she said.

What use is a bank freebie when your grant cheque runs out?



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Welcome back (or to those who are new...welcome) to IC for yet another exciting term filled with fun, frolics, joy and laughter, all provided to you by your friendly, caring, sharing Union. I hope you had a great holiday, as I didn't! Oh well, a president's life is a lonely one...boohoo. Now, down to business.

Union Office

Those of you who have been used to slouching around the dingy brown Union office in the North East corner of Beit Quad will be surprised to find that it is no longer there. It has miraculously moved to the central staircase and is now bright and welcoming with a comfortable reception area for you to sit in, drink coffee, read newspapers, or one of the many welfare information leaflets which have now been placed there, or even talk to Michelle or Cathy (the very friendly administrative staff). Should you wish to speak to any of the sabbaticals then you need only ask Michelle or Cathy to let you through the gate and we'll be very pleased to see you.

Welfare Service

Elsewhere in this issue you will have seen that we have a new welfare adviser: Stefano Ruis joined us at the beginning of September and has lots of new ideas (including new longer opening hours!) to improve the service provided. If you have any questions about welfare then come into the office and either pick up a leaflet or speak to Stef, he's very approachable and is a 'very, very nice man'.

Stefano Ruis is the Union's new Welfare Advisor.

External Affairs

Lots of things have happened over the past year to make life for students that little bit harder. Firstly the grant has been frozen to make way for the student loan, secondly all student benefits have been stopped. In order to register the student opinion of these changes, the University of London Union has organised a Hallowe'en sleepout on (you guessed it!) Hallowe'en. There will be more info nearer the date, but if you have suffered over this summer then it is well worth getting involved to prevent other students from suffering the same fate.

Welfare

For too long, student welfare issues have been ignored at IC. Hopefully this won't happen this year. There are two main avenues for Welfare

- 1. Educating and Informing
- 2. Campaigning for better services

The first is to be tackled by a series of Welfare campaigns on specific issues. The first of these will be a general Educational Welfare Week planned to introduce new students to Health and Welfare issues that should concern them (such as Fitness, Eating, Health and Finance). This is to take place over the 5th week of term (so long away, you say!). So it gives you a chance to learn lots of bad habits before spanking you and teaching you how to do it right!

positions, write a manifesto quick! I realise that there are already some structures in existance within departments and we would rather tap into those structures than ignore them.

Parking Permits

Application forms are now available for students wishing to apply for a parking place on campus. I must warn you that competition is high—there are only 100 permits to give out and they are distributed on a means tested basis so if you live within 30 minutes journey of college and have no special circumstances then you are not likely to get one so don't bother applying. You can pick up your form from the Union Office and they are due in by 5pm Friday 12th October.

News from the Home Front



The second can only happen if the Union is informed of matters which should be tackled. If you have any worries about how you are treated whilst at college then I need to know in order to do anything about it. This can be done either via a Union General Meeting (UGM) or by talking to any of the sabbaticals personally.

Postgraduates

A series of special interest lectures arranged been postgraduates, the first of which tackles 'How to choose a PhD subject' and will be publicised around departments closer to the date. There will also be a meeting held in each department at the beginning of term to which all postgraduates are invited, to begin setting up a support and social network within college. At these meetings we will elect a 'Departmental Representative' who will be responsible for collecting and disseminating information within the department. So if you are interested in holding one of these

If you care about the quality of your life whilst you're here at IC then it is your responsibility to get involved in the Union. Joining clubs, using the Union facilities (Bar, Snack Bar, Discos, Bookstore, Welfare Advice) is a major part of the involvement necessary to have a happy life here and to improve your employment prospects, it is also virtually impossible to avoid using these facilities which the Union provides for you. Another method is by becoming interested in how it is run, whether the sabbaticals are doing their jobs effectively, whether important things are being missed, whether students are being treated fairly. If you aren't interested then it is your own fault if you get a bad deal in life.

That's the rant over with, there'll be plenty more where that came from as the year progresses...All I'd like to do now is wish everyone a great year at college and hope that you all make the most of it.

Zoë Hellinger, ICU President, tries valiantly to sound interesting. Read for yourself.

What follows is a reasonably accurate account of a boy's own adventure. Disconcerted and bereft of any desirable challenge, our intrepid (and imaginative) writer sought that most rare and awesome creature, rock's most potent siren and the current darling of the music press. Sonic Euph talks to Cranes' Alison Shaw.

It does occur to me, though, that however much you try to appear ordinary, your music points towards an isolationist stance.

'How do you mean?' Awkward silence.

Er, it's not terribly approachable music. It's oppressive.

'Maybe, but, we are reasonably normal people'.

But you have said of your music that it may seem dark, but there's

I preferred 'Tender Prey'. 'The Mercy Seat' is one of my personal favourites.

'Yes, but I like the fact that He uses strings and piano on 'The Good Son'.

I agree. It adds a new dimension to his music, but I can still go back and lose myself in 'Junkyard'.

The word 'Yeah!' right now sounds like I've found a kindred spirit - but...

the failure. Again, the voice of Alison Shaw is held to be a catalyst for the protective instincts of men. What I think, however, is that this particular instinct is merely a 'subheading', so to speak. But this isn't up for debate. Not on the 'phone on a monday afternoon, anyway.

Shit. I hate 'phones. This is my first 'phone interview. And probably my last.

'It's O.K.. It's like a chat'.

But it's so much better one-toone. I suppose You must be really puritanical with your product, musical dictatorships and all that.

'To an extent. Jim writes all the music, but it's very much a gut reaction thing'.

Originality without contrivance. A slippery bastard, but 'Adorations/Brighter' had a very spontaneous feel.

'The first vocal take for 'Adoration' was the one we used. It's mostly like, I hear the music, and sing whatever words come into my head'.

Gloriously honest. Fantastically natural. Almost auto-suggestion, but with distinct personalities. Even so, 'Adoration' feels slightly more contrived than 'Fuse or 'Self Non-Self' (both recorded on 8-Track in 1986). The transience of Cranes' sound, a very definite thing, is not gazing at it's own future. Her voice was more raw in 1986, but this is not base camp, if you'll pardon the pun.

'When we first started, we used to bash around in a garage, and you had to scream to be heard - but I couldn't say where we're going...'

There is, it seems, some slight truth in the inspiration through adversity with Cranes. Their home town, Portsmouth, they found parochial and claustrophobic. They were the classic struggling artists; poverty has often invoked great inspiration. So, has their fame brought that sterile kind of wealth their way?

'No. We're still poor. I only get £60 per week'.

Oh dear. Evidently, You're not selling enough records. I feel responsible; I shall therefore extol Your virtues to the record-buying public.

'Oh, please!'

Cranes are like the favourite toy for our music press. It's the one they're never allowed to play with. They beg, whine and sulk; but if they got their hands on it, they would break it and throw it back.

Cranes' album, 'Wings Of Joy', is out now on Dedicated, and Cranes play London U.L.U. on October 11th. Come and spend a day in Alison's house.

SONIC EUPH

The Cranes Interview

Surprise of this particular week No. 1. Guns 'n' Roses get Single of the Week in Melody Maker. Surprise No. 2. Cranes don't. This is the same music press that regularly attempts to convince us that Levitation are more of a household name than, say, Right Said Fred (gay bouncers are a big topic down our way, I can tell you). It never ceases to amaze me that idolatrous and gushing prose is written by people whose only aim seems to be caging Cranes under a ridiculously small name. I suppose we're all guilty of it from time to time, but fingers seem to point constantly at them, in unison with cries of Bauhaus, Cocteaus, My Bloody Valentine, et cetera ad Whatever infinitum. the implications, they're keeping the truth to themselves. Are they operating a master plan? strategic concessions to the press and, thereby, the public?

'No. I mean, We signed to Dedicated in March last year, did 'Inescapable'that summer, toured Holland; Dedicated wanted an L.P. before Christmas, but we said we couldn't do it. We started making the L.P. this summer'.

I have to confess that it seems improbable that You would produce a long-form video; though quite distinct from my perception of you, it feels too soon.

'Well, it's not really. The video contains four promos, some footage from 'SNUB', and a home movie'.

Fair enough, I think. That answers that one. Do I venture for a big ice- breaker? The trouble with 'phones is... they're 'phones. America loves 'em. They won't love *Cranes*, though. So, how does Alison react to the purple prose of our lovely music press?

'I don't understand it'.

Mmmm. It gushes. It's over the top.

'Yeah, I don't like-'
(EDITED INTERJECTION)

'Ha ha. You'll never get Me to say that. No, I can't relate it to what we do'.

always a light at, ahem, the end of the tunnel; I don't get that, I don't experience that with your music. Oh dear. Laughter. I laugh back. What?

'Well, you don't sound like a Cranes fan. Don't you like us?'

No, no, I assure her. I love your

Right. Lesson for today. How to break a newly- established affinity with a Rock Star. Ask a question with the word 'Goth' in it.

How do you react when the name 'Goth' is fired at you?

'I don't know; I mean, what most people think of when they hear



music. I think you're the most original 'band' around. Cranes are great. Readers, I mean that most sincerely. Cranes are gorgeous. O.K., so there is a certain extent with 'Adoration' with the major chords three minutes through the song, but the main reason is your voice

'Thank you. It's nice of you to say it'.

I'm charmed. I mean it. Now I've alluded to it, how do I avoid that question? I don't. Where does the voice come from, by the way? I mean, it's described here as 'foetal keening' (promotional notes to you lot).

'Oh god, P.R.O.D.. It's just my voice, y'know. All that 'child-like' stuff is just irritating'.

The problem is, it can't be denied. She sounds so affected in the songs. I make a discreet move towards the pigeonhole marked 'another tack'. It seems to me that most of the bullshit said about Cranes revolves around their presumed antecedents - Swans, The Birthday Party, Bauhaus! I don't know where they get Bauhaus from

'Well, I used to listen to *The Birthday Party*, but not any more'. You still like Nick Cave, though. 'Oh, I liked 'The Good Son''.

'Goth' is the Mission and the Nephs, and to Me that's more like heavy rock'.

Mmm, The Sisters. It's merely another name for heavy metal. It used to mean *The Birthday Party, Joy Division, U.K. Decay, even Diamanda Galas*. These, and their descendants, are collectively known as the avant-garde. Diamanda's another of your comparisons. Diamanda Galas and Lydia Lunch, by association, seem to have provoked a line of inquiry concerning your past, and childhood traumas.

'I don't wish to discuss it, but it was relatively normal'.

Yes. It's more of a case of a personal response to something, because it is nothing unless it affects something. Even so, this question has accused your fans of a sadistic voyeurism because of the presumed nature of the music.

'Well, any listener is a voyeur of sorts. It all depends on your approach'. This is undeniable. Also, I have been given, on occasion, to sadistic thoughts when listening to music. All About Eve, for instance, or Tanita Tikaram. My sadism as regards Alison, I'm given to understand, is through my interest in her failed catharsis and the necessary self-inflicted pain of

Reading, a veritable mosquito bite on the arse of the naked land, yet again plays host to what is known, cryptically enough, as the Reading Festival. David and Seb discuss this and the relative merits of drinking until falling over in some dire bar. Their conclusion? Read on...

Friday.

Festival. What image does this conjure up? Thirty thousand pissheads believe it consists of a weekend orgy of alcohol and sex. It's not, but Reading always was full of contradictions such as, say 'Carter' supported by 'the Fall'. Try a free festival and some brew and you'll be amazed. No more the denizen of kids wearing Carter and Ned's tee-shirts. No more Goths and all for free.

Friday was a good day. Ominously grey clouds threatened and occasionally pissed down on the permanently pissed crowd, but the bill was excellent. Noise god after noise god, never was a better line-up seen - except for the 'Honey Thieves'. I've never heard or seen the Honey Thieves and do not want to talk about the bloody Honey Thieves.

Not so the 'Babes'. An all-American, all-girl trio who play a bastard Rock n' Roll seldom bettered. They paled in the face of the mighty, much maligned 'Silverfish'. Their rhythmic, pulsating sound vibrates to your very soul, truly, pop music to brainwash to. Pure aural terror faded as 'Nirvana' took over.

'Dinosaur Jr'. Line up, and be buttfucked by J's Guitar. Another disappointment. Fuzzy sound and a shitty atmosphere ruined what could have been. They still shred, cruising through monolithic (Tut tut, Seb. Mixed metaphor) tracks like 'Freak Scene' and 'The Wagon'.

After greatness, 'Pop Will Eat Itself'. Again, need I say more. The only band on friday worse than Iggy, and that alone speaks

nought but trouble. I would have stayed were Carter not so unmentionably dire. Alright I had a headache as well.

Sunday.

With ony a few baggy stragglers left over, drunken, dazed and too much out of their heads to be in yo' face, Reading turned into a kind of ghost camp that Goth has always been: ridiculous and mildly

third rate and little league. 'Ned's' - ha! The final nail in the coffin of the unfunny joke bands. And that's the funniest thing about them. Expect a resurgence in the next ten years, but if I want humour, I'll listen to the 'Sisters'. Oh Christ, what a crap introduction...

Yes, yes I confess my reason for buying the Reading ticket and yes, the idea is incongruous. The purple lights, the pea soup of dry ice, and

The Reading Festival

volumes.

The band that should have headlined. 'Sonic Youth'. Sonic Terrorism. From sex kitten Kim's crusty panties to Lee's screaming guitar, Sonic Youth were awesome. And Iggy couldn't top it.

Punk is dead and men like Iggy Pop still try to animate it's rotten corpse. It was an insult to anyone's sensibilities. Pause, and examine the comparative merits of spending the remaining hours watching Iggy strut his funky shite, or getting headfucked by a blazing fire.

Saturday.

Consider your concept of Saturdays. Are they comprised of a headache, a field full of shit and corpses, lots of people wearing teeshirts screaming You Fat Bastard, and lots of, er, fat bastards? No? Oh I forgot shit music too. Except 'the Fall'. If you didn't see this, you should be kicking yourself, or at



ineffectual.

The 'Pooh-Sticks' were great. Yeah, young people turn me on too. The singer declares that we will never see them again, before launching into 'I'm In You'. At this point I leave the acoustic stage. 'Gang Starr' are on the main stage. I walk away; what I don't need on Sunday is the sort of lifeless wank 'De La Soul' brought to Reading the day before. Luckily I meet up with some friends and we have a few beers. Jo Brand comes on in the cabaret tent. Jo Brand's funny. In the acoustic tent, the 'Fatima Mansions' are playing. They win sorry Jo. So I wander to the tent for 'Ceausescu', 'Viva Dead Ponies', etcetera. They don't play 'Only Losers take the Bus', bloody shame, but Ceausescu is typically violent. This man is very definitely a main contender for the kingdom of rock and roll. Cathal Coughlan thrilling necessary commandment. His version of the modern myth of society spat all over Reading and the 'Blow Chunk' attitudes of the other bands. Speaking of which....

Godfathers are crap. They capture the quintessential ethos of all that's been shit this weekend food, tee-shirts, flat beer, Saturday. This is not sensitive or clever: it is

the throb of 'After Hours' that worked so well in Leeds earlier this year translated to the massive open stage and the sceptical square mile of audience.

Eldritch wanders to his mike stand as the speed driven bars of 'First and Last and Always' echo. He's wearing a tuxedo and bow tie. I spent the entire weekend getting shit faced to the point of inanity, and this was the first time I desired sobriety. Grungy black-arsed Reading, gorgeously and ironically confronted by a man in a tuxedo. Two songs in, he greets the audience. It's 'Someday, everything you need is just gonna fall from the skies'. 'Dominion' interrupts the confused Goths train of thought and I laugh and pray for another nuclear accident. The bitch is, they close too early. His encore is for George Bush - 'He's got Tomahawk missiles in his hands, he's got the whole fucking world in his hands'. As the self-styled, self-emasculated pale emperor bellows out his thanks, the darkness closes around the cheerfully unhappy Goths and I wander back to the station, drunk and dirty, and considering what a generally wanky weekend it's been. Yeah, I know festivals are crap. See you next year.



Much touted and perhaps overrated, Nirvana were the darlings of the Sub-pop scene. Patchy sound ruined the day; see them in a small venue or, better, buy a fuck off stereo and their albums. Fuck 'Chapterhouse'-indie shite nuff said. least 'searching for the place where they make this brew'. 'Carter USM', or the CUS machine, as I prefer to call them, are not worth the time of day. Contrary to popular opinion, I do not dislike 'James', but the corruption of a good natured pop band to major status speaks

Prospero's Books

'The Tempest' is ultimately a story about revenge and the humiliation of those seeking revenge when they finally have absolute power over enemies. In Greenaway's visually stunning adaptation, 'Prospero's Books', we are shown the story from the idea that 'The Tempest' was written by Prospero and that its writing caused the events to happen. Prospero, played by Sir John Gielgud, is abandoned on a barren island with his baby daughter and some books from his library. Through the books he obtains dominion over the island's spirits and creates his own kingdom and eventually engineers the fate of those who abandoned Gielgud brings the him. Shakespearean language to life so vibrantly that, at times, Greenaway's visual imagery seems unnecessary. Those who have seen his earlier works, especially 'The Cook, the Thief, his Wife and her Lover' will be familiar with his use of symbolism and colour, and here again these are used to their utmost effect. Greenaway also uses this film to explore a new breed of special effect which allows him to animate the book's contents. This is not a film which can be understood from only one viewing. Return visits are an enjoyable necessity. Mylan.

Dying Young

Hin

This film is a love story.

Hilary O'Neil (Julia Roberts) is a streetwise young woman who is totally insecure mainly due to many relationships construction workers. Victor Geddes (Campbell Scott) is a well educated rich man who is suffering from Leukaemia and whose father wants a full time nurse to take care of him. Hilary lies about her qualifications and manages to con her way into the job. Against his father's wishes she moves into the spare room in Victor's flat to help him after he has been for treatment at the hospital.

After her fist experience of his behaviour once he'd been for chemotherapy she is left with a decision to make—can she cope with this every week or should she leave the man who is totally dependent for one night out of seven. She stays.

As the film progresses you see Victor change. He is, at the start of the film, very arrogant and uncaring but you can see the effects Hilary is having on him. You see him as the frail man who needs her help and support to get through life. She encourages him to develop, she teaches him to drive, helps him give up smoking and makes him eat proper meals. He in turn helps her develop—teaching her about art and some of his favourite artists—she



becomes a strong person, changing from the depressed and oppressed lonely girl into someone who could cope with anything even the fact that she could be spending the rest of her life with a man who spends Monday nights with his head stuck down a toilet.

It is a moving film. As Hilary and Victor are the only two characters who get any form of development you become compassionate towards them and their needs. Although the

film gets a little too sloppy at times it is well made. Directed by Joel Schumacher (*Flatliners*, *The Lost Boys*) with a competent production team (Sally Field and Kevin McCormick) and a group of expert actors

A nice nice way to spend a Friday evening if you like a good romantic film and permanently carry a packet of tissues in your back pocket.

Sam Cox.

Announcements

The Jewish Society will not be holding a stall at Freshers' Fair because that day is Simshas Torah—the rejoicing of the law. There will be a Simshas Torah service and party at the new West End synagogue, 10 St Petersberg Plase, W2, 071-727 3480 at 7.20pm on Monday 30 September. There will be light dinner and speeches and we will be holding a stall sometime during freshers' week—look out for the posters.

Michael 'Max' Factor, Chairman Jewish Society. The Student Industrial Society is one of the largest and most active societies in Imperial College. It is one of sixty groups making up the National Student Industrial Society (1,400 members) which together aim to increase awareness of industry and commerce amongst students and promote industrial and commercial involvement in higher education.

If any of the above interests you, come along and see us at Freshers' Fair.

• During Freshers' Fair, College refectories will be holding a treasure trail covering both the refectories and Southside Bars. The prize is two tickets to see *Simple Minds* at Wembley on the 21st. Ten days are given for the answers to the treasure trail questions.

IC ENTS PRESENTS

FRESHERS' WEEK '91

Monday 30 Sept

New Year's Party 8pm-3am, £6

Wednesday 2 Oct

Comedy Night 9pm-1am, £4 on the door (if there's space)

(if you have a week ticket, turn up before 8.30pm

Friday Oct 4 Freshers' Ball

8pm-3am, £6

Tickets available from the Union Office. Week tickets—guaranteed entry to all 3 events—only £12

First Years' Introduction

So, having seen the handbook you'll have read a little about all those wonderful clubs and societies and others. But don't just be led by mere written words, go and meet the people responsible.

On Tuesday afternoon from 2.30pm onwards all the clubs and societies will be displaying their wares around college and the union building. Clubs cannot take membership on the day, though they are allowed to sell goods from their stalls. Do come and meet some of those nice union officers at the union stall (outside the union office) or the sweet and cuddly Felix crew in Beit Quad (by the student magazine office).



The union officers will be wearing 'Imperial College Union' badges throughout Freshers' Week. Far from being for purely sartorial elegance, this means you can stop them and ask them any questions you like.

If wandering around proves too exciting for you, then you can always retire to the lounge bar for a drink and some food, which will be open all afternoon.

College Media.

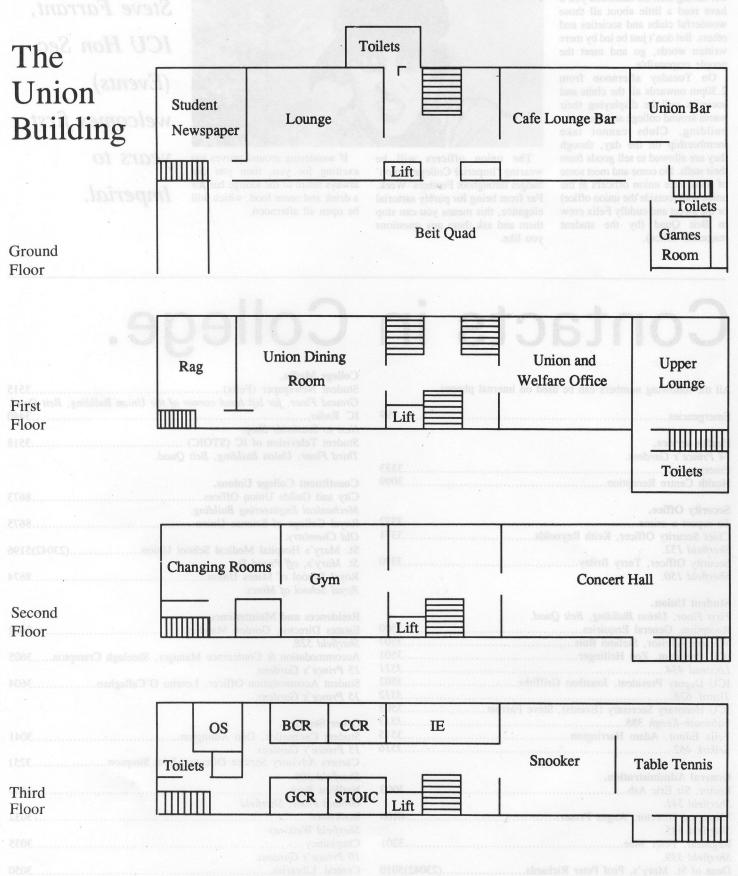
Steve Farrant,
ICU Hon Sec
(Events)
welcomes first
years to
Imperial.

Contacts in College.

All the following numbers can be used on internal pho-	ones.
Emergencies	999
Health service.	
14 Prince's Gardens.	
Emergency	
Health Centre Reception	3099
Security Office.	
To report a crime	3372
Chief Security Officer, Keith Reynolds	3371
Security Officer, Terry Briley	3370
Sherfield 150.	
Student Union.	
First Floor, Union Building, Beit Quad.	
Reception, General Enquiries	3500
Welfare Advisor, Stefano Ruis	3507
ICU President, Zoë Hellinger	3501
Linstead 434	3511
ICU Deputy President, Jonathan Griffiths	
Tizard 628	3512
ICU Honorary Secretary (Events), Steve Farrant	3503
Falmouth-Keogh 388	3513
Felix Editor, Adam Harrington	3515
Selkirk 462	3516
Snooker Table Tennis	
General Administration. Rector, Sir Eric Ash	
Rector, Sir Eric Ash	3000
Sherfield 541.	
Sherfield 541. Managing Director, Angus Fraser	6106
Sherfield 545.	
Sherfield 545. Registrar, Peter Mee	3201
Sherfield 339.	
Dean of St. Mary's, Prof Peter Richards	(23042)5010
St Mary's, off Praed St.	
Catering Manager, Simon Westerman	3271
Sherfield 101	

Student Newspaper (Felix)35	15
Ground Floor, far left hand corner of the Union Building, Beit Qua	
IC Radio34	
Next to Southside Shop.	
Student Television of IC (STOIC)35	18
Third Floor, Union Building, Beit Quad.	10
Constituent College Unions.	
City and Guilds Union Offices	73
Mechanical Engineering Building.	
Royal College of Science Union86	75
Old Chemistry.	
St. Mary's Hospital Medical School Union(23042)51	96
St. Mary's, off Praed St. Royal School of Mines Union	74
Royal School of Mines.	
(Contraction) Sections	
Residences and Maintenance. Estates Director, Gordon Marshall	
Estates Director, Gordon Marshall340	02
Sherfield 528.	
Accommodation & Conference Manager, Sheelagh Crampton360	05
15 Prince's Gardens.	
Student Accomodation Officer, Loretto O'Callaghan360	04
15 Prince's Gardens.	
Other Services.	
Student Counsellor, Don Adlington304	41
15 Prince's Gardens.	
Careers Advisory Service Director, John Simpson32	51
Sherfield 306.	
NatWest Bank310	60
Ground Floor, Sherfield Bookstore	
Bookstore	32
Sherfield Walkway	
Chaplaincy30	35
10 Prince's Gardens.	
Central Libraries	
Haldane Library30	70
Safety Director, Ian Gillett86	87
14 Prince's Gardens	

Fresher's Fair Guide

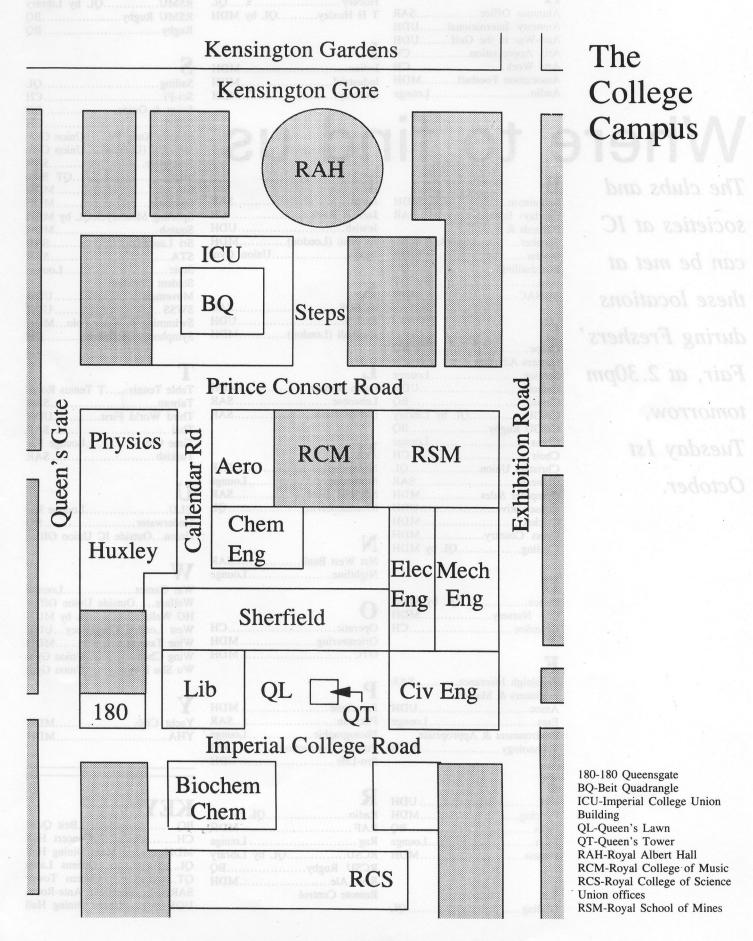


BCR-Brown Committee Room CCR-Clubs Committee Room

GCR-Green Committee Room IE-International Enrichment

OS-Operatic Society STOIC-Student Television of Imperial College

1 October 1991



Remember that no club or society can take membership or money at the fair.

Alumnus Office.....SAR Amnesty International......UDH Anti-War in the Gulf......UDH Arts Appreciation......CH Arts Week.....CH Association Football.....MDH Audio.....Lounge

H	
Haldane Library.	MDH
Health Centre	Lounge
Hockey	QL
T H Huxley	QL by MDH
Three Cords	

MDH
.MDH
.MDH
. MDH

Modelling	gQL by M	DH
Rifle &	PistolOutside M	DH
Riding	M	DH
Rock	M	DH
RSMU	QL by Libi	rary
RSMU R	Rugby	BQ

S	
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SailingQ	
Sci-FiC	
Scout & GuideB	Q
SEDSC	
Shaolin Kung FuUnion Gyr	n
Shotokai (London)Union Gyr	m
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SplotSocMD	
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SquashMDI	
Sri LankanSA	
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SWSSUDI	
Swimming & Water PoloMDl	
Symphony OrchestraCl	

T	
Table TennisT Te	nnis Room
Taiwan	SAR
Third World First	UDH
Thai	
Time OutI	Lounge Bar
Turkish	SAR

U .	
ULU	Lounge Bar
Underwater	
UnionOutside IC	Union Office

\mathbf{W}
War GamesLounge
WelfareOutside Union Office
HG WellsQL by MDH
West London ChaplaincyUDH
Wine TastingMDH
Wing ChunUnion Gym
Wu Shu KwanUnion Gym

UDH......Union Dining Hall

Yacht Club.....MDH YHA.....MDH BQ.....Beit Quad CH.....Concert Hall MDH..... Main Dining Hall QL.....Queens Lawn QT.....Queens Tower SAR.....Sherfield Ante-Room

Where

The clubs and societies at IC can be met at these locations during Freshers' Fair, at 2.30pm tomorrow, Tuesday 1st October.

e to III	
\mathbf{B}	J
BadmintonMDH	Jap
Barclays BankSAR	Jaz
Billiards &	Jev
SnookerSnooker Room	Jiu
BiostarMDH	Juc
BoardsailingQL	
BoatBy QT	W2
BUNACMDH	K
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CanoeBQ	
Careers Advisory	T
ServiceLounge	L
CatholicUDH	La
CavingBQ	Lel
C&GUQL by Library	Llo
C&GU RugbyBQ	
ChessLounge	
Choir CH	N
Christian UnionQL	Ma
Chinese SAR	Me
Computer SalesMDH	Mi
ConservativeUDH	Mo
Cricket MDH	
Cross CountryMDH	N
CyclingQL by MDH	-
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DanceQL by MDH	0
Day NurseryMDH	_
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AssocUDH	Par
EntsLounge	Pal
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Indian	MDH
Industrial	
Intercity	MDH
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Japan	
Jazz & Rock	
Jewish	
JudoU	
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KCFOS	CAD
KCVB	
Korfball (London)	
L	
Lawn Tennis	MDH
Lebanese	
Lloyds Bank	SAR
<i>t</i>	l e
M	1.5
Malaysian	SAR
Methodist	Lounge
Midland Bank	
Mountaineering	QL
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Nat West Bank	SAR
Nightline	Lounge
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Operatic	45
Operatic	CH
Orienteering	MDH
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Powerhute	MDH
Parachute	
Photographic	
Pimlico Connection	СН
Pro-Life	UDH
	madani
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Radio	
RAF	
Rag	Lounge

TechnologyUDH	Pimlico ConnectionCH Pro-LifeUDH
FBIUDH FencingMDH	RadioQL by QT
FelixBQ	RAFMDH
FilmLounge	Rag Lounge
FitnessMDH	RCSUQL by Library RCSU RugbyBQ Real AleMDH Remote Control
GlidingQL	

Dear Fresher,

Welcome to Imperial College. The next three or four years should be among the most interesting and enjoyable in your life, provided you make the most of the opportunities available at university. This open letter aims to give you some ideas for your own self-development.

You can probably recall one of the significant steps in your life when you entered the sixth form or went to sixth form college. Coming to university is an even more significant step. You have more freedom, more independence and more opportunities to do your own thing and to succeed or fail. If you do not make some mistakes you will not have learnt anything, learning from one's own mistakes is an important part of experience, but don't waste time re-inventing everything—build on the experience of others-take advice (it's usually free)—ignore some of it, test it out, accept or reject it.

You have already demonstrated some planning ability by passing 'A' levels-or their equivalentsufficiently well to be at College. How are you going to plan the next three, four or six years? And I'm not talking just about your academic studies, I'm talking about the start of the rest of your life. Setting objectives some people call it.

If your short-term objective is to do as little work as possible and your medium-term objective is to scrape a pass, and your long-term objective is to be idle and poor, then there is no conflict. But if you have grander long-term objectives you will have to modify your short and medium-term objectives.

By the end of the summer term in your first year you may be feeling the financial pressures-in other words you're probably broke! So how about earning some good money in the long vacation? If you leave job hunting until the vacation starts you may be too late. All the interesting and lucrative jobs have been filled already and you will be lucky if the local council wants some grass cutting or the garden centre needs a dirty pair of hands. It's well worthwhile doing some preliminary job hunting between Christmas and Easter. Call in at the IC Careers Advisory Service (Room 310, Sherfield Building) where you will find information about Vacation Training, write to employers with your CV, call in to some local shops and hotels and see who's advertising in the local press.

Vacation jobs can be most informative. Ideally they give you an insight into the type of work you may be interested in when you leave college. They give you experience in job hunting, letter writing and

interviews, as well as a real insight into what it's like to work for a particular type of employer. Some even pay you quite well. Jobs abroad are popular and early applications are essential. Start by visiting the IC Careers Advisory Service which has a good range of reference books and addresses.

At the start of the second year you raise your sights higher. Now is the time to test your skills in organising something-a social evening for your department, looking after the finances of a society or fixtures secretary of your team. That sounds too much like hard work, I hear you say. Yes, it does take some effort on your part but generally speaking the more effort you put into something the more enjoyment you will get out of it.

Committee work is excellent preparation for life after College. You learn to set agendas, run meetings, agree actions, persuade other students to do things, work within budgets and end up with a successful event-a party, a visit, a play or a newspaper.

You should start thinking seriously about your future career before the end of the second year. Even if you haven't a clue what you want to do, that's no excuse for delaying finding out about the possibilities. You are surrounded with sources of informationfriends, family, tutors, careers advisers, libraries. Start looking. It may be a long process but so is life, so it really is worth spending more time thinking about your career than planning your next weekend or holiday.

The IC Careers Advisory Service is a good starting place. Pop in and speak to the information officer. Find out about 'Gradscope' and all the information booklets and reference files. Have a look at some of the videos, attend some seminars on careers, get yourself sorted out.

Christmas vacation courses are a popular way of finding out about careers such as marketing, but only a few major recruiters run them and they are normally over-subscribed many times. The Careers Research Advisory Centre (CRAC) runs a series of 'Insight Into Management' courses which are also a popular way of finding out about management careers.

Stop! I'm only a fresher-why are you telling me all this?

I'm telling you because you need to start planning your life now, don't just drift through College and emerge with a degree and nothing else. Of course a degree is important and must be your first priority, but not your only priority.

In the meantime, enjoy yourself. John Simpson.

John Simpson



Last year the college administration had another of its periodic binges of cost-cutting. As ever, the administration started unnecessary fripperies such as student facilities, streamlining college expenditure to the barest minimum, namely the generous salaries awarded to the ranks of faceless bureaucrats for whom the college exists. One of the facilities put under the sword was the Careers Advisory Service (CAS). There was a struggle from which the CAS emerged shaken, though not severely damaged, except that the CAS was to disaffiliate from the University of London CAS ULCAS. This meant that Dr Russ Clark, the then Director of the service, who was provided by ULCAS, had to leave.

But if we had not lost Dr Clark, we would not have gained Mr John Simpson, who became the director of ICCAS earlier this summer.

John Simpson joined ICI in Teesside as a student engineer - an apprentice - straight from school. In 1959 he started a degree course in Mechanical Engineering at Imperial College, graduating in 1962. He then returned to ICI at Teesside to manage a chemical plant. In 1967 he moved to ICI London headquarters at Millbank for three years, working in personnel, and then another six years in Teesside working with white collar unions. He spent three years with ICI in Brussels, travelling widely, working with expatriates and working on salary surveys - that is the comparison of salaries to rationalise wage levels for employees. In 1979 he returned to Millbank, London as an ICI graduate recruitment manager.

'I've been a bit of a corporation gipsy', he told Felix, '...but I've always taken a very close interest in career's work'. He was on the career's advisory board of Sussex University for six years, on the ULCAS board for two and the ROGET advisory board for five.

As John Simpson had been working with ICI for 32 years, Felix asked him why he had decided to leave. After a pause for thought he replied - 'I'd always anticipated that by my early fifties I'd want to do something different. What I want to do is work in career's advice.....I am delighted to be here, I've been made to feel very welcome, the environment is pleasant and the job has proven to be what I hoped it would'.

He told Felix that the present ICCAS was 'very well set up and organised.... the information is first class there is the right balance of experience amongst the staff'. Ken Wiltsher joined ICCAS with John Simpson from ICI - he has been seconded on a full time basis until he finds another job. The team also includes Frances McEwen. who has come from working at the Polytechnic of Central London CAS and who worked at ICCAS a couple of years ago, Tony Daly, the new information officer who joined ICCAS in July, and Paula Cullens, the information assistant who has come from Keele University. The graduate recruitment officer, Tracy Carter, provides continuity with the previous team and Bill Fox, another secondee, works at ICCAS for two days a week. John Simpson said that there were no plans to expand the service further though replacements for Ken Wiltsher or Bill Fox will be found when either leave.

Concluding the interview, Mr Simpson said 'the job market in 1991 has fewer vacancies and less recruitment advertising. Job vacancies are down by 20% and 1992 will be equally difficult if not worse. My strong advice is to start looking early - to use the Careers Advisory Service..... If there is one message I want to get across that is to apply early. You might get a job as Imperial has a good reputation but the popular jobs will be gone by Easter.

Victoria and Albert 938 8500/8349/8441/8442. Cromwell Rd SW7 10-6 Mon-Sat, 2.30-6 Sun. Donation Science 938 8000/8123. Exhibition Rd SW7 10-6 Mon-Sat, 11-6 Sun. £1.75 student (but free to IC students), £3.50 adult, free after 4.30

Mon-Fri, free after 5.00 Sat &

museums...

Geological

938 8765. Exhibition Rd SW7 10-6 Mon-Sat, 11-6 Sun. £2.00 student, £3.50 adult, free after 4.30 Mon-Fri, free after 5.00 Sat & Sun.

Natural History

938 9123. Cromwell Rd SW7 10-6 Mon-Sat, 11-6 Sun. £2.00 student, £3.50 adult, free after 4.30 Mon-Fri, free after 5.00 Sat & Sun.

Wellington

499 5676. Apsley House, 149 Piccadilly W1 11-5 Tue-Sun. £1.00 student, £2.00 adult

National Army

730 0717. Royal Hospital Rd SW3

10-5.30 daily. Free. Leighton House

602 3316. 12 Holland Pk Rd W14

11-5 Mon-Sat. Free.

Commonwealth Institute 603 4535/602 0702. 230 Kensington High St W8

10-5 Mon-Sat, 2-5 Sun. Free. Bank of England

601 5545/5792. Threadneedle St EC2R

10-5 Mon-Fri, Sun (summer) &

Bank Hol 11-5. Free

Musuem of Mankind 437 2224/7346255. 6 Burlington

Gdns W1X 10-5 Mon-Sat, 2.30-6 Sun. Free

Imperial War Museum

416 5000. Lambeth Rd SE1 10-6 daily. £1.65 students, £3.30 adults

British Museum

636 1555. Gt Russel St WC1B 10-5 Mon-Sat, 2.30-6 Sun. Free

Museum of London

600 3699. 150 London Wall EC2Y

10-6 Tue-Sat, 2-6 Sun. £1.50 student, £3.00 adult

Museum of the Moving Image (MOMI)

928 3535. National Film Theatre, South Bank SE1 10-6 Daily, £4.20 student, £4.95 adult

Cabinet War Rooms 930 6961. Clive Steps, King Charles St SW1A

10-5.20 daily. £2.70 student, £3.60 adult

HMS Belfast

407 6434. Morgans Ln; Tooley St SE1

10-5.20 20 Mar-31 Oct, else 10-4. £1.75 student, £3.50 adult

London Dungeon 403 7221. 28 Tooley St SE1

10-5.30. £4.00 student, £5.00 adult

London Transport Museum 379 6344/836 8557. 39

Wellington St WC2E 1-6 daily. £1.50 student, £3.00

Madame Tussaud's

935 6861. Marylebone Rd NW1 9-5.30. £3.95 and £5.95

London Toy and Model 262 7905. Craven Hill W2 10-5.30 Mon-Sat, 11-4.30 Sun. £2.70 adult, £1.70 student, £1.20 child

Please remember your student card!

art galleries...

National Gallery 839 33213526. Trafalgar Sq WC2N 10-8 Mon-Fri, 10-6 Sat, 2-6 Sun. Free

937 9561. Kensington Gdns W8

9-5.30 Mon-Sat, 11-5.30 Sun.

352 9663. Cheyne Walk SW3

10-12 and 2.15-5 daily. Free

£2.80 student £3.25 adult

Serpentine

402 6075/2286/ 723 9072. Kensington Gdns, W2 10-6 daily. Free

Accademia Italiana 225 3474. Rutland Gate SW7

Occasional Royal College of Art

584 5020. Kensington Gore SW7 Occasional

Royal Academy of Arts 439 7438. Piccadilly W1V

10-6 daily.

Tate Gallery 821 1313. Millbank SW1P 10-5.50 Mon-Sat, 2-5.50 Sun.

Wallace Collection

935 0687. Manchester Sq W1M 10-5 Mon-Sat, 2-5 Sun. Free

places of

interest

Speaker's corner

Kensington Palace

Crosby Hall

North East corner of Hyde Park, near marble arch. Britain's forum for free speech on sundays.

Brompton oratory

Brompton Rd SW7 (100m south east of Southside Halls). Free **National Sound Archive** 589 6603. 29 Exhibition Rd

SW7

Bonhams (Auctioneers) Montpelier St SW7

Harrods

Knightsbridge SW1 (a short walk from Prince's Gdns)

Horse Guards Parade

Horse Guards Rd, SW1 **Houses of Parliament**

071 219 3000. Parliament Sq. SW1

House of Commons - 071 219 4272; House of Lords - 071 219 3107

St Pauls Cathedral

248 2705. St Pauls Churchyard EC4. Free

Westminster Abbey

222 5152. Broad Sanctuary SW1. Free except for chancel Guildhall

Guildhall yard EC2. Free London Zoo

722 3333. Regents Park NW1 9-6 daily. £5.30 adult, £4.40 student, £3.30 child

Banqueting House

839 3787. Whitehall SW1 10-5 Mon-Sat. £2.00 adult, £1.50 student. Half hour guided tour

Battersea Dog's Home 622 3626. 4 Battersea Park Rd

SW8 10.30-4 Mon-Sat. 50p adult &

student, 20p child

Old Bailey (central criminal courts)

248 3277. Old Bailey EC4 **Tower of London**

709 0765. Tower Hill EC3 Mar-Oct 9.30-6.30 Mon-Sat, 2-6 Sun. Nov-Feb 9.30-5 Mon-Sat. Closed Sun. £6 adult, £4.50

student, £3.70 child, £17 family **Tower Bridge**

403 3761. SE1 10-5.45. £2.50 adult & student, £1.00 child

London Central Mosque 724 3363. 146 Park Rd NW8 Finborourgh Arms

373 3842, 118 Finborough rd, SW10.

Tuesday - Sunday 8pm. £6, £3.50 conces. +50p/yearmembership. 1-19 Oct Normal: The Dusseldorf Ripper; 23rd Oct When it's over.

Bush Theatre

071 602 3703, Shepherd's Bush Grn, W12

Mon-Sat, from 1 Oct. A Bright Light Shining.

Gate Theatre Club 071 229 0706. Prince Albert Pub, 11 Pembridge rd, Notting Hill W11. Membership charge. Oct 9 -Nov 9. Three Judgements in One by Calderon de Barca. 7.30pm. Mat (26 Oct, 2, 9 Nov) 2.30pm. £7 (£4 conces.); 20, 27 Oct, 3 Nov. The Same Old Story/Medea by Franca Rame

and Dario Fo. 8pm. Lyric theatre

081 741 2311, King's St, Hammersmith, W6.

Oct 7-19. A Song for Sanctuary. Mon-Sat 8pm, St 4.30pm. £6.50 (£5 conces.); Oct 17- Nov 30. Lady Audley's Secret by Mary Braddon 7.45pm. Mat Wed 2.30pm, Sat 4pm. £12.75 to £7.50.

Holland Park

602 7856/ 371 1094, Holland Park, W8.

Man in the Moon

351 2876, 392 King's rd, SW3. 1st- 26th Oct Utopia's Whores by Nick Warren. Tues-Sun 8.30pm £5 (£4 conces.); 8th-26th Oct The Mirror of the Moon by Peter Quilter. Tues-Sun 7pm £4 (£3 conces.) Lost (youth)

381 6151, 450 Fulham rd, SW6. Rose Theatre Club 225 2501/ 823 9360, 86 Fulham

rd, SW3. 50p/year membership. To 6th

Oct Doing Bush by Peter Campling/Really Naff Tarts 7.30pm/9pm £5 (£2.50 conces.); 8th Oct- 2nd Nov Time & the Body £4 (£2.50 conces.)/ Claude Duval £6 (£3 conces.) 7.30pm/ 8.30pm

Royal Court

730 1745/ 5174, Sloane Sq, SWIW.

To 26th Oct Three Birds alighting on a field by Timberlake Wertenbaker 8pm £7 (£4 standby); 31st Oct -30th Nov Death & the Maiden by Ariel Dorsman 8pm £7 (£4 standby).

Theatre Upstairs

730 2554, Sloane Sq. SW1W.

Riverside Studios

081 741 2251/3354, Crisp rd, W6.

Royal Court Young People 081 960 4641, 309 Portobello rd, W10.

local theatres

Latchmere theatre

071 223 3108, 503 Battersea pk rd SW11. Membership Required. 1-12 Oct. Joseph Merrick, Elephant Man by Russell Allen. Tues-Sat 8pm. £7 (£4 conces.); 6 Oct. Devil's Poison. 7.30 pm. £4.50 (£3.50 conces.) 17 Oct - 2 Nov. The Hang of the Gaol by Howard Baker. 8pm £7 (£4 conces.)

Bloomsbury theatre Gordon St WC1 30 Sep-5 Oct. Funny by Mark D'Inverno & Mark Rooney.

Mon 8pm, Wed 5pm, Thu 8pm, Sat 8pm. £6 (£4 conces.)

Institute Français

589 6211, 17 Queensberry place

Goethe Institute

581 3344, 50 Prince's Gate SW7.

UCI Whiteleys

792 3303/3324/3332, Queensway W2.

Minema

235 4225/4226, 45 Knightsbridge SW1X. My Mother's Castle 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm £6.25 (£3.50 conces. Mon-Fri 3pm & 5pm)

351 3724, 206 King's rd, SW3. From 11 Oct. Uranus.

Chelsea Cannon

352 5096, 279 King's rd, SW3. Fulham road Cannon 370 2110/2636/1265, 142 Fulham rd, SW10.

Hammersmith Cannon

081 748 2388, 207 King's st W6.

Putney Cannon

081 788 2263, 25 Putney High st, SW15.

Ealing Cannon

081 567 1075, Northfield av, W Ealing, W13.

Coronet

727 6705, 103 Notting Hill gate, W11.

..... local cinemas

Gate

727 4043, 87 Notting Hill gate, W11.

Electric Cinema

792 0328, 191 Portobello rd, W11.

Kensington Odeon

602 6664, Kensington High St (Nr Earl's Court rd.) W8.

Olympia Exhibition Centre

603 3344, Kensington W14. 1st- 3rd Oct DEC User Show; 8th- 13th Oct Fine Arts and Antiques; 8th- 10th Oct OS/2 & Windows; 8th- 23rd Oct Table Convention; 22nd- 24th Oct Heating & Ventilating/ Korean Workwear.

Albert Hall

589 8212/3203, Kensington Gore SW7

Hammersmith Odeon

081 748 4081, Queen Caroline St, W6. Earl's Court

385 1200, Warwick rd, SW5. 17th - 27th Oct Motor Show.

.....local venues

Remember to take your union card to these places - student concessions are usually only given on the production of a proof of studentship. Care and time has been taken in the compilation of this list, but no guarantees can be made as to its accuracy. Please keep this page for future reference.

Tuesday 1st.

12.30 every week. Union SCR. Audiosoc - cheap records, CD's, Hi-Fi discounts.

Friday 4th.

12.30-3.00 New Senior Common Room. IC Science Fiction Soc. Video showing, Free food and Drink for new members.

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Tuesday 8th.

7.00pm Mech Eng 220. Flatliners. ICSF members only membership £2.50.

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Back to Basics

Last year nearly
100 Imperial
College students
went back to the
classroom.
Chris Riley
reports on his
second
childhood.

Jason was a tall, well built West Indian sixteen year old, with a left hook that would rival Mike Tyson and a hair cut to match. Five years ago, with adolescent peer pressure to repel authority and education mounting, he had been labelled a 'disruptive and difficult pupil'. With the end of school days now in sight, science classes just got in the way of his obsession with acid house music and basketball. Science was something for other people, something he had never understood and therefore hated. Brownian motion had never had any significance in his street life.

'Imagine you are playing basketball, and lots of little guys are running round bumping into you, trying to get the ball', I began.

'Okay man', he replied, beaming down at me and then looking wildly round the class in a bid to distract others

'Now these little guys are knocking you about'. I grabbed his blazer and shook him violently. He stared at me in disbelief.

'Someone is watching this game from above, and can only see you moving about, because the little guys are too small to see.'

Jason peered down the microscope again as my experimental analogy hit its mark and the jittering smoke particles, abruptly changing direction took on a previously undiscovered significance. It had taken the whole forty minute lesson to get this far, not including the previous weeks of rejection, when I had failed to get through.

The buzzer rang, and he was off to the freedom of the street again. As he left the classroom, he paused and came back. 'Fanks mate', he grinned, slapping the palms of my hands. The weeks before, suddenly all seemed worthwhile and I returned the slap, with a 'see you next week m'main man'.

With growing pressure on teachers, such vital, individual attention, needed to convey many scientific ideas is, these days, becoming more and more difficult to provide.

However, thanks to student or 'peer' tutoring, such problems have been partially relieved, in local schools, one day a week.

The idea is that an individual with knowledge or a skill can pass it on to others—without necessarily being a teacher. The scheme was invented in the late eighteenth century by Joseph Lancaster when faced with 350 children to teach, single

handedly at his Southwark school. Rediscovered in the early 1960's to meet teacher shortages in developing countries and inner cities in the US, it's supporters claim there are significant benefits for both tutors and pupils.

It was not until the mid-1970s that the idea reached Britain. The scheme was launched by Dr Sinclair Goodlad as a course project for twelve engineering students at Imperial College, to test whether pupils at Pimlico School would find lessons more interesting with their help. Today, results still show that well over half (63%) of pupils find their lessons easier to follow and nearly three quarters of teachers find lessons more enjoyable and easier to handle. Almost all of the student tutors involved report an increase in self confidence, feeling that they have gained useful practice in communication skills, and are doing something useful with their subject. 'Explaining an idea to a nine year old offers a unique experience of communicating, which can be invaluable to industry', expalins John Hughes, former peer tutor and now BP fellow in peer tutoring at Imperial. The 'Pimlico Connection' was established by Goodlad in 1975 and five years later it became a Union Society, administered and run largely by students.

Research shows that school pupils find peer tutors are more approachable when they don't understand things. 'A teacher can't get around the whole class sometimes but, with students there you could get help more quickly', explain Pimlico students, fifteen years on.

Terry Barclay, teacher at the Fox School in Holland Park, explains in the Independent (26 July 1990) that 'the children see the tutors as real scientists. They don't quite trust us as scientists somehow.' Peer tutors are often closer to the pupils age and status, than they are to teachers, and therefore act as role models for children who, probably never consider higher education. 'It is especially good for girls to see women science students', points out John Mason of St. Clements and St. Johns School, in London. Beverly Hirst, joint author of 'Peer Tutoring', former peer tutor herself, and now a teacher, explains of the pupils; 'they found me most unusual-a woman physicist. They couldn't believe that I carried a





make-up bag and was still a scientist.

The main objective of science tutoring is not necessarily to recruit more teachers, although this is frequently a side effect. 'Most tutors are not thinking of becoming teachers when they take part. But there is evidence that for every one who is put off, two are encouraged', explains John Hughes.

The scheme is designed as more of a promotion of science and technology. One of the difficulties facing industry at the moment is the small proportion (50%) of school children who opt to continue their education past 16, particularly in science subjects. BP, convinced that peer tutoring is a solution, began sponsoring a new fellowship at Imperial College in October 1990. John Hughes, a former peer tutor and teacher for ten years, was appointed to develop the tutoring scheme, in science and maths, around the country.

Today, peer tuition is widespread around the United States, and thanks to BP, is spreading rapidly in Britain. Imperial has helped over fifteen third level institutions,



including Cambridge, Warwick University and Nottingham and Brighton Polytechnics, University of East Anglia, Trinity College, Dublin, and University College London, to set up their own schemes.

Students volunteering at the start of the Autumn term usually visit the school they have been assigned to on Wednesday afternoons, during term time, until March. Most tutors have a one day training session at college, at the beginning of the academic year. It is not a case of

being thrown 'in at the deep end'; tutoring does not involve looking after a class of 20-30 kids, single handedly. The desired effect is the opposite; providing extra help within a class. Such help is given by working with small groups of children, under the direction and supervision of the class teacher, who is still legally responsible for the welfare of the pupils. Individual work with gifted, remedial, or disruptive pupils, leaves the teachers free to help others. Roger Nicholls, head of maths at Pimlico School, again in the Independent, admits that 'one afternoon a week we actually get the number of pupils to teachers right. Really we need help like this all the time. At the moment it's a luxury, but it shouldn't be.

Under the guidance of John Hughes, IC's Pimlico Connection sent just under one hundred students a week to primary and secondary schools around the capital last year. At the end of last term, tutors and pupils alike were asked to fill in questionnaires.

ShaShika, age nine, from The Fox Primary School, writes; 'students have not only helped me but they have helped the whole class. They understand how we feel so if we don't understand something, they repeat what they

had said. They explain things very clearly and they give joy to us just to listen to them.' Rachel Hopping, from the same school, writes; 'the students knew exactly how we took things in, because they had been children, not too long ago. They knew the words that were easy for us to understand and they used them, (which sometimes teachers forget).' Asim writes; 'I wish they would stay and teach us more about science and I would like to say that I really enjoyed it and think they should be paid like teachers.'

Saadi Asmi, a third year Chemistry undergraduate writes; 'I started on the Pimlico Connection Scheme in my final year at Imperial—and regretted not having done so any earlier. It was one of the most enjoyable times I have had at college.'

So whether, a budding teacher, a future captain of industry or undecided, the Pimlico Connection is for you. It only requires one or two hours a week of your time, between October and March. Come and find out more at Freshers' Fair, or come along to the no-obligation Training Sessions in Electrical Engineering 403: Wednesday 2nd October 1.45pm to 5.15pm, Wednesday 9th October 1.45pm to 5.15pm or Monday 14th Ocotber 5.30pm until 8.00pm.

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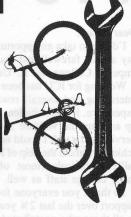
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Unsporting

Dear Editor

Re: Imperial (College) Sports Centre.

I believe we should all be about concerned recent developments at the Sports Centre, particularly the imposition of 'admission' charges or compulsory 'membership' for college staff and students (in addition to charges for use of the facilities). Perhaps this is a case for a little investigative reporting on what appears to be an insidious if not completely clandestine privatisation of the Sports Centre and change of its prime use to that of a commercial health club.

Here is the sequence of events so far:

- 1. Disappearance of the staff student Sports Centre Users Committee.
- 2. Introduction of Membership fees for outsiders, retirement of the college manager.
- 3. Award of a 'consulting management' contract to Wandsworth Council to provide a manager and improve the profitability of the Centre.
- 4. Increases in charges above inflation rates, and promotion of activities of special interest to outsiders (slimming clubs etc). New 'uniforms' for staff.
- 5: Introduction of admission charges or 'membership' fees for college personnel and students (to enter our own facility!). This was accompanied by unilateral cancellation of staff Sports Centre Membership cards by the manager. (It was this action which provoked my interest).

6. Change of name from Imperial College Sports Centre to Imperial Sports Centre. (The manager makes a real fuss about not mentioning the word 'college' in telephone responses).

7. Closure of the Centre for several months next June to fit sunbeds, saunas etc.

It now costs the same, pro-rata, to play squash at the Imperial Sports Centre as it does at any other club. In other words the privatisation is almost complete without anyone making a fuss and a college facility is effectively the same as a private club albeit with very low subscriptions at present. Can you imagine what the membership fees will be next year to pay the capital costs of the saunas, jacuzzi and sunbeds (They are £250 per year for the ex-Wandsworth St George's Centre and Wimbledon!).

The issues worth raising include: Who authorised cancellation of free staff and student college sports centre membership cards?

Is it permissible to privatise a facility built for IC students, and paid for by the University Grants Committee (now UFC) funds?

When has there been any consultation about these radical changes?

I hope you and the Union will be able to take some action on this matter. It may already be too late to do much to protect our Sports Centre as a college facility.

Yours sincerely,

John McMahon Moore (Senior Lecturer).

cc President IC Union Chairman IC AUT

Yve's Adieu

Dear Adam,

I'd like to take an opportunity to say a final farewell and thanks to Imperial College and IC Union.

Working for ICU has been a very interesting and overall rewarding experience. It was a challenge to set up and run the Welfare Advisory Service and a task I could not have achieved without the help of IC staff (all), sabbaticals (most of) and many college staff as well.

So thank you everyone for your support over the last 2¾ years and to all those who contributed to my generous leaving gift. This I intend

to use towards the cost of a word processor which I hope will help me with all those essays and projects I'll have to produce over the next year!

Finally I'd like to wish all IC and ICU staff, students and sabbatical officers all the best for 1991/92 academic year. I hope that it proves to be a successful and enjoyable time for everyone and I look forward to reading some interesting editions of FELIX when I call by to say hello.

Best wishes,

Yve Posner; ex Welfare Adviser.

Heseltine and Hyde

Dear Adam,

In his speech in the House of Commons before the summer recess, the Right Honourable Michael Heseltine Secretary of State for the Environment finally declared his intention to introduce privatisation into Her Majesty the Queen's Royal Parks. We are assured that in spite of the imminent redundancy of 361 dedicated parks staff, horticultural standards and indeed all other standards will be raised.

This should not prove too difficult in the light of their rapid decline over the past ten years, the direct result of Mr Heseltine's own cabinet's ongoing policy in this area of stringent financial cutbacks. The ensuring insidious cull of park staff inevitably resulted in total failure to maintain any acceptable standard in the Central London Parks, i.e. St James, Regents, Hyde Parks and Kensington Gardens.

In the same speech to the Commons the Minister promises 'a bright future' for our Royal Parks, yet fails to mention existing plans for a coach park in Hyde Park. He

fails also to give his reasons for discarding and disregarding the conclusions arrived at by Lord Skelmersdale in his review of the Royal Parks in 1987. Lord Skelmersdale concluded that nothing would be gained by their privatisation.

Londoners, justifiably sceptical, if not down right suspicious of the Minister's intentions and gravely concerned about the future of these unique and very special open spaces, are currently taking to the streets and petitioning fellow Londoners in a desperate bid, if not to stop the proposed legislation, at the very least to demand their democratic right to a voice on this issue. The response regardless of political persuasion is unanimously against.

As custodians of the Royal Parks, have we the right to leave a legacy of car and coach parks and money spinning follies to future generations? Your support would be invaluable.

Join us, help us to protect our Royal Parks.

Anna Green.

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ST/



ULU TRAVEL

editorial

Welcome to Imperial College! The first weeks at this college for both undergraduates and postgraduates tend to become a homogenous sweaty amalgam of discovery and mistakes. Still, enjoy the novelty while you can, and ensure that you don't waste the future years here merely working for your degree or PhD or whatever.

The Student Union

The college's Student Union is an organisation geared towards student welfare. It is a service which exists to help you, but can only do this if you ask of it, as nobody who works there is capable of telepathy. The Union is not a trade union, it has no political affiliation, either to the right or the left. Imperial College's Student Union is not a member of the NUS - the National Union of Students, an issue which will almost certainly be more fully aired in the future. The point about this diatribe is to emphasise that the Union is there for you, and it should not be avoided because you have a vague suspicion that it is a hotbed of radical politics, the slimy tentacles of which will never relinquish their hold, because it's not and it won't. Avoiding an organisation which could help you because of the possibility that something you may dissapprove of may have occurred once is plainly stupid.

The Union is also responsible for the running of the snack bar (also variously termed the union café, caterpillar café or lounge bar), the Union Bar, the organisation of entertainment and a number of day to day activities all of which benefit students, many of whom are unaware of the contribution that the Union makes. I have met many students who have convinced themselves that they have led a life totally untainted by the union, even though they have eaten food from the bar and read this student union newspaper.

Felix - the student newspaper
Felix is the name of the college
newspaper. It is technically the
Student Union newspaper, but its
scope is by no means limited to
union affairs and nor is it beholden
to the Union Office as to what is
printed. It is an independent
commentator on the college, and
reports on national and international
matters relevant to IC students.

The only people it is beholden to are the students of Imperial. Felix has a sabbatical editor - me, Adam Harrington - and two other permanent members of staff. There is no conceivable way that these

three could research, write, typeset, proof, paste up and print a reasonably sized Felix every week and depends entirely on student input to run. We are on the mapin the central pages - come and see us. It is infinitely the most fascinating part of the college, if not the entire galaxy. It is not a club, it is not a clique, there are no peculiar entry rituals.

Deadlines

I hereby give general notice that the deadlines for features, letters, what's on bits, small ads or anything else is 12.00 midday the MONDAY before the Friday that Felix comes out on. For example, if you hand in an article on Thursday, it will get into Felix not that week, but the week following. If you hand it in on Friday or Monday, it will get into the Felix of the following Friday. If the deadline is not kept to, I will not give any guarantee of inclusion irrespective of how urgent it is.

What's On

I haven't included a comprehensive what's on page in this issue. Could clubs and societies please put relevant information into the clubs and societies pigeonhole for inclusion in the what's on guide. Bear in mind the deadlines given above. Next week I intend to publish all the what's on information at my disposal - please don't hesitate to inform me of any errors or omissions.

Credits

Jeremy, tho' he drive me round de bend; David for the music reviews; Anna for news; the Unmentionable for general indispensibility; Stef for news, the cover piccie, general oddboddedness, graphic design and occasionally graphic language; Zoë for the union bit; Andy for putting up with me (we're getting there, honest); Rose, James, Toby, Sam, Seb, Mylan, Chris, John, Steve for much of the Fresher's Fair stuff and Stefano. Many thanks to the Science museum, and Derek Hudson in particular, for help in getting the typewriter picture. Thanks also to the handbook collators - Penguin, Gina, Becky, Fleming, the large chap whose name I forget and all the others I have inevitably

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