



# Felix

Issue 974

8th October 1993



**Don't forget the Freshers' Carnival  
tonight in the Union Building**

# IC Radio Shortlisted for Media Award



Inside the IC Radio studio below the Southside halls of residence

BY ANDREW TSENG

Imperial College Radio has been shortlisted for two awards in the Guardian / National Union of Students student media awards.

From over 150 entries, Imperial College Radio was shortlisted for

the award of Best Student Broadcast Media. Imperial College Radio's other shortlisted award came via Chris Riley. Mr Riley is one of three vying for the award of Best Student Broadcaster which also comes with prize money of £250.

Chris Riley, has contributed to

*Felix* in the past and masterminded a programme on IC Radio called 'Mission Impossible'. the aim of which was to provide a weekly science related programme to the radio station's listenership.

Declan Curry, former IC Radio News Editor, spoke to *Felix*. "I am

delighted with the continuing success of Mission Impossible. Chris and the MSc Science Communication team have done an incredible job. They are an outstanding example of what the student media can achieve."

Mr Curry also added, "[Mission Impossible] have provided a service which I hope will continue under any government proposals.."

The prizes are to be announced on Saturday 16th October at the NUS Student Media conference. Peter Preston, Editor of The Guardian, will present the awards.

The other candidates shortlisted for these two awards are:

#### Student Broadcast Media (£500)

Bloomsbury Television (*University College, London*)

Imperial College Radio (*Imperial College, London*)

IZ Current Affairs (*Leeds University*)

Livewire 945 (*East Anglia University*)

Radio London (*London College of Printing*)

#### Student Broadcaster (£250):

Stephen Beech (*University Radio Nottingham, Nottingham University*)

Sue Cain (*Bloomsbury Television*)

Chris Riley (*Imperial College Radio, London*)

## Education Changes

BY ANDREW TSENG

The Secretary of State for Education, John Patten, has confirmed his commitment to introducing voluntary membership.

Addressing the Tory Party Conference in Blackpool this week, Mr Patten said: "Last year, I promised this conference that I would end the one remaining closed shop in this country - that of student unions. We said we would do it. And we will do it, very shortly, in three ways: by the introduction of the voluntary principle as the basis of student union membership, through tough new Codes of Practice to prevent victimisation and by putting an end to the scandal of taxpayers' money being used to fund political campaigns."

He also brings attention to the possible change in student population in a few years time: "Over the next three years, a quarter of a million extra students will be given the chance to study and train at one of our 500 excellent further education colleges, extending opportunities and meeting people's aspirations in a way not see since we began the sale of council houses."

The Department For Education is currently going through a period of consultation regarding voluntary membership before the publication of a bill. The consultation period is set to end at the end of this month.

Mr Patten has also launched an investigation which is to consider the introduction of a Super A A-level grade. A spokesman for the

Department For Education said: "This is just something that the Secretary of State has asked for as an idea to be looked at...the top upper rank of the A-level is to be looked at. It is for those pupils of particularly high abilities." The inquiry has been prompted after concern at the number of students achieving very high grades at A-level. This has caused some to accuse the Government of letting the A- level standard drop.

The investigation has caught some university admissions tutors unawares. David Atkins, the Assistant Registrar at Imperial College, said: "I have had no chance to consider it...and until the admissions policy committee meet in November I will not be able to make any comment."

## Crash!

BY THE NEWS TEAM

Imperial College Union's fleet of minibuses has been depleted after one was written off over the summer vacation.

Some members of the Youth Hostel Association, one of Imperial College Union's Recreational Clubs, were on a tour to the Alps. However, near Dartmouth, the van span and rolled down a major road. No other vehicles were involved in the accident.

Apparently, the only part of the minibus left undamaged was the footplate at the back.

Four of the occupants were taken to nearby hospitals but were later discharged.

You can listen to IC Radio on 999AM in Southside Halls

## Hall Disturbances

Two separate incidents on Monday have sent some halls of residence reeling in shock.

At Evelyn Gardens, a gentleman purporting to be a Turkish ex-resident was caught attempting to gain entry into one college hall. Security were called to the scene, and the gentleman was restrained by security and the warden. Shortly afterwards, the man was arrested and taken to Kensington Police

Station. Upon later investigation it was found that the man was in fact African and not Turkish as he had claimed. He has been released on bail pending further inquiries.

The other incident concerned serious disturbances in Garden Hall. These continued into the evening with violent behaviour in the Union Building. The person allegedly responsible is the subject of police inquiries and college discipline.

## Swiped Cards

BY ANDREW TSENG

The new combined security and Imperial College Union Card has been introduced. It is being phased in through undergraduate and postgraduate first years. Longer standing students of Imperial College will continue to have separate cards.

The merging of the two cards has not posed much of a problem to security. Terry Briley, Deputy Security Manager, said that "just a slight change in layout" was required and that there was "otherwise no problems".

A different kind of card has also

caught the attention of security during Freshers' Week. In the first three days of term, at least half a dozen credit cards and bank cards have been reported stolen. Security are warning staff and students to be vigilant. With Imperial College's very open policy with regard to access, and the number of entrances to the college, Imperial has been seen as a 'target rich' environment to pick-pockets. "You have to be even more careful in the first few weeks," said Mr Briley.

Mr Briley commented that, 'it would assist security if people wore [their security passes].'

## Speckled Chocolate

The mystery of why white speckles appear on chocolate bars could soon be solved.

Julia Kinderlerer, a food microbiologist at Sheffield-Hallam University has been awarded a £35,000 government grant to investigate the problem which costs manufacturers millions of pounds.

Most manufacturers believe the speckles are nothing more sinister than crystallised cocoa-butter fat. But Mrs Kinderlerer thinks the

speckling is caused by a fungus, *chrysosporium farinicola*, which reaches cocoa beans from the soil and survives roasting, manufacturing and packaging. She said it is an odd fungus which can grow in dry conditions in food with a high sugar content. Her study involves buying chocolate at random, letting it grow mouldy under controlled conditions and isolating the different types of mould that develop.

*In order to try and beat the pick-pockets, security are asking everyone to wear their security passes around college.*

## SOUTHSIDE BAR

Bacchanalian Nights

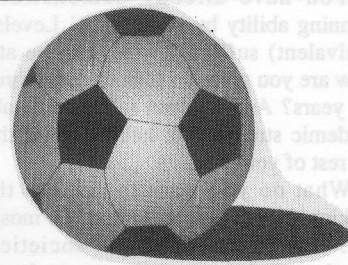
100  
to choose  
from



25% discount  
Mon 11th Oct  
- Sun 17th Oct

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at a Classic Price

Wed 13th Oct



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v

England

World Cup - LIVE

41" Screen T.V.

30p/pint off Lowenbrau  
Draught

**BASICS IS COMING**

# Dear Fresher . . .

*John Simpson, Director of the Imperial College Careers Service, welcomes you to Imperial College and gives you some ideas for your own self-development.*

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 College.

You can probably recall one of the significant steps in your life when you entered the sixth form. Coming to college 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 learned anything. Learning from one's own mistakes is an important part of experience, but don't waste time re-inventing everything. Instead build on the experience of others, take advice (it's usually free), ignore some of it, test it out, accept it or reject it.

You have already demonstrated some planning ability by passing 'A' Levels (or their equivalent) sufficiently 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.

What do you want to achieve this term? Making friends is usually high on most people's list. How? Join clubs and societies, attend meetings, take up a new sport, develop your interest. Any of these are likely to bring you into

contact with like-minded students. And there's always the bar to prop up while seeking inspiration.

By the end of the summer term in your first year you will be feeling the financial pressures of college. In other words you're 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 Service (Room 310 Sherfield Building) where you will find information about vacation training. Alternatively write to employers with your CV, call in to some local shops and hotels or see who's advertising in the local press.

Vacation jobs can be most informative. Ideally they give you the chance to try out some type of work or future employer that interests you. 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 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 become fixtures secretary of your club. "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. (Think how much effort went into producing this edition of *Felix*).

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 information: friends, 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 Service is a good starting place. Pop in and speak to the information staff. Find out about 'PROSPECT' 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.

The Milkround visits by employers are in the spring term of your final year.

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.

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. In the meantime, enjoy yourself.

*How are you going to plan the next three, four or six years . . . the start of the rest of your life?*

*You will be lucky if the local council wants some grass cutting*

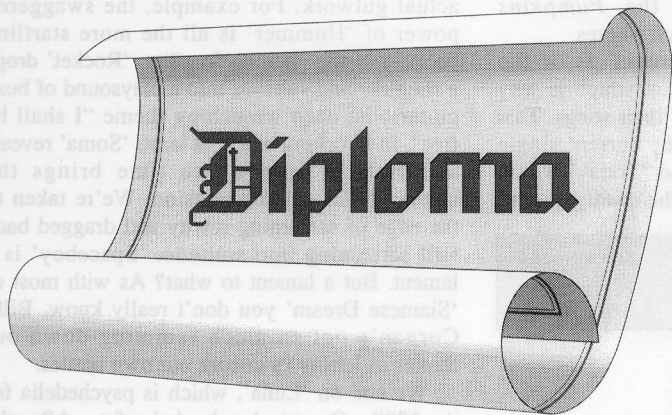
## Imperial College Careers Service

Room 310  
Sherfield Building

For information about vacation training, information booklets, reference files and videos.

Our staff are always willing to help.

# IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION CAREERS FAIR



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?

**Monday 18th October**  
**Tuesday 19th October**

**in the**  
**Great Hall &**  
**Junior Common Room**

**from 10am to 4pm each day**

**FREE ENTRY**

## Album

## The Breeders

### *Last Splash*



*The Breeders - looking for a David Hockney*

Many years ago an album came out incorporating the best of the Throwing Muses and the Pixies. Energy, drifting vocals, thumping grungy guitars. That album was 'Pod' by *The Breeders*. 1993 brings their latest offering 'Last Splash', and I'm not impressed. The whole album is lacklustre and plods along. Altogether they sound bored with the whole thing. They still sound like the Throwing Muses more than they do the Pixies, and the basic ingredients haven't changed. Something is missing though, and it's that unidentifiable something that makes the difference between a mediocre album and a brilliant one. This is not 'Pod', it's not even much of a Splash. On the other hand, maybe I'm just getting old. (7)

Rachel

Released on 4AD

## Single

## Intastella

### *Drifter*

What difference does a Happy Monday make? Well, after the forgetfulness induced by 'Drifter', in the Shaun Ryder featured 'Can You Fly Like You Mean It?' some welcome urban brashness comes out to play. Are these two related? Probably not as Shaun's involvement is pretty minimal, being only some transparent sounding background vocals. The man himself may well be a drugged out old sad-o, let's just thank *Intastella* for their charity and with NME hope that more bands get involved in the 'adopt-a-destitute-singer' scheme.

Tintin

Released on Planet 3

## Album

## Smashing Pumpkins

### *Siamese Dream*

Following their acclaimed debut 'Gish' and use of producer Butch Vig, the *Smashing Pumpkins* were always likely to be the square peg forced into the round hole labelled 'Next Nirvana Thing'. Yet 'Siamese Dream' is too peculiar for easy MTV rotation and the *Pumpkins* themselves are no corporate rock whores.

The feel of 'Siamese Dream' is of the progressive rock concept album which is why it's said you can't hum any of their songs. That may be true for 'Gish' but the current single success of 'Cherub Rock' and 'Today' would suggest otherwise. Rather it's the quality of craft

which is evident. You could describe some of these tracks as instrumentals without vocals, the most noticeable trademarks being the long haunting intros. They suggest early purpose and confidence even before we hunker down to the actual gutwork. For example, the swaggered power of 'Hummer' is all the more startling because of the opening fragility. 'Rocket' drops a shoulder and swerves into a playsound of buzz guitars; its deep wrenching theme "I shall be free", in a rocking world at least. 'Soma' reveals a pulsating song where time brings the characteristic guitar explosion. We're taken to the edge of screaming rawity and dragged back still screaming into solitude. 'Spaceboy' is a lament. But a lament to what? As with most of 'Siamese Dream' you don't really know. Billy Corgan's not so much ramming down our throats as letting us uncork our own bottles.

We end on 'Luna', which is psychedelia for the 1990s. Our trip has landed safely. After the emotional outcasting which has preceded, Billy takes us to his recent marriage with a whisper of "I'm in love with you". Superslut to Cherub - it's enough to make a grown man dream. (9)

Tintin

Released on Hut Records

## Album

## Revolting Cocks

### *Linger Fickin Good*

Despite the recent popularity of 'industrial music' and the subsequent deification of *RevCo* headman Al Jourgensen (also Ministry), it seems that the new album is a backlash against that genre of music.

The opening track 'Gila Copter' is a samplethon over which acid-guru Timothy Leary narrates. It is probably intended to provoke extreme emotions or reactions, but on repeated playing it is an incessant drove. Still, occasionally they hit the targets as with the outrageous Rod Stewart cover 'Do Ya Think I'm Sexy'. *RevCo* aren't short of ideas, they stretch them to the limit and it ends up an indistinguishable mass. (7)

Bratt Anderson

Released on Devotion

## Single

## Mother Earth

### *Grow Your Own*

A slow jazzy twaggle lopes over the horizon like the lazy summer afternoons we've left behind. Electric guitars swing in through the clouds and provide some extra wavey energy, but really who cares? Down goes another half mixed cocktail of laid back coolness.

Tintin

Released on Acid Jazz

## Album

## Paul Weller

### *Wildwood*

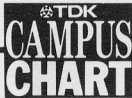
While it's not his fault, *Paul Weller* is generally viewed with the dreary suspicion afforded to a ex-political iconoclast. There was angry credibility in The Jam but it got diluted by association with The Style Council and especially the ill-founded Red Wedge.

Still, on his second solo album there is the rich feeling of a rebirth. The shiny territory of the 1980s has been replaced in an organic awakening, both in song theme and choice of instruments. It's not really retro though, the use of wurlitzer, melletron, moog and stylophone are all built into a contemporary fabric of reminiscence. This is a man asking questions of himself as in the pointed 'Has My Fire Really Gone Out?' and complete with pumping strutful boogie in 'Can You Heal Us? (Holy Man)'. Whilst other highlights of the rustic slice are the more straightforward rock of 'The Weaver' and the open fields of 'Shadow Of The Sun' the whole album is not fully focused. Still Paul Weller is back with careless regard, but continuing to plough his own furrow. (6)

Tintin

Released on Go! Discs

## Chart



## Best of Year 1992-93

- |                                     |                                    |                   |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. KILLING IN THE NAME              | Rage Against The Machine           | Epic              |
| 2. BULLET IN THE HEAD               | Rage Against The Machine           | Epic              |
| 3. JUMP AROUND                      | House of Pain                      | Ruffness/XL       |
| 4. (AIN'T NO LOVE) AIN'T NO USE     | Sub Sub featuring Melanie Williams | rob's records     |
| 5. REGRET                           | New Order                          | London            |
| 6. ANIMAL NITRATE                   | Suede                              | Nude              |
| 7. STEP IT UP                       | Stereo MC'S                        | Gee Street        |
| 8. FEED THE TREE                    | Belly                              | 4 A D             |
| 9. TWO PRINCES                      | Spin Doctors                       | Epic              |
| 10. IF I CAN'T CHANGE YOUR MIND     | Sugar                              | Creation          |
| 11. ALL THAT SHE WANTS              | Ace of Base                        | Metronome         |
| 12. MRS. ROBINSON                   | Lemonheads                         | Atlantic          |
| 13. PHOREVER PEOPLE                 | The Shamen                         | One Little Indian |
| 14. YOU'RE IN A BAD WAY             | Saint Etienne                      | Heavenly          |
| 15. A GOOD IDEA                     | Sugar                              | Creation          |
| 16. CREATION                        | Stereo MC'S                        | Gee Street        |
| 17. NO LIMIT                        | 2 Unlimited                        | P W L             |
| 18. ARE YOU GONNA GO MY WAY?        | Lenny Kravitz                      | Virgin            |
| 19. MR WENDALL/REVOLUTION           | ArrestedDevelopment                | Cooltempo         |
| 20. GET THE GIRL! KILL THE BADDIES! | Pop Will Eat Itself                | RCA               |
| 21. CALL IT WHAT YOU WANT           | Credit to The Nation               | One Little Indian |
| 22. FALL FROM GRACE                 | Eskimos And Egypt                  | One Little Indian |
| 23. GEPETTO                         | Belly                              | 4A D              |
| 24. I FEEL YOU                      | Depeche Mode                       | Mute              |
| 25. I'M GONNA GET YOU               | Bizarre Inc.                       | Vinyl Solution    |
| 26. I'M EASY/BE AGGRESSIVE          | Faith No More                      | Slash             |
| 27. BOSS DRUM                       | The Shamen                         | One Little Indian |
| 28. SHORTSHARPSHOCK                 | E.P. Therapy?                      | A.M.              |
| 29. OH CAROLINA                     | Shaggy                             | Greensleeves      |
| 30. AFTER ALL                       | Frank And Walters                  | Get Discs         |

Chart compiled by STREETS AHEAD  
Telephone No: 081-852 8836  
Compiled: September 1993

## Album

Squeeze  
*Some Fantastic Place*

A jaunty number here from those boppy *Squeeze* chappies; R&B tinged pop numbers are their speciality. Unfortunately though, there's nothing here with the originality or generally groovy feel of past hits such as 'Cool For Cats'. Even the arrival of Paul Carrick on keyboards and occasional vocals has done little to spice things up. In fact the only track which he sings on sounds like the insipid 'Mike and the Mechanics'. This is a rather disappointing album. Only the title track has any guts. It makes the listener (or at least this one) want to say "once more with feeling, please!". Depressing really, considering the talent in the band. However if you like your elevator music professional, lively and slightly infectious, this is it. Playing now in a supermarket near you. (5)

al  
*Released on A&M*

Now in its third successful year, the *TDK Campus Chart* was launched as a service to student radio, press and DJs. It is compiled bi-weekly by *Streets Ahead* from a sample of 200 leading student opinion formers in 100 colleges around the UK, and shows the top 25 singles.

## Single

Engine Alley  
*Infamy*

The shame of being an up-and-coming Irish band; all those references to the next U2. The conjunction of the words 'wolf' and 'cry' spring to mind. That aside and despite their name, *Engine Alley's* debut single is none too bad. It's a bit grating where 'infamy' becomes 'in for me' but there's a good build up of momentum, even if the overall result is lacking in spark. There's also surprising variation over the range of the four track cd. The dance hall-waltz instrumental 'Lame Dog Lament' and the V8 reciprocating power of 'Robin Hood' sit well together. So who chose the single? Only Marion would know.

Tintin  
*Released on Mother Records*  
★ *Engine Alley* play the Garage with Dodgy on the 9th October and then ULU on the 14th October with Shampoo and Intastella.

*Streets Ahead* are the country's leading college promotional company and they've been informing students for more than five years. This year, acts such as *Cypress Hill*, *Dub Syndicate* and *Rage Against The Machine* will be promoted.

## Imperial College Union

# POSTGRAD GROUP

(I) provides social activities for P.G. students

(II) represents P.G.'s at College and Union level

We require P.G. students to form the P.G. Group committee, including:

Chairperson

Publicity officer

Graduate Studies Committee rep.

Vice-chairperson

Events officers

Health and Safety Council rep.

Treasurer

Department reps.

Board of Studies rep.

Candidates should contact Max Sahibzada or Richard Baker (Chem.Eng.Rm.226/Ext.4319) and turn up to the

# ELECTIONS A.G.M.

at 1 p.m. on Tues. 12th Oct. in Lecture Theatre 1, Chem. Eng. Dept.

**All Postgraduates Welcome !!**

## Cinema

## The Young Americans

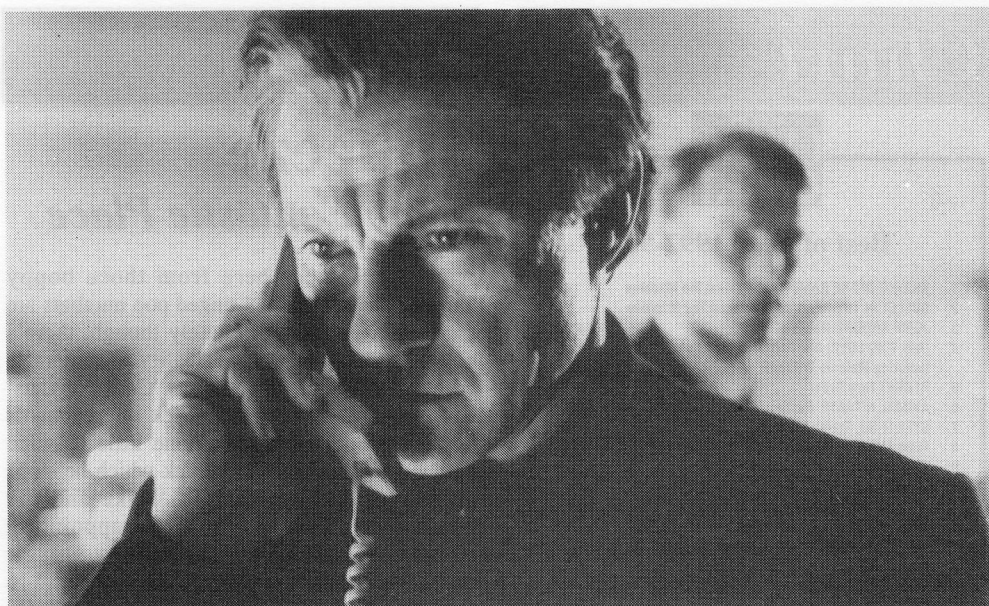
*Starring: Harvey Keitel*  
*Director: Danny Cannon*

Crap appears to be the new movement in British film and at the start, *The Young Americans* appears to more than belong to this new wave. It adheres to every cliché about gangsters and American cops in the book and a few more which are under consideration for the next issue.

So, for example, we have the clean-cut kid who has to balance loyalty with the public good, the honest gangsters versus the evil American drug-dealers, the cop who uses unconventional methods to get the undoubted bad-guys and has marital problems related to his work.

Yet when you sit back and enjoy the spectacle, you will realise that what you are looking at is one of the most enterprising and technically assured debuts of recent years.

The plot is complicated and confusing, but it is worth the effort. A spate of gangland killings appear to have left Scotland Yard puzzled. Then DEA agent and all-round American hero John Harris (Harvey Keitel) arrives from Los Angeles as an adviser. He quickly becomes deeply involved in the case and when the two cops assigned to 'mind' him during his stay are



brutally murdered in front of him he vows to solve the mystery.

Reluctantly helped by a young local boy, Christian, who hates the drug violence all around him, he discovers that a local hood and nightclub owner is recruiting the young off the street to do his dirty work. But all is not as it seems. Meanwhile Christian is in love.

This all culminates in the inevitable nail-biting conclusion, with Harris finding an unexpected ally.

There is nothing surprising in the plot, but then again there is no reason that there should be. It is understandable that this film should have received some criticism; after all, no-one

could claim it is perfect. Yet the sheer confidence of the entire experience helped to carry it off. Particular praise is due to the young leads, Craig Kelly and Thandie Newton, as well as the cinematographer Vernon Layton. His use of widescreen is both stylish and functional and London looks more real, up-front and beautiful than I have ever seen it. The recreation of the club scene is, admittedly haphazard, but then it is notoriously difficult to try and authentically replicate an 'atmosphere'.

So, even though it is not flawless, *The Young Americans* is well worth a look.

Tony

## Cinema

## British Short Film Festival

Short films may not immediately appeal to you, unless you are under three feet tall of course.

Now that we have got the very poor joke out of the way, we can get on to the serious business of short features, with many of the best in the genre on show at the Barbican over the next week. There are over 300 to choose from, with many intriguing titles to choose from, among them *Vibroboy*, *The Bruce Diet* and *The Ketchupped Family*.

The best offering is a 25 minute Scottish film starring Richard E Grant and Phyllis Logan (who used to play Lady Jane in 'Lovejoy' but she doesn't like to talk about it). *Franz Kafka's It's A Wonderful Life* is a witty and refreshingly bizarre foray into the weird world of the famous surrealist author. He is desperately trying to finish the first sentence of his new novel 'Metamorphosis' but he can't seem to find the inspiration he needs. Exacerbating the situation are a range of hilariously strange characters. Among them are a psychotic butcher who has lost his pet cockroach and a flat full of dancing maidens. This film can't be recommended highly enough. It marks the directorial debut of

Peter Capaldi, who also wrote the piece. *Soft Top*, *Hard Shoulder*, which he also wrote, won the Audience Award at the London Film Festival last year and was widely critically acclaimed. Here he shows himself to be an excellent director. The whole production is infused with a professionalism and confidence surprising when you learn it cost only £30,000 to make.

Other highlights of the festival include *A Sense Of History*, a new short from 'Life Is Sweet' director Mike Leigh, two from the controversial French director Cyril Collard and two films from this year's winner of the Camera D'Or at Cannes, Tran Ahn Hung.

Prizes are being awarded in several categories by Time Out, the BBC and CIC, including a trip to LA to meet with producers for the winner of the Best Production award.

The whole festival, which runs from 15th to 21st of October at the Barbican cinemas is £3 admission and the best night to go is the first one. Several of the directors will be there and you may even get to talk to some of them!

Tony

## Book

Yarrow - An Autumn Tale  
Charles de Lint

This book is described as a fantasy tale set in the modern world. Basically, the heroine, Cat, lives in the modern world and dreams in a fantasy world. Then someone comes along and steals her dreams. No dreams, no fantasy world - oh dear.

Sarcasm aside, this is not a particularly gripping book. This is the second book by this author reviewed by *Felix* (see *Felix 973*) and two separate reviewers can't be wrong. May I suggest you take up fishing, Mr Lint?

In case I haven't made it clear yet, don't bother buying this book!

Rachel

Published by: Pan

Price: £4.99 (paperback)



## Opera

# The Rape of Lucretia

Britten's powerful and intimate opera, *The Rape of Lucretia*, was not meant for theatres as large as the Coliseum, where it's being revived by ENO. Only the centre of the stage is used; the set, a moveable gantry surmounting two pairs of sliding screens, evokes Changi jail more than it does ancient Rome. The minimalist production focuses one's attention entirely on the performers, and a few minor shortcomings are enough to prevent the first act taking full flight:

Kim Begley, in the role of the Male Chorus, has a fine and clear voice, but fails to illuminate the text as Peter Pears does for the composer's Decca recording. As Collatinus, Lucretia's husband, Richard Van Allan is a dignified and imposing presence, but his gravelly voice robs 'Those Who Love' of its magic. And the linen-folding scene is just not relaxed and quiet enough - here as elsewhere, Yvonne Barclay's Lucia has the notes, but her vibrato is indiscriminate and inappropriate.

But these are merely critic's carpings, and all such pedantic objections weigh as nothing against the magnificence of Jean Rigby's Lucretia in Act II; her rich, dark mezzo, spontaneous colouring of words and dramatic involvement make for a portrayal of almost unbearable intensity. The final scene is profoundly moving.

Earlier, Peter Coleman-Wright has given us an unpleasant and fascinating Tarquinius, both lyrical would-be seducer and spoiled, vengeful



child (how he was wasted in 'Inquest of Love'; I await his Onegin with interest). Conductor David Parry's account of the score is revealingly detailed and, from the lush and pregnant 'sleep' interlude to the tragic finale, wholly engrossing.

**Patrick Wood**

*At the Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, at 7.30 pm on the 8th, 11th, 14th and 21st of October. Box office (071) 836 3161; tickets from £6 on the day.*

## Concert

# Czech Festival

The South Bank Centre's Czech Festival, and their International Orchestra Season, opened last Saturday with Smetana's *Má Vlast*. This great cycle of six interconnected tone-poems celebrating the Czech nation was receiving its first performance in the Royal Festival Hall. Not surprising, given that on every previous occasion within living memory that the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra have visited London, they've played Dvorák's 'New World' Symphony. Well, I'm exaggerating (slightly), but it's certainly true that since being pipped at the post for the Hovis contract, Smetana has remained in the shadow of his younger compatriot. It was doubly refreshing therefore to be able to experience this rich and colourful work in its entirety, and to hear a visiting orchestra venture from the beaten track. A glance at the forthcoming programmes of other touring bands shows how rare this is: *Symphonie Fantastique*, *Heldenleben*,

*Tchaikovsky 5*, the list goes on, so many standards, it begins to look like the Trooping of the Colour. The reply to this is, I suppose, that the best way to gain an idea of the differing styles of various orchestras is to hear them in familiar repertoire.

Prior encounters with *Má Vlast* would not have been necessary in order to appreciate the class of the Czech players, and of the strings in particular. It was in the third piece, 'Šarka', that the previously undemonstrative conductor Jiri Belohlávek began to break sweat, urging his violins to heights of incisive virtuosity. This movement depicts the legend of the rebel queen Šarka, who by her feminine wiles lures a band of men into the clutches of her Amazon warriors, by whom they are then horribly slaughtered. The music is correspondingly vivid. Throughout the whole work, Belohlávek's approach was unselfconscious; climaxes were carefully graded, with a Rolls-Royce brass section making their mark without swamping the texture.

It's probably because of musical politics that this Czech Festival does not, technically, include

the Czech PO's Barbican concerts (last week), or the Chamber Orchestra of Europe's Dvorák concerts at the same venue later this month. Without these, the Festival's list of only four, albeit eclectic, orchestral programmes begins to look a bit stingy - just one symphony each from Dvorák and Martinu. The two remaining orchestral concerts feature the LPO under Belohlávek in programmes including Martinu's Sixth Symphony (19th October) and Janáček's awesome Glagolitic Mass (26th October). Chamber music is better served, with visits from three Czech ensembles, and Dvorák and Janáček (String Quartet No. 1) from the Alban Berg Quartet (24th October).

**Patrick Wood**

*The Czech Festival continues until 26th October at the South Bank Centre. Box Office (071) 928 8800. At the Barbican, the COE under Libor Pesek play Dvorák's 7th Symphony on 11th October, and his 5th Symphony on 13th October. Student discounts are available at both venues.*

Ten years ago, four crap students were failed from a course they didn't attend. They promptly escaped to a minimum maturity brigade in the Union Building. Now they exist as holders of talk shows...

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# diary

## Saturday 9th

**Tiddlywinking down Oxford Street.....all day**  
Organised by Imperial College Rag. Sign up at your CCU offices at 10.00am followed by...

**Drink-a-pub dry .....2.30pm**  
Ferried from Tiddlywinking or see posters in Union Building after midday for secret location.

**FilmSoc Presents  
RED ROCK WEST.....11pm**  
Starring Dennis Hopper, Nicolas Cage, Lara Flynn Boyle in ICU Cinema, 2nd Floor, Union Building, Beit Quad.

## Sunday 10th

**FilmSoc Presents  
MADE IN AMERICA.....7.00pm**  
Starring Whoopi Goldberg and Ted Danson in ICU Cinema, 2nd Floor, Union Building, Beit Quad.

## Monday 11th

**Pimlico Connection  
Briefing Sessions.....1.00pm**  
In Room 318D Mech Eng. See our article on page 13 of this issue.

## diary entries

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
if you have something to advertise in this space please ensure that we have all the information by 6.00pm on the Friday prior to publication.

**The information we require:**  
Day of event  
Title of event  
Time of event  
Room in which event is to be held

**Operatic Society  
Rehearsal.....7.30pm**  
In the Union Concert Hall, 2nd Floor, Beit Quad. Meet for the first rehearsal of 'Chicago'. For further information contact Laura Hudson, Chem Eng 3.

**Indie Wig Out  
Session with Ents.....8.00pm**  
Goes on until midnight and is FREE!! FREE!! FREE!! In the Union Building.

**Happy Hour .....8.00pm-10.00pm**  
Da Vinci's and IC Union Bar, Beit Quad. 20% off.

## Tuesday 12th

**Careers Talk .....1.00pm**  
Organised by IC Careers Service in the Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley LT213.

**Welcome Service .....6.15pm**  
Christians at College are invited to a service hosted by Chaplains and all Christian Societies. Held in the Junior Common Room, Sherfield Building

## Wednesday 13th

**Japanese Society .....1.00pm**  
In Ante Room, Sherfield Building.

## FilmSoc presents...

Special late night showing of...  
'Red Rock West' (18) starring Dennis Hopper, Nicolas Cage and Lara Flynn Boyle at 11pm on Saturday 9th

Evening showing of...  
'Made in America' (12) starring Whoopi Goldberg and Ted Danson at 7pm on Sunday 10th

ICU Cinema, 2nd Floor, Union Building, Beit Quad

## MISSING

Red Naf-Naf rucksack. Last seen 1.30pm on 4.10-93 in Chem Eng Particle Technology Mechanics Lab on Level 4  
The contents are of no cash value. Anyone who finds and returns this bag will receive a reward.  
PLEASE CONTACT:  
Michael Kim in Aeronautics ext 4344 or 4075

**Pimlico Connection  
Briefing Sessions.....1.00pm**  
In Room 318D Mech Eng. See our article on page 13 of this issue.

**Pimlico Connection Training  
Sessions.....2.00pm-5.00pm**  
Room 703 Mech Eng. See our article on page 13 of this issue.

**Circus Skills Society .....4.00pm**  
Union Lounge.

**England v Holland  
Soccer .....7.30pm**  
Calling the Netherlands—come and support Chaplain's Dutch wife in marital dispute at their home across the park. Gezellige avond!  
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**Club Libido .....8.00pm**  
In the Union Lounge. Bar till midnight FREE!! FREE!! FREE!!

**Happy Hour .....8.00pm-10.00pm**  
Da Vinci's Bar, The Union Building, Beit Quad. 20% off

## Thursday 14th

**Careers Talk .....1.00pm**  
Organised by IC Careers Service in the Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley LT213.

**Silverscreen.....8.00pm**  
Live band at Imperial College Union in the Lounge organised by Jazz and Rock Society

**Christian Union  
Meeting.....6.00pm**  
Meet for food at 6pm and the meeting will run from 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Huxley Building Room 308. All fab bunnies welcome.

**Pimlico Connection Training  
Sessions.....6.00pm-8.30pm**  
Room 703 Mech Eng. See our article on page 13 of this issue.

**Help with Felix .....6.30pm**  
Come and put Felix together and pick up a copy hot off the press.

## Friday 15th

**Felix issue 975**  
Watch this space.

**Club Atmosphere.....8.00pm**  
In the Union Lounge, Beit Quad. Bar till 1.00am. Entry £1.

**Happy Hour ...8.00pm-10.00pm**  
Da Vinci's Bar, IC Union.

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## Early Morning

# Fitness Classes

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## dead lines

**To avoid a penalty worse than death i.e. not getting your article printed, make sure you adhere to these deadlines:**

Everything, except letters: 6.00pm on the **Friday** prior to publication

Letters: 6.00pm on the **Monday** prior to publication

# Theatre West End's Exploits at the 1993 Edinburgh Festival

There is a city which houses the largest and longest party in the world every summer. A place where you can watch performances by *Steven Berkoff* or *The Doug Anthony Allstars*, hear music by *Sam Brown* or *The Honkin' Hep Cats*, see *The Little Shop of Horrors* or *The Marvellous Mechanical Mouse Organ*. From *Shakespeare for Breakfast to Sex After Supper*, the Edinburgh Festival Fringe has got it all.

This August marked the tenth anniversary of Theatre West End's participation on the Fringe with three shows: Pinter's *The Homecoming*; Champion's *Singing in the Wilderness* and *Can You Hear the Music*; plus our very own version of *The Pied Piper*.

## Chamber Music

Are you a musician Do you want to meet other musicians? At the Chamber Music Society we aim to provide a place for instrumentalists to meet and singers to form small groups and make beautiful music. We welcome any instruments and voices. If there are any budding conductors out there, you could even start a larger group, perhaps a flute choir or a brass ensemble. There will be a concert at the end of term (7th December) so you can show off all your hard work. So, whatever your instrument or musical interest, come to our first meeting on Friday 8th October at 7pm-10pm in the Read Lecture Theatre, Sherfield Building, and bring the tools of your trade. For further details, please contact Kim Dyos, Materials PG ext 6018.

## Chicago Show

If you missed us at Freshers' Fair but would like to join in, come along to some of our events.

The preparations for our major show, *Chicago* start on Monday 11th October at 7.30pm in the Union Concert Hall with a sing through and introductions to the show followed by a cold drink or three in the bar. All you need to bring along are a set of vocal chords (preferably your own) and with no auditions for the chorus you don't even need to be able to sing! If you do feel yourself to be a budding starlet auditions are 16th and 17th October.

As for what happens when a show's actually staged, *Opposites Attract* is a must for discovering all the aspects of OpSoc from costumes and make-up to rigging and set building. The fun all starts at 2pm on Saturday 16th October in the JCR and continues on Sunday 17th at 1pm in the Union Concert Hall. All this is rounded off with the one off performance of *Opposites Attract* followed by the New Year Party on Monday 18th October in the Union Concert Hall.

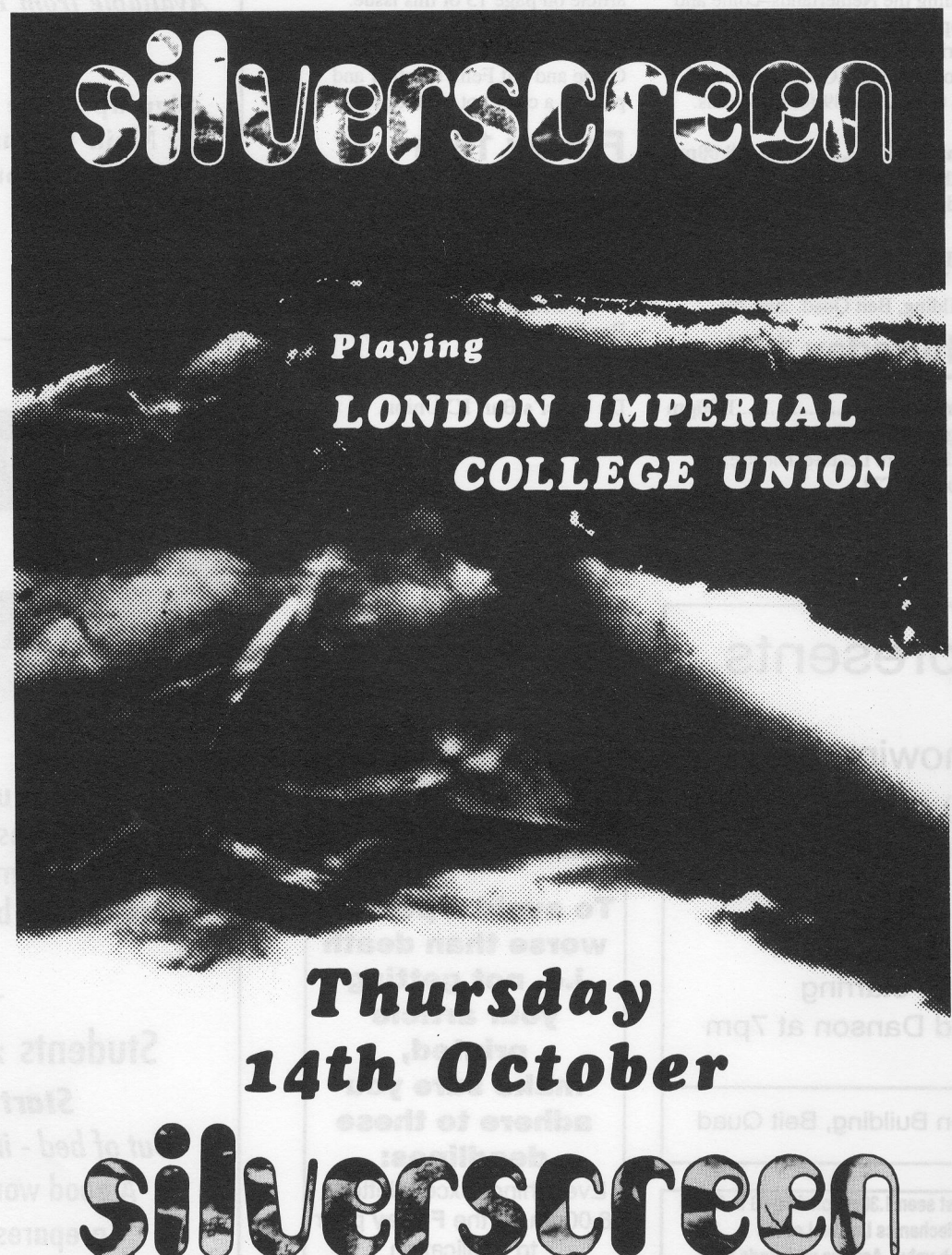
Keep an eye on the Diary section of *Felix* for other OpSoc dates.

Each show was produced, directed and performed by Imperial College students; we even built the theatre which housed them. This year, we were host to the Guardian International Student Drama Award winners, the *Cambridge Mummies*. Our own shows were also well received, with large audiences and good reviews.

Working in the theatre was fun, whether it involved constructing the stage, making props, working in the Box Office, building the Box Office or being on Front Of House. Once the festival had begun, only a few hours a day were spent working at the venue, leaving the rest of the day free. As Fringe performers, we joined the Fringe Club (aka the Edinburgh University

Students' Union) which offered free bands and cabaret, had three bars and didn't stop serving drinks until three o'clock in the morning!

If you are interested in becoming involved with Theatre West End, you can find us in the DramSoc Storeroom in the Union Building every lunchtime, or come to the DramSoc party on Sunday in the Concert Hall. Do not worry if you have had no experience, performing at the Edinburgh Festival is an opportunity you are unlikely to have had before and almost certainly will not get again. We are always willing to take anyone with little or no knowledge of theatre work.



**silverscreen**

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**Thursday  
14th October**

**silverscreen**

The *Smashing Pumpkins*' latest album is reviewed on page 6

# Clubs & Societies Column

by Charlie Leary, Deputy President (Clubs and Societies)

The coming week will see most clubs and societies starting their activities programme. Many offer a Freshers Buffet at lunchtime where you can find out more about what they do and get a chance to meet the members of that society. At Freshers Fair you will have signed up with the ones you are interested in and they will be sending details of their meetings through your department pigeon holes.

No club is allowed to take money at Freshers Fair, they can only get people to sign up. This means that you can find out about that society both by what you are told at Freshers Fair and by attending the first club function. Then it is up to you whether you like what you see and you want to join. Most clubs cost less than £10 to join for the year so it is not an enormous amount to pay for any activity.

There are two new clubs setting up that will not be at Freshers Fair. One is the Yoga Club, the other is the Transcendental Meditation Society. Both have people willing to organise the meetings and events, but they need twenty signatures of people wanting to join. There are lists in the Union Office, so if you are interested in joining either of these then please come in and sign up.

Transcendental meditation TM is a simple, natural and effortless mental technique that enables the mind and body to attain deep rest. Over 550 scientific studies have shown TM to be an effective technique for stress reduction. Decreased metabolic rate, heart rate and breath rate are immediately measurable physical benefits. Scientific studies have shown TM to be remarkably effective in widening the use of our mental potential. A free introductory talk will be held in the Brown Committee Room, level 3, Students Union Building on Thursday October 14 at 7:30pm.

The Yoga Club want to set up weekly classes both for the beginner and the more experienced. The club will also provide a good social environment for likeminded people as well as the classes themselves. As a club starting up the membership will decide how the club operates so it is an excellent opportunity to have a hand in shaping a new Union Society.

One of the longest established societies, Dramatic Society, have been exceptionally busy over the past week. They are the unsung heroes of the Carnival and Freshers Ball, having worked above and beyond the call of duty rigging the lighting for these events and

operating it on the night. All too often jobs like this go without recognition, but without their help these events would probably never happen. Many thanks must go to Andrew Nu for coordinating the whole thing and to the rest of the Dramsoc Crew for their work. The entertainments throughout Freshers Week were booked and coordinated by Ents. Many thanks to all the people who helped out with those events.

Dramsoc will be performing their first play of the year towards the end of this term. They perform these shows on top of all the work they do in conjunction with Ents and the gigs in the Lounge with Jazz & Rock. They are always on the lookout for new recruits to help with both the technical and performance sides. Don't worry if you have no experience, most people start off that way and the more experienced members are more than willing to teach the new recruits.

This column in Felix will feature what's going on in the clubs and societies world throughout the year. If you have not signed up at Freshers Fair then it is still not too late. The Union Office has all the Details of clubs and societies so feel free to come in and find out more about the clubs that interest you.

## Tiddlywinking and Tiddlydrinking

Now that your first week of the new term at college is nearly over, what better way to spend the weekend than going out and discovering a bit of London with your new found friends. The best way to do this is with RAG. Come and tiddlywink down Oxford Street with hundreds of other crazy students and raise loads of money for Action Aid whilst having fun.

After this we all go off to a pub the name of which will be withheld until the last possible moment - to partake in the ultimate student challenge: Drink-a-pub-dry! This involves all the day's collectors descending upon this innocent pub with the intention of emptying all bottles (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) and shutting off all the taps. Last year we managed to empty most of the barrels at the but we can

beat that and do better, so come along and join in, if you don't you'll regret it.

Also this year the event to get involved in (apart from RAG Week) is the inter-hall competition. This gives you a chance to win a barrel of beer for your hall team. The hall that raised the most money per resident wins this amazing event and the envy of all the other halls.

So, importantly, come to Tiddlywinks tomorrow, Saturday 9th. Sign in at your CCU offices at 10.15am. If you don't you'll get woken up by 'Wakey, Wakey Southside'. Then at 2.30pm you'll get whisked off to a secret destination to meet people and drink lots.

See you there.

Jane, RAG Chair

## Make The Connection

The Pimlico Connection is a tutoring scheme where students act as volunteer tutors in local primary and secondary schools. The tutoring idea aims to solve one of Britain's biggest educational problems, that of low ambition among teenagers. Tutoring is also seen as a method of promoting science and technology, of encouraging pupils to get more out of education, and to stay on in education after sixteen.

By joining the scheme, you would be helping others to learn and learn yourself about working

with others, communication and science.

Last year saw an exciting new development involving the use of student interpreters at the Science Museum. With a grant from the Nuffield Foundation, the initiative should expand during 1993/94 to include more students and schools from across London.

If you would like to get involved then come along to one of the no obligation briefing sessions below or to one of the training sessions which are necessary before you start tutoring.

## Rag Term Timetable

Sat 9th Oct	Tiddlywinks, Drink-a-pub-dry
Wed 14th Oct	Rag Freshers' Party
Sat 16th Oct	Monopoly, Mencap Party
Sat 23rd Oct	Rag Raid
Sat 30th Oct	Mag 7
Wed 3rd Nov	Rag Week Starts
Wed 3rd Nov	RCS Beer Festival
Thu 4th Nov	Slave Auction
Fri 5th Nov	Guilds Carnival
Sat 6th Nov	Halls Dirty Dozen
Sun 7th Nov	Bungee Jump
Mon 8th Nov	Mines Dirty Disco
Tue 9th Nov	Hypnosis & Party
Wed 10th Nov	Rag Bar Night
Thu 11th Nov	Film Night
Fri 12th Nov	Rag Bash
Sat 13th Nov	Sponsored Nude Kamikaze Parachute Jump

### Briefing Sessions

Mon 11th / Wed 13th / Fri 15th October  
1pm - 1.20pm

Rm318D, Mechanical Engineering

### Training Sessions

Wed 13th October, 2pm - 5.30pm

Thu 14th October, 6pm - 8.30pm

Room 703, Mechanical Engineering

### For more information contact:

Betty Caplan, Pimlico Connection Coordinator  
Level 3, Mechanical Engineering Building

Look out for a Sailing Club article next week

## Introducing the Japan Society

Well, the time has arrived when once again you have to decide which societies to choose from. So here I am writing this article for our beloved *Felix*, trying to persuade you that our society is worth looking at.

The Japan Society exists for both Japanese students and those of other nationalities. Its main aims are not only to unite the Japanese community but also to introduce their culture to others. Rather than trying to be really boring about it, we will try to make it as fun and interesting as possible. This is achieved by organising loads of social events, where everybody gets to meet everyone else in, not just our society, but other related societies.

We have already organised some of our events and are still planning more. There is a social meeting every week, currently on Wednesdays at 1pm in the Ante Room, level 1, Sheffield Building, where anybody can turn up. If you aren't sure where this is, ask us at the Freshers' Gathering (see later in the article). At these meetings we do some boring things like discuss coming events and distribute recent Japanese newspapers (for anybody who can read them), as well as some more interesting things like discussing the latest gossip and making fun

of certain committee members (especially me). There will also be a regular newsletter, about every two weeks, which will contain information about coming events and numerous articles on interesting facts about Japan and its culture.

This year, what is special about our society is that we are in fact two societies. With the growing success of Japanese animation (animé) and comics (manga) throughout the world, we have decided to start our own Animé and Manga club within our society. If this is a success it will undoubtedly become its own society, but for the moment it will be run by us.

Japanese animation and comics are very different from western style equivalents; they can be more adult oriented, with deep story lines and vary from extremely cute to mega blood and guts, more often than tending towards the latter.

The Japanese Animé and Manga society will be holding approximately fortnightly showings of some of the latest and more popular Animé, as well as obtaining information and gossip about the latest releases from various sources. We hope to also get hold of various new, as well as old, manga which will be distributed at our social gatherings. Currently this year's membership fee will be £3.00 for both societies.

The Freshers' Gathering, the first event of the year for Japan Society will take place on Monday 11th October in the Union Lounge from 12pm-2pm. We hope to serve various samples of Japanese and non-Japanese food which we hope will keep you happy for the rest of the day. (Details cannot be finalised until the Union management gives us the go ahead!)

This event is the best opportunity to join the society, by simply paying the membership fee. We will gladly answer any questions you have as well as give you our sample newsletter about the different events we have already lined up, how we operate and possible future events. We don't bite, well not all of us anyway.

So, if you are able to find us, please feel welcome to come and talk to us, and possibly become a member. You've got nothing to worry about; except possibly our president, who has been known to nip people, especially non working committee members!

If you've got any questions try e-mailing (if you know what that is) the president, Taiji, at to2@doc.ic.ac.uk. or putting a note for the vice president, Tomoko Isobe, in the Biology pigeonhole in Beit Quad (on the right as you go through the archway).

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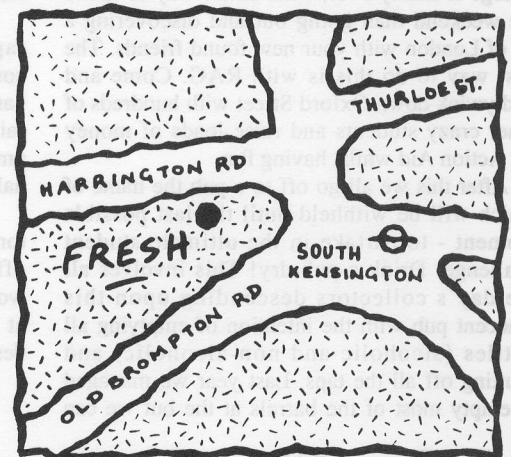


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**A review of the Czech Music Festival is on page 9**

# Don't watch that, watch this!

*Tony Grew guides you through the autumn releases and helps you choose the film of your dreams.*

Well children, here we are again. Another wet and horrible term. What, I hear you ask yourselves, what, you cry as you dribble into the ear of your new friend in the Union bar and take another drag of that funny cigarette, which is quite pleasant really, what is there to do in this god-awful place?

There are many things which a consenting adult and the animal of his choice can do to wile away those lonely winter afternoons, but several acts of Parliament forbid me to guide you through the more exciting possibilities. Suddenly it comes to you in a vision as you spew the last of your guts into the toilet. The cinema! That's it! It's warm and dry and the seats are better for dozing than the ones in the library. But what to see I hear you cry. Well, I can help you there children. Are you sitting comfortably? Then we'll begin.

Tony Scott, the man behind such classics as *Top Gun* and *The Last Boy Scout* is back with a new thriller written by *Reservoir Dogs* director Quentin Tarrantino. In **True Romance** Christian Slater and Patricia Arquette star as newly-weds who decide to honeymoon and smuggle drugs at the same time. The suitably confused plot then has them pursued by every sadistic bastard currently working in Hollywood, including Dennis Hopper, Christopher Walken, Gary Oldman and Val Kilmer.

Altogether more light-hearted is **Robin Hood, Men in Tights**, Mel Brooks' satire on the vomitous Kevin 'thought it was neat' Costner history re-write of a similar title, which deserves ridicule if only for being the reason Bryan Adams once again became socially acceptable. That film was so noble and nice and politically correct, and our Kev was so very predictable in the lead, that I kept on expecting him to build a baseball field or try and nail Capone. Anyway, he is well and truly lampooned here, with the excellent Cary Elwes in the tights and fighting evil on all sides with not a hair out of place.

Sean Connery is back on form starring as a wise and wily cop in **Rising Sun**, a thriller about a murder in a Japanese company. He is teamed with the decidedly Japan-bashing Wesley Snipes. These are the sort of parts being turned down by Clint since *Unforgiven*, the western for men who like to get in touch with their feminine side, but yet again Sean excels, not even bothering with an accent or anything as poncey as that. What a guy.

Also of interest to the more action-oriented of you may be **Demolition Man**, with Stallone and Snipes as cop and robber frozen in time and then accidentally released into the crime-free Los Angeles of 2032 (yeah, right). The screenplay is from the writer of *Heathers* and *Batman Returns* and is apparently very exciting, if a little weird. I mean, how does he think of these things, and doesn't the medication help?

There is always **Dave**, which stars Kevin



Kevin Costner, who isn't starring in *Robin Hood*, *Men in Tights*

Kline as a man who looks exactly like the US president. It could be worse. You could be a man who looks like his daughter. Many boxers do after a few years. Basically he stands in when the Chief is indisposed and starts to try and change things. Sigourney Weaver is the First Lady.

If you think that sounds unlikely, try and work out the plot of **Coneheads**, which apparently concerns the life of a normal family all of whose heads are conical. It stars Dan Aykroyd and Jane Curtin, who is rumoured to have been one of *Kate and Allie*, but no-one can remember which. Or maybe nobody wants to admit to watching it. The idea comes from an old *Saturday Night Live* sketch, which is the place that launched the short career of Mike Myers, better known as Wayne. I say short because his latest offering is bound to ensure he never works again. It goes by the name of **So I Married an Axe Murderer** and judging by its box office takings I'll bet he wished he had done just that.

There are some more sublime offerings in store for those of you who are that way inclined, though at a good science college like this you should be ashamed of yourself, notably the long-delayed **Age of Innocence**. Directed by Martin Scorsese, this adaptation of the classic novel set in the polite society of 1870s New York is being

tipped for Oscars even before its release. The fact that the stars are easy on the eye can't hurt the film either, with Michelle Pfeiffer and Daniel Day Lewis in the lead roles. We also have the new Merchant-Ivory film **Remains of the Day** on its way, starring the great luvvies of the modern cinema Tony Hopkins and Em Thompson. And apparently Superman is in it too, but hopefully he will be dressed more tastefully on this occasion.

The young and acclaimed director of the 1991 smash *Boyz 'n' the Hood* has seemingly outdone himself with his second feature **Poetic Justice**, which stars Janet Jackson as a hairdresser-poet looking for love in the ghetto. On a similar theme the Hughes brothers' debut **Menace II Society** has also been praised, and will appear as part of the London Film Festival, running from 4th to 21st of November this year and is well worth a look.

I was going to mention **Kalifornia** but I don't approve of the spelling and anyway it's got the professionally ugly Juliette Lewis in it and I know how much she can upset some people's stomachs. So instead I will warn you against the imminent arrival of **Look Who's Talking Now**. You are advised to take evasive action immediately.

# The Haldane Collection: An A-Z

*Need a good book, need another grant cheque, need a whole new you? As ever, Felix has harkened to your prayers! Janet Smith, Haldane Librarian, answers all your burning questions below. Well, she covers the subject of books pretty thoroughly anyway...*

## Humanities and Recreation at Imperial

New students may not have realised that one of the advantages of Imperial is its excellent range of recreational and cultural activities, which are backed up by corresponding library facilities. The Haldane Collection, which is now part of the Central Library, has a history dating to the early part of this century, when H G Wells urged students "to show that they were not barbarians".

A literary collection was set up by the Student Union, and in the 1950s, its scope was widened to provide for the courses taught in what is now known as the Humanities Programme. Consequently, Imperial College has a wide ranging collection of humanities and general reading material (about 35,000 books with 70 newspaper and periodical subscriptions) as well as a music collection including 10,000 sound recordings.

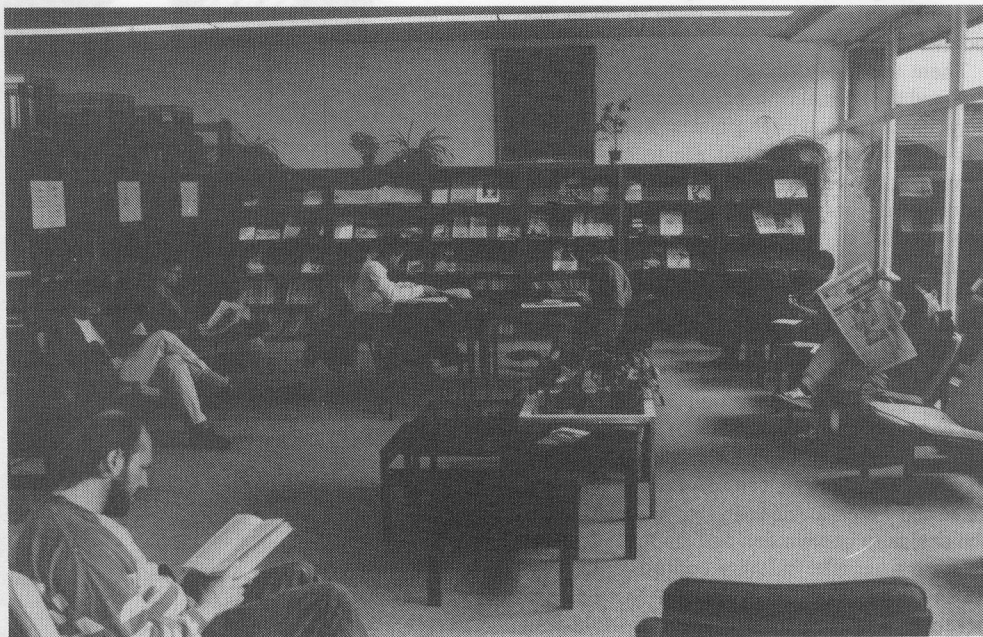
Imperial College's commitment to liberal education is evident from the naming of the collection in honour of R B Haldane, statesman, philosopher and educationalist, who helped bring about the merger of Imperial College's constituent colleges. His is the rather dark portrait that adds some historical atmosphere to the otherwise modern and informal reading area.

## The Contents

The Haldane aims to cater for all tastes - from Aristotle to Amateur Photographer - and the best way to discover its diversity is to come and see. There are good collections on history, politics, travel, biography, music, art, philosophy, and literature, and well-used sections on consumer matters, sport, genealogy, transport, religion, and humour. Browsing will uncover specialities or curiosities from giants to Egyptian grammar. There is a wide range of fiction, popular authors including Umberto Eco, Ruth Rendell, and Tom Wolfe. The fiction collection is financed by the Student Union and usually selected by a student buyer.

Daily newspapers (The Times, Financial Times, Guardian, Independent, Telegraph, Le Monde, Frankfurter Allgemeine) are taken, as well as a wide range of magazines and periodicals (including Autocar and Motor, Private Eye, Newsweek, Great Outdoors and Which?), some of them subscribed to by the Student Union. Some periodicals support taught courses, notably history journals, Stern and L'Express.

There are Ordnance Survey and other maps, atlases and a good reference collection. The library also receives a selection of publicity for theatres, concert halls and other events in London.



*The reading area inside the Haldane Library*

## Music and Sound Recordings

The Student Union also finances and selects a collection of jazz, folk, and pop recordings on cassette and compact disc. The strength of the classical music collection (which includes printed music, especially chamber music parts, vocal scores, and miniature scores) lies in the recordings collection of CDs, cassettes and LPs. This aims to satisfy the more experienced listener, as well as to stimulate the new. Those who imagine all classical composers to be dull and proper should try our first CD to arrive with a parental guidance sticker, The Art of Bawdy Song (lots of Purcell)!

There is a good range of language courses on cassette, as well as some spoken word recordings, including Shakespeare.

## Cultural Events

The Haldane has hosted poetry and novel readings in the past, and a varied programme of events is planned for this year. On 3rd November at 5.30pm there will be an excellent opportunity to get to know one of our closest neighbours, the National Sound Archive, when Timothy Day will introduce some of the recorded treasures from the Archive's collections. In addition, the 1890s Society will be welcome. The first of these will be a talk by Dr G Krishnamurti, 'Books Illustrators of the 1890s' on 27th October at 7pm, which will be accompanied by an exhibition from 4th to 29th

October. On November 24th, Michael Holroyd will speak on 'The Ethics of Biography' at 7pm and we look forward to other 1890s Society events in the spring and summer terms.

## Whereabouts and Opening Hours

The Haldane Collection has recently been relocated to Level 1 of the Central Library, and is easy to spot from the Queen's Lawn. It has the same opening hours as the Central Library (for details see library entrance) including evenings and Saturdays during term. It is open to all members of Imperial College and most of its contents can be borrowed using the Central Library ticket.

## And Finally...

We welcome new users, and encourage you to make suggestions for purchase. We also hope that you will bring your enquiries; library staff like to be challenged, so please fire your questions, whether you want a list of the last decade's Oscar winners, you cannot remember who said "Many people would sooner die than think" or if you hope to find a publication containing viola music by Monsieur de Saint-Colombe. The Haldane staff are Janet Smith, Jane Agnew, and David Lascelles. We look forward to meeting you

**Janet Smith**  
Haldane Librarian

# What's It All About?

*Andy Wensley, Imperial College Union President, explains the ins and outs of Union General Meetings and shows that motions aren't that tricky after all.*

That's the first week out of the way, only about 30 more to go! I do hope that all of your Freshers week's dreams were granted and you aren't too tired to face what's left of the year. Always keep an eye out for events advertised in the *Felix*, Union fliers and posters everywhere.

Apart from the social side that we've seen this week, there is so much more on the representation and governing parts of Imperial College Union than you would see in Freshers Week.

Imperial College Union is governed by the General Meeting of all its members, that's you as students. At these meetings points are debated, policy & aims are decided upon and motions are passed. The policy passed at a Union General Meeting is then acted upon by the Executive who will report back on their progress at later Meetings. Also sabbaticals and other officers of the Union report on what they've been up to, on the work in hand and their successes (hopefully!). This meeting comes together every month at a date advertised, usually two weeks before, like the advert below.

Any member of the Union can raise motions to be debated. But what's a motion, I hear you cry. If you've picked up the most excellent Union handbook when you registered, you'll find that there's one on page 31. If not, do not fret. For your delight and delectation, a sample motion is shown in the box on the right. This one is concerned with affiliation to the National Union of Students (NUS). A 'running commentary' explaining each bit is given in italics underneath.

Hopefully this has made it understandable. If

## Motion to Imperial College Union on Affiliation to the National Union of Students.

### Imperial College Union notes:

1. Imperial College Union is not affiliated to the NUS.
2. Almost every student union in the country is affiliated to the NUS.

*The notes contain the facts relevant to the motion, background information really.*

### Imperial College Union believes:

1. Being affiliated to the NUS offers national representation.
2. Being affiliated offers students a wider variety of discount deals.

*These are the reasons for raising the motion, in this case, the belief of better representation and better discounts.*

### Imperial College Union resolves:

1. That the Union should hold a campus wide referendum to decide whether to affiliate.

*This will be the position that the Union will take if the motion is passed.*

### Imperial College Union instructs:

1. The Union Executive to organise campus wide referendum and to publicise the advantages and disadvantages of affiliation.

*This is how the motion or policy is to be turned into action, in this case by the Executive.*

you have any problems, just ask one of the sabbaticals. Remember that you'll find them in the Union Offices in the Union Building, Beit Quad.

All motions have to be submitted to the Union Office at least seven days before the General Meeting is to be held.

See you then!

N.B. In the past, there have been motions on every subject under the sun, serious, frivolous or down right silly. Keep your eyes peeled for the motions going into the next General Meeting.

# Union General Meeting

Friday 22nd October, 1pm

JCR, Sherfield Building

*Deadline for motions: Friday 15 October.*

*Please hand all motions in at the Union office.*

**Elections      Motions      Debate**

Take your Union ID card if you want to vote at the UGM



## Islam - how to understand it

To the Editor,

As students of one of the most respected academic institutions in the world, one would expect Imperial College to produce the 'cream of the crop' when it comes to intellectuals.

Since intellect and logic both play a part in the basic, mundane aspects of life and the most complex, why is it that we settle for mere speculation on man, life and the universe? The Evolution Theory is still a theory, even some expert scientists have evidence to refute it. Many religions, ideologies, philosophies are believed by people despite the numerous contradictions present within them.

However, Islam is different. It has definite proof that the Qur'an is the word of God, that God exists and that the Prophet Muhammad was the messenger of God. I welcome anyone to discuss these issues and invite anyone to try and disprove the truth of Islam.

Many people look at the media's portrayal of Islam but one can only find out about Islam by speaking to Muslims or by looking at the sources of Islam. I'm sure you would find a big

difference.

We always hear that Islam oppresses women. Why don't people ask these so-called oppressed women whether they feel oppressed? Oppression against women is far greater in this country where women are treated as sex objects and are constantly bombarded by the media to be pressured into worrying about their looks, their weight and basically their physical features. The statistics for rape, for anorexia, bulimia how what this society views women (*sic*).

When finding the truth, one should not let their whims and desires dominate over one's thought. At 8am in the morning, our emotional whims would want us to go back to sleep yet our thought would tell us to attend the 9am lecture. If one looks at Islam intellectually rather than emotionally one would understand it properly.

As human beings, we should know that life is a serious thing and therefore just sitting back and not trying to seek the truth would make us less than animals.

*Saleem Chagtai, Maths 3.*

## College Summer Accommodation Fiasco

Dear Beccy,

I was one of the unfortunate students who had to take re-sits. I decided to stay in College accommodation - not only would that be convenient, but it would have been difficult to stay with friends since most of them aren't around, and if that was possible the conditions would hardly have been ideal for revision.

As I had to find out, however, one night in Southside Halls cost me £22. I don't really mind Imperial College ripping off students - additional income will in the end profit the

students (hopefully). But isn't the meaning of College accommodation to provide a reasonably cheap stay in London? I'm sure for this price I could have found a reasonable hotel if I had had the nerves and time to look around a bit, so why aren't there more affordable charges for students who are forced to take some re-sits? After all, having to take re-sits is enough punishment for not having worked during the year; is it really necessary to have an additional financial burden - maybe the word 'fine' is more appropriate!

*Kristine J Vaaler.*

## Offensive Review

Dear Miss Land,

I think it is absolutely reprehensible that a paper such as yours representing the students of this college with its international community should publish an offensive, racist remark in the book review section of Felix (4.10.93). The book I am referring to is the *Little Country* by Charles De Lint, a Canadian shock horror! The quotation by our astute book critic, Tony Grew, which shows up his plain ignorance and possible jealousy, may probably, of other cultures in this excuse for a review are the words 'pretentious' and 'shite' in reference to the fact that he is a 'practising Celtic musician'.

There are many Celtic musicians in this city and their music is anything but 'shite' they add life and soul to a grey, sombre, impersonal city. Also there must be plenty of other Celtic students in this College who feel much aggrieved and disgusted at this shallow and pig-ignorant remark.

On the subject of the book he gives us precious little about the content. He claims he muddled through the 650-odd pages just for our benefit, it looks like he could not muddle through a Ladybird book let alone a smaller-sized novel.

*Yours sincerely,*

*James Lynch, PG Year 1.*

Southside Shop will be open on Sunday from 10am to 2pm for the convenience of the hall residents

## Tai Chi

Thursday 6.30pm-7.30pm

Union Dining Hall  
Imperial College Union  
Prince Consort Road  
Kensington SW7

- Improve mental focus
- Relieve tension
- Increase energy
- Improve health

For further information call  
071-589 5111 ext 5076

## Commercialised Christmas?

Dear Beccy,

I have just read a leaflet that was handed out at Freshers' Fair by the Islamic Society called 'Christmas - an unholy experience' which says that Christmas is commercialised - as a Christian I agree. What I would like to point out is the number of inaccuracies in it. I was never once at church taught about the tooth fairy or Santa Claus, neither is this in the Bible, surprise, surprise. Christmas to me is an important time to spend with family, who get together from all over the country. I do go to church on December 25th, and spend lots of time thinking about its significance, but a more important date in the Christian calendar is Easter, remembering the death and resurrection of Jesus. No one is saying that these are the exact anniversaries, we don't

know, but it is helpful to have a focal time for each event.

If I had handed out leaflets from the Chaplaincy stall that had stated as blatantly that all Muslims were wrong about an aspect of their faith I would have been in trouble. This was a leaflet that was full of so-called facts and insinuations to make itself look more credible, which on further reading proves to be far from the truth. I hope that the Islamic Society (I assume it was them as the leaflet was unsigned) will become more tolerant of other faiths, and try and use positive methods to sway people rather than negative.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Laura Burgess, Geology 2.*

# Editorial

The end of the first week of term and the end of another edition of Felix. This issue is just a little bit smaller than the last one (and isn't full of lots of irritating leaflets that fall out all over the floor!). I can guarantee that the next issue will be bigger and hopefully better. If you want anything to go into the next issue, the deadline is the end of today. Any later and it won't go in.

In reply to the letter from James Lynch on the opposite page referring to the book review in *Felix* 973, can I point out that Tony Grew is himself a Celt and is probably in a better position to criticise Celtic music than a lot of people. Everyone is entitled to their own opinions. Bear in mind that they may not be the same as your own.

I beg to differ with you on your comment about London. You describe it as a grey, sombre, impersonal city. There must be plenty of people in this College who disagree. They may not feel *much aggrieved and disgusted*, but, as I said before, everyone is entitled to their own opinions. Bear in mind that they may not be the same as your own.

All that's left to say is thank you to *Park Communications* for printing the colour pages in last week's issue.

# Credits

## Collators, stickers of HJB Cards and stuffers of leaflets from last week:

Tim from Tizard, Mike Chamberlain, Penguin, James Handley, Mellisa Ali, Greg Iles, Jon Jordan, Steve Newhouse.

## For this issue:

Andy Thompson, Rose Atkins, Penguin, Steve Newhouse, Simon Govier, Kamran Malik, Tony Grew, Owain Bennallack, Jon Jordan, Patrick Wood, Rachel Mountford, Bratt Anderson, John Simpson, Janet Smith, John Westwater, Charlie Leary, Andrew Tseng, Alex Tavener.

## Thanks from the President:

Congratulations must go to Matt, Ents Chair, for organising this week and to all the Ents Crew for all the work they did. A big round of applause to Dramsoc for their well smart lighting. Thanks to the Stewards and College Security for their work and for the cool heads in the line of duty. Also thanks to the bar stewards for the liquid refreshment all evening. Congratulations to all the clubs for their work before and during the Freshers' Fair. So to everyone who has helped in some way to make this week the best so far, thank you very much.

# CAREERS INFORMATION

There are two Careers Talks this coming week in the Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley LT213, 1pm - 1.50pm:

**Tuesday 12th October:** *The Application Game and How To Lose It* by Mr Brian Hyde, former Recruitment Manager of IB. Laughs are guaranteed!

**Thursday 14th October:** *Graduate Study In The UK* by Dr Andrzej Skapski, Chemistry Department.

All undergraduates and postgraduates are welcome to attend. No need to book - just turn up.

*The Job Market and other Options* is a short course run on Wednesday 13th October from 2pm to 4pm in Huxley Room 344. Sign up in the Careers Office.

For further information come to the Careers Office, Room 310 Sherfield - open from 10.00am to 5.15pm Monday to Friday. A Duty Careers adviser is available for quick queries from 1.00pm - 2.00pm daily.

# SMALL ADS

Hang by a finger at Mile End Climbing Wall with Scout and Guide. Meet ant Beit Archway, Wednesday 13th October, 1pm.

# FOR SALE

Electric Guitar (with tremolo), hard case, amp and overdrive. £170 (yum, yum).  
Contact Pawan Jaitly, Plasma Physics.

# How It Used To Be At I.C.

Dear Ms Land,

I believe I am the oldest student at Imperial College. Gasps of amazement. I was born in 1942, during what we Oldies call the Second World War. I first attended IC in 1960, finishing my degree in Chem Eng in 1963. I stayed on to take a PhD which I completed in 1966. I then moved to North Carolina State University for a year to take some Industrial Engineering courses to prepare me for the transition to a job in my family's furniture manufacturing company. Gasps of disbelief. After more than 25 years in business I have returned to my alma mater for a bit of peace and quiet...er, I mean intellectual stimulation, in the form of an MSc in the History of Science, most of which, incidentally, seems to have been written since I left college for the first time.

While I was at IC in the sixties, John F Kennedy was assassinated, Winston Churchill died, The Beatles and the Rolling Stones had their first hits and the Labour Party won a general election...but not necessarily in that order. I queued all night for tickets to a Rolling Stones concert in the Regent Ballroom in Brighton. At about the same time, I saw a young band called Status Quo who sounded promising in a rowdy sort of way, playing as the warm-up group to an outfit that never did make it...I can't remember their name. I married in 1963 and I

have three children. My elder daughter was at school with the daughter of the keyboard player with Led Zeppelin. Kiddies' birthday parties at their house were very musical, as I recall. Your readers may have heard stories to the effect that the sexual revolution of the sixties gave rise to wild excesses of promiscuity, debauchery and extravagance. Suffice it to say that it is a long time since I drove a Ferrari or flew to Le Touquet for lunch.

My children have all grown up and left home. Sadly, my wife died after a short illness early in 1990. Business had lost its appeal after the long recession and I was looking for a complete change of direction. I met a charming young lady (sorry! a friendly woman with similar interests) who just happens to have bought a flat three tube stops from South Ken. Whilst I was on a sales trip last summer, I picked up a *New Scientist* in which IC was advertising for students (God, has it come to this?) and now here I am. I must say that I am very much looking forward to this academic year. I shall try to keep you informed about student life as experienced by the older person...and of course I would be delighted to hear from any *Felix* readers who can remember when beer went up to 2 bob a pint.

Yours, etc,  
Clive Cohen.

# Postgraduate Mathematical Advice Centre

Helpline:  
ext 5752

Dr Geoff Stephenson  
Mathematics Dept

The deadline for everything else is Friday, 6pm

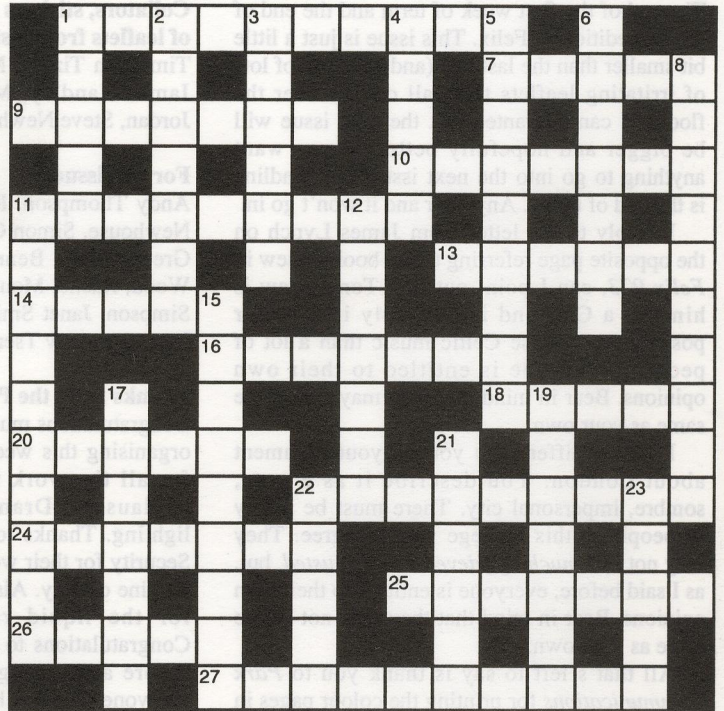
# Crossword *by John Westwater*

## Across

1. Miniature gestures a cook could do with. (10)
7. A type of job that's the same whichever way you look at it. (3-2)
9. A standard course, perhaps, that's similar. (7)
10. Eccentrically, I bank each, with flowers. (7)
11. I scathe it! That lack of belief in God. (9)
13. Monumental fat wrapped around Army Corps. (6)
14. So medics can be rubbish! (5)
16. Stick men out, for a hat. (7)
18. Vails for trees, perhaps. (5)
20. Strangely, Religious Studies show the opener to the bars, possibly. (6)
22. Is red pith found in chemical reactor? (5-4)
24. My account blooms and gains. (7)
25. Sailors confuse adoration for discharge. (7)
26. Animal used in gymnastics. (5)
27. Short obituary of sly miser, oddly reveals religious chap after all. (10)

## Down

1. I did mean to stake £1000. Wierd! (5)
2. Rodent found in recreation ground, full of holes, perhaps? (7)
3. Small objection at end of territory. (6)
4. Cut-off small city in Rome as source of inspiration. (5)
5. Roughens horrible pet rashes. (9)
6. Stolen U.S. aircraft. (7)
8. Could it be a standard collision in the sky? (5, 5)
11. Sound chart could help test for hearing. (10)
12. Initial reaction of young man dealing with large quantities. (7)
15. Put school on the map, over and above the French god's mixed up agendas. (9)
17. Rates, perhaps, carrier as an excuse to dodge the inland revenue. (3-4)
19. Under-cover in the house (7)
21. Try, we hear, to turn Research Establishment of African Group (6)
22. Asp of small measure found in the Bible (5)



# DRAMSOC

## PARTY

**Sunday 10th October 9.00pm**

**On the stage in the Union Concert Hall.  
Lots of food and drink.  
This is your first opportunity to join.**

**Imperial College Dramatic Society**  
East staircase, Union building  
extn 8719 or 3531  
C.L.O.S.E. Productions