



# Felix

Issue 983

IC / SML  
REFERENCE  
COLLECTION

10th December 1993



In the Ents Lounge at 1 o'clock.  
Come on! We don't want to miss it!



# Unexpected Week-long Nursery Closure

BY SHAUN JOYNSON

Imperial College students and staff have breathed a sigh of relief on learning that the College Nursery in Princes Gardens is to re-open today, Friday 10th December.

The Nursery was closed with less than one day's notice on Friday 3rd December after a series of disagreements between staff led to what the Director of Personnel and Administrative Services, Caroline Fox, called a 'breakdown in communications'.

The disagreements, which began earlier this year, have led to a number of staff threatening to resign. These disagreements appear to be personality clashes rather than conflicts in teaching styles and centre on one or two members from a total staff of around half a dozen.

The Nursery cares for staff children as well as children of students and has been in operation

at the College for a number of years. It is paid for mainly by parental contributions, with some subsidy from the Union and College authorities.

Caroline Fox said that the decision to close the Nursery had been taken because, had the resignations threatened by staff gone ahead, the Nursery would have had an insufficient number of experienced staff. "We did look at the possibility of using agency staff, but there were none available," she said.

Despite the staff problems, Ms Fox is adamant that the children's care was not affected. "Nurseries are strictly controlled under the 1989 Children Act, which stipulates that the children must be under continuous supervision at all times. Our aim is now, and has always been, to put child care first and if there had been insufficient number of staff to ensure this, then we

would not have opened," she told *Felix*.

She added that she would be taking a conciliatory line with staff and trying to sort the matters out to everyone's satisfaction. Worried parents gathered at a meeting on Wednesday and were told of the problems and of the efforts being made to resolve the differences.

One factor that is thought to have been a contributory factor in the staff problems is the rapid expansion of the Nursery that has taken place in the last year. "Everything seems to have happened at once," said Ms Fox. "We've had an expansion in the facilities occurring at the same time as new buildings have come into use."

In addition to these changes, *Felix* has learned that there have been changes to procedures in the Nursery and some staff believe that matters have been brought to a head by a combination of events,

rather than just one single occurrence.

Ms Fox does, however, believe that the staff can sort out these problems given time: "Parents bond very strongly with individual staff members that work in the Nursery. Many have come back after maternity leave with their first child. We do have a very strong community."

## Hospital Closure?

BY MICHAEL INGRAM  
AND ANDREW TSENG

The fate of Charing Cross and Hammersmith Hospitals could be decided by Christmas following increased speculation this week.

It has been rumoured that Virginia Bottomley, Health Secretary, will announce the merger of both hospitals and the closure of the Hammersmith Hospital before the end of the winter festivities. It would mark the reshaping of London's health services.

Should an announcement be made, it is expected that Hammersmith Hospital will be closed. Staff and services would then be moved to Charing Cross. This would become a specialist hospital providing cancer treatment and other services for West London. The Royal Marsden and St Bartholomews are also under threat, with predicted losses of at least 1,000 beds. It has also been suggested that the Royal Marsden will be relocated to Surrey.

However, any relocation could jeopardise the 'Chelsea Medical Sciences Centre'. The centre was proposed by Ms Bottomley in her reply to a report on London medicine by Sir Bernard Tomlinson last year. It would federally link various West London medical centres, including the Royal Marsden and Imperial College.

Other institutions that would form part of the centre are the National Heart and Lung Institute, the Institute of Cancer Research and the Royal Postgraduate Medical School. These institutions may be the subject of mergers with Imperial College (*Felix* 982), forming a possible 'Imperial College School of Medicine'.

## Christmas Caper Success

This year's Christmas Caper took place in the College last Sunday and **Joe McFadden** went along to find out more. The Caper was organised by the HUB Office and aimed to introduce children to the fun and excitement that science and technology can offer.

Craft stalls, science demonstrations and games took place in the Sherfield Ante-Room and Main Dining Hall. There was also a 'Science Shop' held in the Senior Common Room.

Demonstrations and hands-on experiments were run by Imperial College staff and students. There was also a show by Science Museum staff based on the popular 'Launch Pad' format.

Children had the chance to see a cat's-eye view of the world, learn about human hearing and the physics of music, have fun with bubbles and watch an explosive demonstration by the Chemistry department. Other activities included face-painting, 'Reindeer Racing' and making Christmas decorations. Volunteers from Imperial College's tutoring scheme, the Pimlico Connection acted as guides for everyone coming to the Caper. These and other students



*Take four hundred and fifty children and two hundred adults.  
Mix with various craft stalls and science experiments and  
stir the whole concoction for three hours.  
Does this sound like a recipe for a nervous breakdown?*

from the College also helped run some of the stalls. Those who went along included families of College staff and children from local schools.

The HUB Office would like to thank everyone who helped on the day or provided materials for any of the activities.

**The deadline for articles for the Christmas Special is 6pm today**



## Farewell Chaplain

BY JON JORDAN

The end of term sees the departure of one of College's chaplains, Bill Raines. Bill moves to take up a new post in Manchester, at the elegantly titled parish of St James and the Holy Innocents, Birch with Fallowfield, in the new year. Bill has been based at Imperial College for six years and, as such, is the longest serving chaplain. Until recently he was often found in clouds of cherry tobacco and also counted kite flying and chess amongst his more salubrious activities.

Despite being asked for a juicy news bite, all the bearded cleric could murmur was that "IC is a great place to work, if you're a chaplain at least". More interesting was his view that Imperial College students didn't really think about science and particularly science and religion, because they had already accepted a certain view about it. *Felix* wish him and his family well in their new preferment.

John Patten, one of Oxford's MPs, is met by unruly students

## Protests Against Patten

BY LYNN BRAVEY

Students throughout the country are in uproar at their apparent victimisation by John Patten Secretary of State for Education.

Patten had to be rescued by police on Monday when over 100 students of Balliol College, Oxford surrounded the Parish Hall in which he was conducting an advice surgery. The students were refused entry even though they had every right to attend.

Mr Patten used the incident to slur students and gain support for the budget shift in student financing from grants to loans. Speaking in the House of Commons he stated: "The hall was completely surrounded by yobbish students from Oxford University, who I am ashamed to represent in Parliament, and students from Oxford Brookes University." Mr Patten was in fact

himself educated at Oxford and was also a don there, yet he seems to fail to see the need for a well educated population.

Student reform has not, however, been the only reason for recent student displeasure. Protesting students at the University of East Anglia were served with a writ and removed from the registry following a weekend sit in at the loans office.

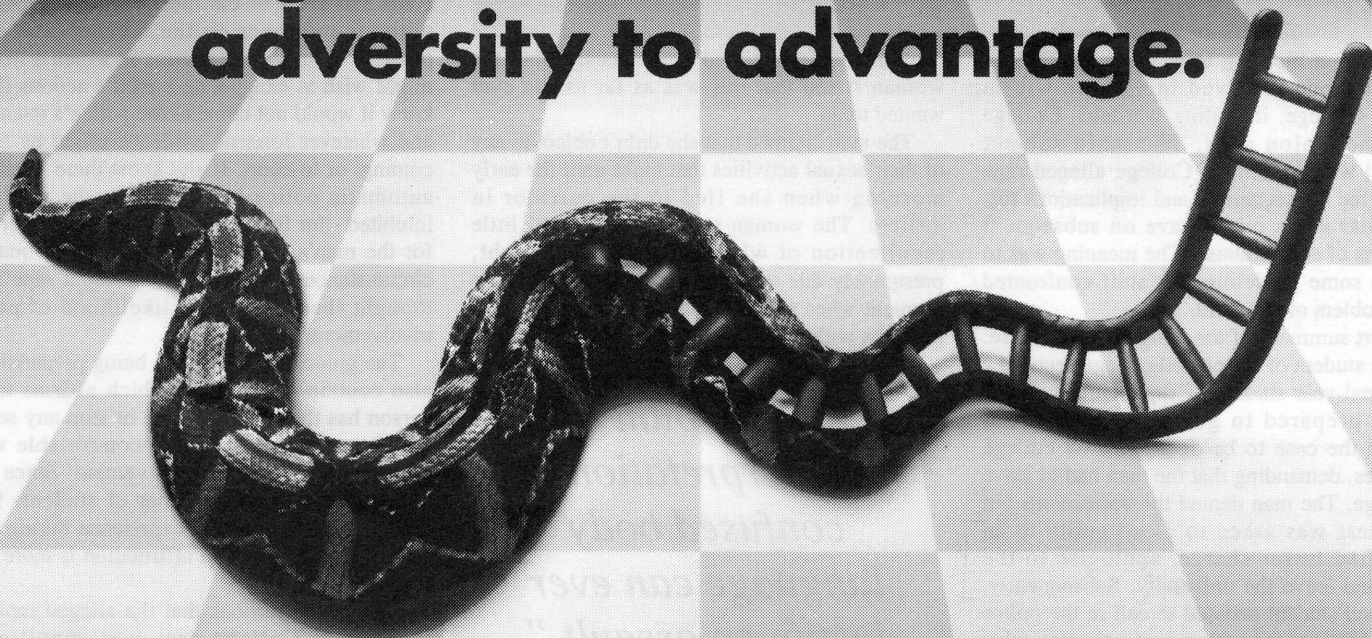
Student Loans are due to increase next year following grants reducing by 10%. The increase in the maximum level of loan gives an effective rise in student income next year by 4%. It will also increase student debt by a significant amount.

Keith Bradley MP, the Shadow Social Security Minister, expressed his concern last week: "This new cut in the grant will undermine students confidence in entering

higher education."

Although little has been said regarding student grants, many members of the House of Lords are expressing their discontent over the proposed student reforms. Many think that the reforms will give the Government too much power over the way in which institutions are run. With many of the Lords being University Vice-Chancellors, many observers are not surprised that John Patten has faced opposition. Speaking to the *Independent*, Lord Beloff, a Conservative peer, commented: "By putting forward this bill, the Government has done something which I would have thought was impossible. It has united the entire university community, from the most reactionary Vice-Chancellor to the most left-wing student, in unanimous objection."

# The right career moves can turn adversity to advantage.



Life after university is full of ups and downs. To see how you could climb to the top with the world's leading business and technology consultancy, Andersen Consulting would like to invite you to submit an application to interview by Friday 17 December 1993 to the Careers Service. Interviews will be held in January at the College. *Metamorphosis in a world of change.*

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# Sex and the Student Body



Last month, a meeting took place which was aimed at those involved in welfare within Imperial College, including wardens, College tutors and Union staff. The main subject discussed was the King's College alleged rape case and the consequences and implications this and similar cases might have on subsequent allegations of sexual abuse. The meaning was to establish some guidelines for staff confronted with a problem of this kind.

A short summary of the King's College case: A female student of the named college accused a fellow final-year student of rape. However, she was not prepared to go to the police, but preferred the case to be dealt with by college procedures, demanding that the man had to leave the college. The man denied the accusations but nonetheless was asked to plead guilty to an unspecified lesser charge, apologise to the woman and leave the university. Subsequently, the accused student decided to call in the police and take his chances with a jury, rejecting what seems to be a plea-bargain. During the trial, it became clear that the alleged rapist had been a close friend and trusted confidant of the woman, and described by her as "sweet" but "sexually repellent". Apparently they had, on several

occasions before, kissed 'passionately', but the woman stated that this was as far as she ever wanted to go.

The man claimed that she didn't object to any of their sexual activities that night until the early morning when she fled to the corridor in distress. The woman stated that she had little recollection of what happened that night, presumably due to excessive drinking, until the moment when she felt somebody attempting to have sex with her, escaping subsequently.

*"No amount of misinterpretation or confused body language can ever justify an assault."*

She insisted that she would never have given her consent, saying: "I did not consent because I could not."

Following the scrutiny of the characters and former affairs of both, the man was acquitted by a jury consisting mostly of women.

The subject, however, is not to discuss the justice of the court's decision and it is not my intention to stir up a surge of letters about the case. The problem is much more; this and other recent rape allegations which resulted in acquittal, whether justified or not, might make it even harder for rape victims to come forward. So far, most cases of sexual abuse are not reported to the police, let alone brought to trial, and it is unlikely that the ratio will improve following these acquittals. The public might also infer that a large proportion of rape allegations are not genuine, and some men might believe that they can go free when committing rape. But rape is a violent act and needs to be treated seriously by authorities.

The handling of the case by King's College has received a lot of criticism. It seemed that the college attempted to cover up the incident to save its reputation, trying to deal with an allegation of rape via an internal tribunal. If you don't grasp the absurdity of such an attempt, then imagine a college that intended to deal with murder by a disciplinary procedure.

The members of Imperial College present at the meeting agreed that any allegation of rape should be reported to the police if the victim wishes the perpetrator to be penalised. The College should not attempt to deal with such a serious criminal offence by internal procedures but should recognise that this kind of incident does not fall within its jurisdiction. Also, the handling of rape allegations by disciplinary procedure could be open to abuse.

John Hassard, Warden of Selkirk and Tizard Halls and chair of the meeting, stated: "Again, without reference to the King's case, it is possible to imagine scenarios in which a woman might wish to exaggerate a man's actions if she knew it would not come to the police's attention, and whatever forensic evidence might be forthcoming, or to court. If she knew there would be automatic police involvement, she might be inhibited - for fear of being found out, or for fear for the man's future. Even easier is to imagine circumstances in which a man might rape if he thought there was little likelihood of police involvement."

The guidelines which are being prepared will also contain a statement which affirms that a person has the right to refuse or stop any sexual act she or he might feel uncomfortable with, whatever the stage of involvement. Since it is believed that a vast number of students have their first serious sexual experience during their time at college, such an affirmation is more than relevant.

One of the reasons that the alleged rapist in the King's College case was acquitted is presumably that the woman never expressed a lack of consent; according to her she simply wasn't able to. Frequently, 'silent' consent is assumed as long as lack of consent is not verbally expressed. And even then some men are

**Free condoms are available from the Health Centre**



convinced that refusal is nothing but teasing. However, nowadays women are free to have sex if they want to and there is less reason than ever that they should say no if they wouldn't mean it. When women say no, they mean no.

Of course, the question has arisen as to what extent consent needs to be expressed. (On some American campuses it is possible to acquire a document with the help of which a written consent can be settled. Is that what *you* would like your sexual relationships to be based on in future?)

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*That a woman might sleep around or lead a man on does not make a rape a lesser offence.*

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Particularly worrying was the media frenzy which met the King's College case, linking this with student excesses in general. Some statements that were made implied that, after an act has reached a 'certain' stage, the woman cannot expect the man to stop.

After the acquittal, Lord Russel, the alleged rapist's personal tutor, claimed that in certain 'mitigating circumstances' a rape could be less of an offence, if not entirely excusable. The approach of the media to appalling comments such as these has been lacklustre to say the least. Everybody at the Imperial College discussion meeting agreed that college members should not issue any personal comments in the media.

According to a survey conducted by the London Student newspaper, an appallingly low number of "75 per cent of both male and female interviewees believed that if a woman expresses lack of consent once penetration has occurred, and if the man persists, that it still constitutes rape".

John Hassard believes: "No amount of misinterpretation or confused body language can ever justify an assault." Furthermore, that a woman might sleep around or lead a man on (the King's College woman was 'accused' of doing both) does not make rape a lesser offence. That would be on the same line as classifying sexual abuse as a 'professional risk' for a prostitute, legitimising its occurrence.

Of course, the sleeping around of a man doesn't justify castration either. I mention castration on purpose. Some men seem to have difficulties in understanding the threat a rape poses to a woman. I'm sure every man fears castration, and a person submitted to such an experience would undergo a personality change caused by a trauma from which it may be impossible to recover - that should give some idea about the detrimental effects of rape.

After all, there have been cases where men have been raped (by men - in case you didn't realise). Imagine this happening to you, and you will understand the concern women experience when confronted with this topic.

A further point of discussion was the services that should be available to victims of assault

within college. It was decided that posters should be designed which would provide relevant telephone numbers and advice, and to hang these up in both the ladies' toilets in the Union and also in the Halls. Furthermore, a leaflet should be produced containing information and advice.

Apparently, there now is always at least one female Security Officer on duty. However, most victims will want as few people involved as possible. Remember that it is your right to call the police without any regard to College procedure.

Many victims feel reluctant to report their case to the police. Most just want to put the assault behind them as quickly as possible and many fear embarrassment and intimidation. However, reporting should be seriously considered as it might prevent further offences.

If you decide to report, then do it as soon as possible (the police term this an 'early complaint'). Try to resist the urge to wash or change clothes as this could destroy vital evidence which might forensically convict the perpetrator. Even though this sounds very clinical - try to remember as many details as possible, and how you could describe your attacker if you don't know his name. Although shock is inevitable, tranquillisers and alcohol may both have a negative influence on the clarity of your account.

If you wish, you can demand to be examined by your own GP. If you are registered with the College Health Centre you might want to ask for Dr Irene Weinreb who is well-known for her interest in women's affairs. Any counselling needed will be provided by College; it was also stressed at the meeting that the perpetrator should receive counselling.

For many students, coming to college offers the opportunity to indulge in large quantities of booze without any restrictions by parents etc. Often enough, people are even pressurised by their peers to consume excessive amounts. You can drink as much as you want. However, drunkenness is not accepted as an excuse for *anything*. And women surely are aware that the effects of alcohol are well integrated in many conquering strategies which can lead to involvements you would never think of when sober.

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*Nowadays women are free to have sex if they want to...*

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However, if two of you wish to sleep together, I can only tell you that somebody who refuses to use a condom is not worth shagging anyway. You can get free condoms at the Health Centre (ask for a condom slip) and for more urgent cases there are various dispensing machines within the Union and Halls.

*The author would like to thank Minever Kavlak, John Hassard, Nicky Fox and also Phill Henry, David Spooner and Owain Bennallack.*

*Sex?*

*No, this isn't  
Cosmopolitan,  
you will not be  
instructed on  
interesting sexual  
positions and fear  
not, Felix hasn't  
gone all sleazy!*

*Rather, this  
article concerns  
the subtle  
re-mapping of  
the sexual  
landscape...*

*Kristine J Vaaler,  
the ICU Women's  
Officer, reports.*

**The ICU Women's Officer can be contacted via the Union Office**



# Equality Now, The Case For Change

**In 1991, 244 men were prosecuted for having consensual sex with partners aged between 16 and 21.**

184 were found guilty and 14 were jailed, some for as long as seven years. Their crime? Homosexuality. None of them would even have been arrested if their partner had been a woman.

The chance to end this discrimination is expected to come this Parliamentary session, if amendments can be inserted into the Government's Criminal Justice Bill, announced in the Queen's Speech last month and expected to be published shortly.

Acting on the proposals of the Wolfenden Report of 1957, Parliament semi-legalised homosexuality with the Sexual Offences Act 1967. It stated that a homosexual act between two (and not more than two) men in private, was not an offense "provided that all parties consent thereto and have attained the age of 21 years". The price of this reform was what is now the highest age of consent for gay men in Europe.

In 1967 although the justification for 21 was very weak, it was accepted as a political compromise. Two further reports to Parliament have both recommended lowering the age of consent yet still there has been no change. What arguments have been advanced to cause this and how valid are they today?

## 1. Homosexuality Is A Sickness.

In fact the Wolfenden Report rejected suggestions that homosexuality was a sickness and this year the World Health Organisation officially "declassified homosexuality as a disease".

## 2. Young Men Are Still Confused About Their Sexuality.

To quote the Wolfenden Report: "We have given special attention to the evidence on a recognisable age in the fixation of young men's sexual patterns...Our medical witnesses were unanimously of a view that the main sexual pattern is laid down in the early years of life and the majority of them held that it was usually fixed in main outline by the age of sixteen."

## 3. Homosexuality Is Undesirable And Young Men Need Special Protection.

Wolfenden, again, succinctly challenges this argument: "We recognise the need for protecting the young and immature. But this argument can be carried too far; there comes a time when a young man can properly be expected to stand on his own feet...and we find it hard to believe he needs to be protected from would-be seducers more carefully than a girl does."

## 4. Homosexuals Will Seduce Young Men.

This is the official justification for having a different age of consent for gay men. Surely unwelcome sexual advances serious enough to warrant criminal prosecution are equally offensive whether the victim is a man or a woman and the same law can apply to both.

A more worrying side to the campaign to lower the age of consent is the effect of failure to secure a change in the law. At the moment, the police are turning a blind eye and the Metropolitan Police Commissioner stated that enforcing the law "was not an operational priority". If Parliament decides against change, "it would be a clear signal to make enforcement a priority". The result of this would be increased fear of prosecution in gay men under 21, deterring them from seeking safer sex advice or from reporting 'queer-bashing' incidents.

The time has come to end the discrimination. Join the fight for equality now by writing to your MP and urging him to attend the debate on an equal age of consent and support the motion.

**Rachel Mountford**

*'The Case For Change' is available free from Stonewall, 2 Greycoat Place, Westminster, SW1P 1SB. Send an SAE.*

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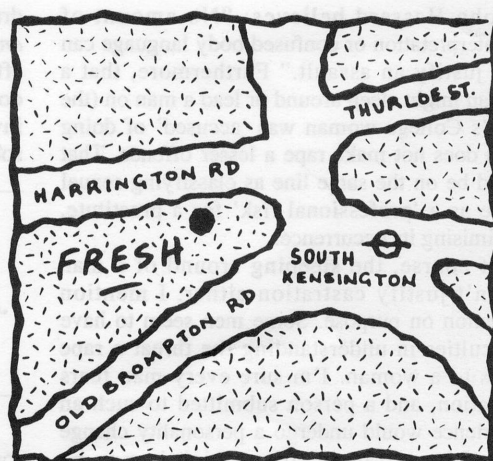
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## Tremors, Gremlins, Exorcists

Monday 13th December sees the second of ICSF's video-projected double bills in Chem Eng Lecture Theatre 1: *Tremors* and *Gremlins*.

*Tremors* is a traditional 'fighting off the monsters in a small isolated town' (with the help of the resident gun freak) movie with a big difference - it doesn't take itself too seriously and is actually funny as a result. See it if you're into big killer sandworms or Kevin Bacon.

*Gremlins* is essentially pretty similar except its humour is far blacker (and it's set in a small American town and not a big desert). Festive fun for everyone as the gremlins torture small animals, catapult grannies through roofs and get blended.

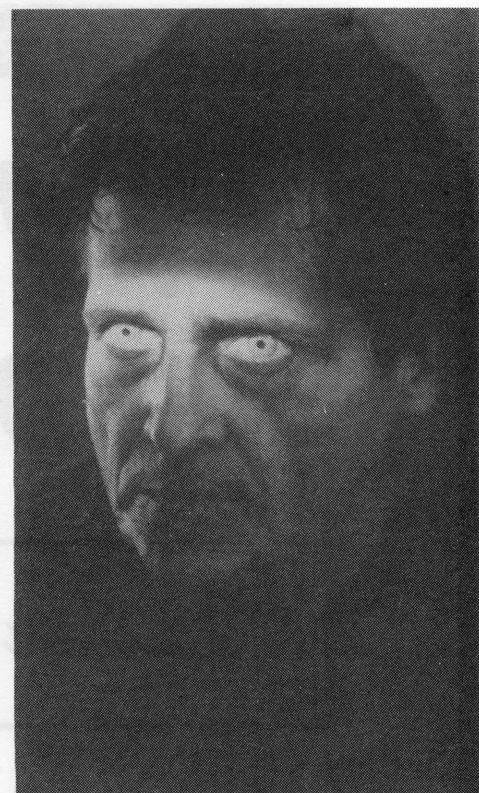
The screenings start at 6pm and entry is free to ICSF members. Membership costs £3 and gets you access to further video showings next term (every week), the chance to borrow our 3,000 (not 300 as you may have read in last week's *Felix*) books and videos and reduced entry to our 35mm film presentations including

your first film free.

Speaking of which, at 7pm on Tuesday 14th December we are pleased to present *The Exorcist*. This is a cheap chance to see one of the most infamous of all horror films on the big screen rather than on a bad quality video (which you shouldn't do 'cause it's illegal so stop it).

The story concerns a young girl apparently possessed by Satan (well, beds levitate, cupboards move, she speaks in tongues and does some pretty disgusting things with a crucifix). A priest is called in, whose doubts in his faith increase as his mother's life wanes. Much vomiting of pea soup and spinning of heads ensues with some truly frightening moments. Having said this, the film relies mainly on the tension for its horror value, but when the shocks come, they're very icky.

*The Exorcist* begins at 7pm in the Concert Hall, 2nd floor, Union Building. Admission is £1.20 to ICSF members and £1.80 to non-members.



Father Damien Karras (Jason Miller) in *The Exorcist*

### *Tremors* and *Gremlins*

Mon 13th Dec, 6pm  
Chem Eng Lecture Theatre 1

### *The Exorcist*

Tue 14th Dec, 7pm,  
Concert Hall, Union Building

**Da Vinci's**  
— Café-bar —

Due to numerous requests  
The Bar will be open **ALL DAY**  
for the last week of term!

*Da Vinci's Cafe-Bar It's enough to get you in the  
Christmas spirit!*

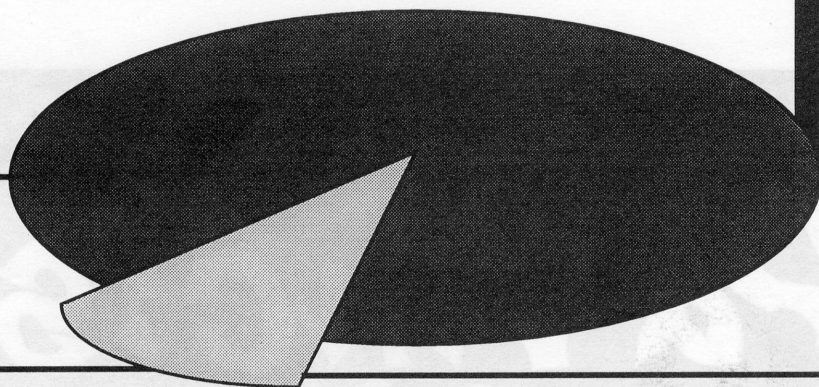


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# PJ33A PARTY

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or on the door*

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# Raggies Go Completely Barmy In Brighton

On Saturday, eight intrepid Raggies braved their lives in a Union minibus to go to a little known area of this country called Haywards Heath.

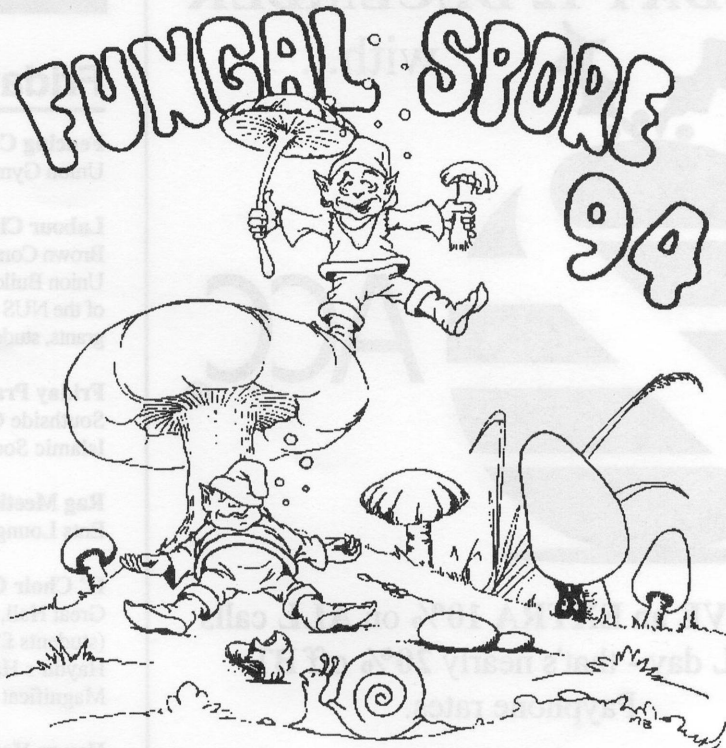
Why did they do this? These noble souls were going collecting on a Rag Raid in aid of Oxfam. Once we had finally left London, after various stops to do bizarre things like phone Radio 1 in the pouring rain (why can't they install mobile phones in the minibuses?), we motored off down the M23 and eventually arrived at our destination no thanks to Tim the Navigator ("it was a short cut honest").

We proceeded to collect lots of money, despite the rainy and windy conditions. Once all light had gone and we could collect no more, we headed off to the nearest town (which happened to be Brighton) in search of some food.

The bright lights beckoned and drew us fatally towards that money eater, better known as the Pier. What could we do but enter and we all came out with far lighter pockets than we entered with, other than our Treasurer who seemed to have had a lucky streak and managed to come out with more than she entered with. (Perhaps we should let her double our total in a similar way.....)

On the way back to the Metropolis, we encountered many bizarre things such as strawberry yoghurt and electronic vibrating penguins. But anyway, many thanks to all who came and raised £300 for Oxfam and had an excellent day out.

This Saturday the Raggies will be venturing



out yet again. We will be heading to Waterloo Station to sing carols and raise money for John Grooms. So come along and join us. It doesn't matter if you can't sing because we can't either! We're going along to have fun and raise money

for charity at the same time.

Come along to the Rag Meeting which is today (Friday) in the Union Lounge at 1.10pm for more information.

## Trailer Time - The Sequel

Following on from last week's hint at the films showing at ICU Cinema, we continue this week with the rest of the line-up. Thursday 17th December brings the latest offering from the depraved mind of Quentin Tarantino (*Reservoir Dogs*), to be screened in January '94). Newlyweds Christian Slater and Patricia Arquette go on the run - with police and gangsters on their tail. It's a relationship that begins with a bang (pardon the expression) after which matters become gradually, though literally, explosive. To find out more about this 'Thelma and Louise meets *Reservoir Dogs*', come along to *True Romance* (18).

Also showing during the last week of term is the latest Tom Cruise offering. *The Firm* (15) sees Cruise joining an exclusive law practice with Mob connections and soon finds his dream job turning into a nightmare. Also starring Gene Hackman, Holly Hunter and Ed Harris.

In a totally different vein, we see Stallone hanging on for dear life in *Cliffhanger* (15). This film really must be seen on the giant FilmSoc screen to be appreciated since it is presented in wall to wall, floor to ceiling Cinemascope.

Since everyone, on the last day of term, will be feeling rather miserable about the prospect of having to be with the family over the festive period and having to control their drinking to some extent, FilmSoc have decided to screen a classic piece of comedy. We all grinned at the parrot sketch, we all revelled in the humour of Bicycle Repair Man, we fell about as if very drunk at the thought of those silly walks. For all reptile lovers, FilmSoc has never been more proud to present the film *Monty Python's Life Of Brian* (15). Never has the true spirit of Christmas been captured in a more imaginative and comical way than in this film. The said film will be screened after the comedy night at 11pm.

### Films lined up for January:

In The Line Of Fire	Dave	Addams Family Values
Dirty Weekend	The Rocky Horror Picture Show	

**Watch posters for details.**

## Footie Match

### ICAFC 1sts 3 - 3 QMC 1sts

Things did not start well when only nine of the first team turned up in the morning. The third team had to be raided for two of their star players, each one better than the whole of the first team. We travelled to Scotland to play the game, where we were met by a swamp of a pitch and no ref.

Despite prolonged pressure, QMC scored first, but Mike Jarvis quickly equalised by a quality header from one yard out.

The second half followed with total domination, culminating in a Ben Willis long range volley from half a yard, following a pinpoint cross from Richard Craig. Their ref then decided to add 30 minutes onto the second half. QMC then equalised!

Tellis Botzios and Wai Kwok were the men of the match, having to deal with the thuggery tactics and random assaults by the Neanderthal-like opposition. The best moment of the game came when third team prodigy Roddy Harris beat four of the best opposition to curl the ball round the keeper from 25 yards. However, with the first win of the season looking imminent, their ref added another 20 minutes on to allow them to equalise.

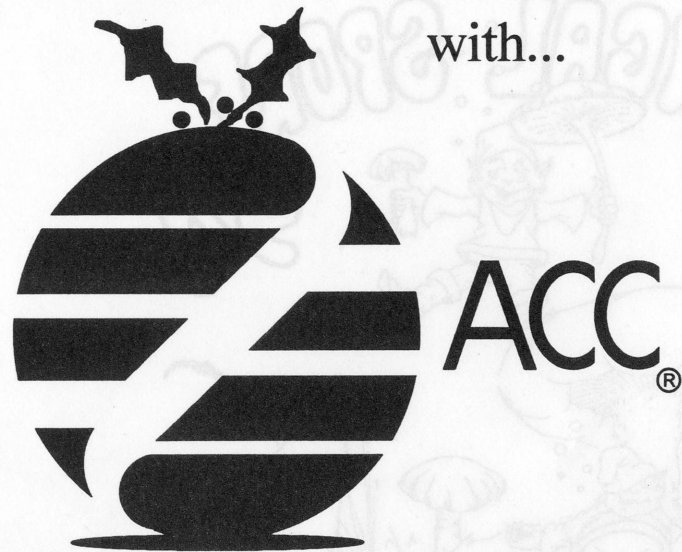
We went home feeling robbed but things are looking up! (?)

**See a man with a sink plunger on his head on page 12!**



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When the Earth is shaken to its (utmost)  
convulsion,

And the Earth throws up

Its burdens (from within),

And man cries (distressed);

'What is the matter with it?'

On that Day will it declare its tidings:

For that thy Lord will

Have given it inspiration.

On that Day will men proceed in companies sorted  
out,

To be shown the Deeds

That they (had done).

Then shall anyone who

Has done an atom's weight of good, see it!

And anyone who

Has done an atom's weight of evil, see it!

(THE GLORIOUS QUR'AN-99:1-8)- THE ISLAMIC SOCIETY

# diary

## 10th - 16th Dec

### Friday 10th

**Fencing Club Meeting.....12.00pm**  
Union Gym. All standards welcome.

**Labour Club Talk .....12.00pm**  
Brown Committee Room, top floor,  
Union Building. Talk by the secretary  
of the NUS on the cutting of student  
grants, student debt, union reforms.

**Friday Prayers.....1.00pm**  
Southside Gym. Organised by  
Islamic Society.

**Rag Meeting.....1.10pm**  
Ents Lounge, Union Building.

**IC Choir Concert.....8.00pm**  
Great Hall, Sherfield Building. £5,  
(students £2.50). Performing  
Haydn's Harmoniemesse, Vivaldi's  
Magnificat and more.

**Happy Hour.....8.00pm**  
Da Vinci's Bar, Union Building.  
20% off all drinks. Bar 'til 1am

**Atmosphere.....8.00pm**  
In Union Lounge including top dub  
reggae sounds, 'Revolutionary Dub  
Warriors' (TBC). 'Til 2am.

**IC Radio:  
S&M, It's Orgasmic.....9.00pm**  
Tune in to 999kHz AM. Don't miss  
the next episode of *St Mary's - the  
Ins and Outs of Doctors and Nurses*

### Saturday 11th

**Welsh Soc.....1.45pm**  
Trip to London Welsh RFC  
playing at Richmond. Meet  
Richmond tube (1.45pm). Cost £3.

### Sunday 12th

**Sunday Service.....10.30am**  
West London Chaplaincy presents  
interdenominational worship and  
teaching. Regular meeting.

**Volleyball Club.....12.30pm**  
Kensington Leisure Centre, Walmer  
Road. Women's and Men's training  
session. Regular meeting.

**FilmSoc Presents:  
'The Fugitive' .....8.00pm**  
ICU Cinema, 2nd floor, Union  
Building. All seats £1.50

**War Games & Roleplaying  
Club .....1.00pm**  
Table Tennis Room, Union  
Building. Regular meeting.

### Monday 13th

**Fencing Club Meeting.....12.00pm**  
Union Gym. All standards welcome.  
**ArtSoc Meeting.....12.30pm**  
Union Dining Hall, Union Building.

**Flamenco Lessons.....5.30pm**  
Union Lounge, Beit Quad. Regular  
meeting. For more info contact  
Pablo on ext 4999. Beginners and  
advanced welcome.

**Dance Club.....5.30pm**  
Union Dining Hall, Union Building.

**Chess Club .....6.00pm**  
Brown Committee Room, Union  
Building.

**ICSF Presents:  
'Tremors' and 'Gremlins'  
Video.....6.00pm**  
Chem Eng LT1. Free to members,  
membership £3.00.

**Happy Hour .....7.00pm**  
20% off all drinks in Da Vinci's  
Bar, Union Building.

### Tuesday 14th

**Yoga Society..12.00pm & 1.00pm**  
Southside Gym. New members  
welcome.

**CathSoc Mass .....12.00pm**  
Sir Leon Bagrit Centre, Level 1,  
Mech Eng. Followed by lunch.

**Ski Club Meeting.....12.30pm**  
Regular Meeting in Southside  
Upper Lounge.

**Sailing Club Meeting .....12.30pm**  
Meeting in Southside Upper  
Lounge. Regular meeting.

**Liberal Democrat  
Society Meeting .....1.00pm**  
Every week in Southside Upper  
Lounge.

**Ents Meeting.....1.00pm**  
Ents/Rag Office above Traditional  
Union Bar. Regular Meeting.

**Bar Quiz .....7.00pm**  
Da Vinci's Bar, Union Building.  
50p per player entry to win crate of  
beer, Pepsi Max, Rugby Tops and  
special Xmas prizes.

**Boardsailing Meeting.....1.00pm**  
IC Sharks meet in Southside Upper  
Lounge. More info from James  
Mayhew, Mech Eng pigeonholes.  
**Dance Club.....6.00pm**

Beginners class in the Junior  
Common Room. Regular Meeting.

**Yacht Club.....12.30pm**  
Meeting in room 101, Civ Eng.

**Girls Basketball.....6.00pm**  
Meet at Southside. Contact Julie on  
ext 3681 or 071-584 0029, rm 25.

**Mission Impossible.....7.00pm**  
Christmas Special! IC Radio's  
weekly round-up of science,  
technology and medicine.

**ICSF Presents:  
'The Exorcist' .....7.00pm**  
Concert Hall (Union Building).  
£1.20 ICSF members, £1.80 non-  
members. Membership £3  
including first film free.

**Mountaineering Meeting.....9.00pm**  
Regular meeting in Southside.

### Wednesday 15th

**Parachute Club.....12.00pm**  
Regular meeting in the Table  
Tennis Room (top floor, Union  
Building).

**Jewish Society .....12.00pm**  
'Michael the Magician' performing  
in the Brown Committee Room, top  
floor, Union Building. Free.  
Everybody welcome.

**Hoverclub .....1.00pm**  
Want to help build a hovercraft?  
Meet at Hoverclub/Boardsailing  
garage near Southside Shop or  
contact Ralph Clague via  
pigeonholes (2nd yr Physics).

**War Games & Roleplaying  
Club .....1.00pm**  
Senior Common Room, Union  
Building. Regular meeting.

**FilmSoc Presents:  
'Falling Down' .....1.15pm  
'The Fugitive' .....3.45pm  
'Cliffhanger' .....6.30pm  
'Sliver' .....8.45pm**  
ICU Cinema, top floor Union  
Building. Admission £1.50, annual  
membership 20p.

**Tenpin Bowling Club.....2.15pm**  
Meet in Aero Eng foyer for a trip  
to Charrington Bowl, Tolworth.  
Transport is provided.

**Circus Skills Society.....3.00pm**  
Union Lounge, Ground Floor,  
Union Building. Regular meeting.  
**Happy Hour.....7.00pm**

Da Vinci's Bar. 20% off all drinks.  
Bar extension till midnight. Free  
entry to Club Libido 9pm-1am.

### Thursday 16th

**STOIC Lunchtime  
News Training .....1.00pm**  
Come up and see us on the top floor  
of the Union Building for further  
details. Free to members. Non-  
members £2.50.

**ICYHA Club .....1.00pm**  
Regular meeting in Southside Upper  
Lounge.

**FilmSoc Presents:  
'The Firm' .....5.00pm  
'True Romance' .....8.30pm**  
ICU Cinema, top floor Union  
Building. Admission £1.50, annual  
membership 20p.

**Girls Basketball .....6.00pm**  
Meet at South Kensington Station  
or Fulham Cross School, Munster  
Road at 7pm. See Tuesday's Diary  
entry.

**Christian Union .....6.00pm**  
Meet for food at 6pm. Meeting  
runs 6.30pm- 8pm, room 308,  
Huxley Building.

**Tenpin Bowling Club.....6.15pm**  
Meet in Hollywood Bowl,  
Tottenham Hale (Victoria line).

**Happy Hour .....7.00pm**  
Da Vinci's, Union Building. 20%  
off all drinks.

**Dance Club.....7.00pm**  
Beginners Class in the Junior  
Common Room, Sherfield  
Building. Regular Meeting.

**STOIC: 'Into the Night'  
Training.....7.00pm**  
Set building, learn to use and  
maintain all the video and audio  
equipment, interviewing and  
talkshow practice. Top floor,  
Union Building. Free to members.  
Non-members £2.50.

### diary entries

Supply the following  
information by  
6.00pm on Friday:

Day, time and title of event,  
room in which the event is to  
be held

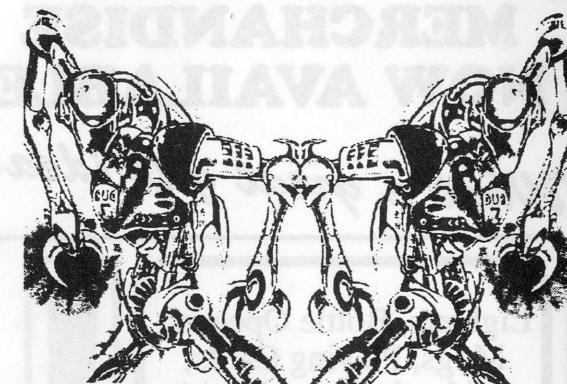
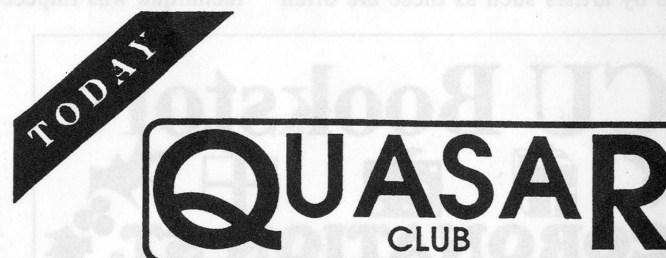
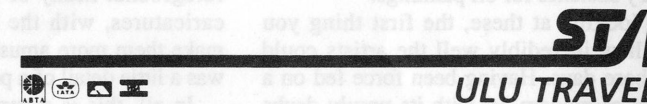
## SEASONS GREETINGS

★  
| God Jul |  
| Boas Festas |  
| Feliz Navidad |  
| Meilleurs Voeux |  
| Frohe Weihnacht |  
| Selamat Tahun Baru |  
| Sawadee Pee Mai |  
| Gelukkig Nieuw Jarr |  
| Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo |  
**KALA XPICTOYENA**

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We offer you **TWO AND A HALF HOURS**  
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**MEETING: 1.00pm Friday 10th Dec.**  
**Brown Committee Room,**  
**Union Building, Level 3.**

Full details are available on 'clubs & activities'  
noticeboards in your department, and at the meeting.



## Exhibition

### Look Closely Now ...

Within the hallowed halls of the Royal Academy, above the seething mass of the American Art show is an exhibition in miniature. It is not a collection of paintings, but the drawings which preceded them. The collection has been lent by the J. Paul Getty museum, which houses a collection of paintings by the grand masters on the sunny island of Malibu. Basking in the afternoon heat, the curator decided to make a collection of drawings, which has grown to be one of the most valuable and interesting collections of such items anywhere. Some 120 of these are being shown at the Royal Academy - quite a privilege since, in the Jean Paul Getty museum, no more than thirty are shown at any one time.

The drawings date back as late as the 1500s and many of them are exceedingly fragile, being little more than sketches on scrap paper. Others, however, are executed with such a mastery of technique that they could be finished works in their own right. Often these are simply preliminary sketches for oil paintings.

When looking at these, the first thing you notice is how incredibly well the artists could draw in those days. Having been force fed on a steady diet of modern art with its unruly daubs and pretensions, it is refreshing to see something that really could be described as fine art. Paintings by artists such as these are often

overlooked because they have been reproduced so many times, but the drawings beg you to look closely and admire the real skill involved.

Amongst many relatively unknown artists are some gems by recognisable names: a tiny picture of a child with a lamb by Da Vinci and a delicate sketch by Rafael stand out in the renaissance section. Rubens' sketch of a Korean man is unusual, not least because of the mystery of how a 16th century Flemish painter could have met a Korean years before there were any links between the two worlds. The star of the show is commonly acknowledged to be a near perfect watercolour of a stag beetle by Durer, but many of the lesser known pictures are far more interesting.

Religious images abound, with a variety of pictures showing God within his billowing clouds, and an element of humour is often present. In one picture, for instance, a collection of peasants bow down before God whilst a couple of children take a piss unnoticed in the foreground. Many of the drawings are almost caricatures, with the features exaggerated to make them more amusing. A personal favourite was a little detail of a peasant couple dancing.

In all, this is a surprisingly interesting and refreshing exhibition, with work by artists greater than any you could find today. Their technique was impeccable, their discipline



*Korean Man by Peter Paul Rubens*

unknown by modern standards - a perfect antidote to the freedom that is destroying modern art. See this exhibition while you can, and you may be pleasantly surprised.

**MA**

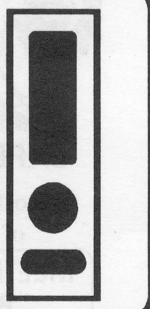
Jean Paul Getty Museum, Royal Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly. Until 23rd Jan, 10am - 6pm daily. £3 students

## ICU Bookstore

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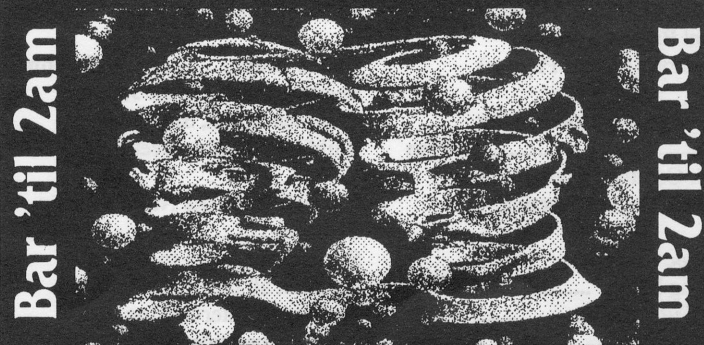
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*atmosphere*



**Comedy Night**

Fri 10th Dec

**Jeff Green, Richard Morton,  
Steve Gribbon**

Tickets £3 advance  
numbers limited so hurry!

Bar 'til 2am

Bar 'til 2am

ROAR

ROAR



## Theatre

### Jamais Vu

(A one-man show by Ken Campbell)

Brilliant. Absolutely brilliant. This is without doubt the best show I have seen in the course of reviewing plays for *Felix*. It won the Evening Standard award for best drama last week (the award statue is actually brought on stage as part of the proceedings) and it's obvious why.

Forget the fact it's in a theatre which is small enough to make the evening feel more like a night out in a comedy club with a single two and a half hour act. It is a measure of Ken Campbell's skill that he can keep the audience laughing for the full time without it becoming boring. What's more, this isn't the usually polite laughter you normally hear in theatres when a particularly witty reference to the tempo of Ibsen's subtext in his seminal, but unpublished work is made - this is people actually enjoying themselves, actually crying with laughter.

The show is about Ken's quest to find out about a tribe in the South Pacific who worship the Duke of Edinburgh and who speak pidgin English. He is sent on this quest by a resident of a mental disorders secure unit who has some

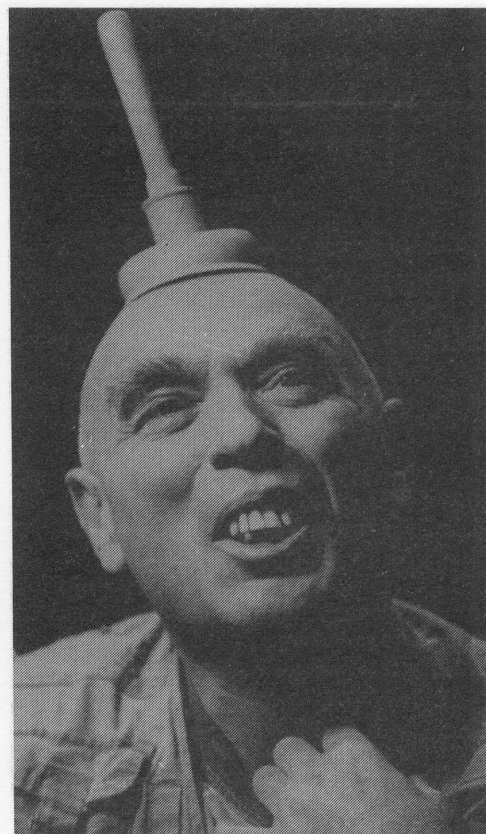
interesting theories on TV detector vans, John Birt and cycle clips. Sink plungers are integral to the plot, so much so that, at one point, Ken has six held on by suction to his 'follically challenged' head (see picture).

The programme at 80p is worth buying if you are interested in pidgin English. It offers such gems as 'Puk-puk he rausim belli belong pik!' (The crocodile is disembowelling the pig!) and 'Hed belong him he stink finish, Daphne' (He has been dead for a long time, Daphne). It would spoil it to tell you any more so go and see it.

(By the way, and I don't normally do this, avoid the Indian restaurant The Grand Indian 2 on Villiers Street like the plague. I had the misfortune to have a post-performance meal there and it was the worst meal I have ever had - everything was either lukewarm or tasted of Fairy liquid. You have been warned!)

MJ

At the Vaudeville Theatre, The Strand, WC2. 071 836 9987. Tube: Charing Cross. Tickets from £5. Ends 24th Dec.



Ken Campbell with just one sink plunger tastefully attached to his head!

## Theatre

### The Clearing

"It's a terrible world to be adrift in." Helen Edmundson's *The Clearing* follows the gradual 'setting adrift' of Irish families and royalists from their homes by the Cromwell government in the 1650s, following the defeat of Charles I.

Our heroine is Maddy (excellently played by Susan Lynch) who is presented as the very essence of Irish beauty - full of caprice, yet sensuous and mystical. She entrances her husband Robert (Adrian Rawlins) who is forever the upright English gentleman (or at least aspires to be).

Initially, the political problems, inherent in this mixed marriage, are no problem at all; the baby can be baptised as a Protestant rather than Catholic because Maddy optimistically believes that 'your God is as good as mine'. However, as she begins to fight the deportation of her friends, Robert ever more insidiously clamours to keep his wife, son and home, or at least his son and his home, or at the very least his home.

The issue then is one of contradicting loyalties. Robert is forever trying to 'keep afloat', just like Thomas More in *A Man For All Seasons*, a play to whose mood and style *The Clearing* owes a lot. Particularly carefully studied are the observations made of the relationships between the characters. For example Solomon, a family friend who fought for the King, explains his differences with

Cromwell thus: "I've fought with men and tried to kill them... but I haven't hated them." Never mind the plastic baby; if the use of Taverner's *The Protecting Veil* as scene-change music - yes, scene-change music - makes you want to scream, if it's not quite as gripping or intense as you want it to be, it's refreshing to see a modern play which doesn't have you grappling with subtext and obscure metaphors. It's a great set, too. See it.

"They're wet creatures the Irish...full of tears and rain". This marriage is described elsewhere as 'an illusory clearing in a nightmare forest', but Robert's effort to avoid sinking by swimming with the flow (irrespective, ultimately, of whoever else drowns) reminds me of the following anecdote: Jimi Hendrix and Joseph Stalin were setting out on their well-known journey across Africa, on a path notorious for lion attacks. Jimi noticed that his companion was sporting a brand new pair of trainers. "Hey Joe," he said, "where you going with those trainers on your feet? Do you think you could outrun a lion?" "No," replied the Russian dictator, "I just have to outrun you."

Mike Servant

Bush Theatre, Shepherd Bush Green, W12. 081 743 3388. Tube: Shepherds Bush. Membership 50p. Concs: £6 concs. Ends 23rd December.

## Theatre

### The Iron Man

In terms of writing rock operas, Pete Townshend has got a pretty good CV: *Tommy* and *Quadrophenia* were two of the best of their kind. Ted Hughes' fairy tale book is also a rarity in that an adult can enjoy it every bit as much as a child. So a combination of the two should be something to savour. However, instead of charming prose and powerful anthems, we get a more muddled, meandering version of a simple story. For some reason, Hughes' original words have been discarded in favour of a general theme of eco-friendly self-belief that tends to the banal and is far from new or refreshing.

The young cast is led by the excellent Anthony Barclay as the boy Hogarth. He befriends the Iron Man and persuades him to save the world from the evil Star-spirit. Barclay's performance shows boundless energy and accomplished singing. The set and production are low-tech but the show-stopper is the Man himself: a 20ft high scrap metal creation that lumbers and clanks across the stage drawn by chains. The many children in the audience seemed happy to wait for his occasional appearances and ignore the drivel in between and hence probably enjoyed it the most.

Jim B

Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1. 071 928 6363. Tube: Waterloo. Tickets from £6.

**The Nutcracker will be reviewed in next week's edition**



## Next Week



### Farewell To My Concubine

## Coming Up

### Mrs Doubtfire

She makes dinner, she does windows, she reads bedtime stories, she's a blessing in disguise, she's one hell of a dad. A comedy starring Robin Williams who has been limited to seeing his children only on Saturdays. When his estranged wife (Sally Field) advertises for a housekeeper, his desperation to be with his family prompts him to disguise himself as an elderly Scottish woman and he gets the job.

### Tokyo Story

An elderly couple living by the sea visit their grown up children in Tokyo, but find they do not fit in. Their children have become selfish and mean, negatively affected by city living. The grandparents are only treated nicely by their widowed daughter-in-law who, despite having to live in poverty, has retained traditional values. The grandparents eventually return home and the grandmother dies, leaving the grandfather to face the future alone.

## Cinema

### The Baby Of Macon

*Director: Peter Greenaway*

*Starring: Julia Ormond, Ralph Fiennes, Philip Stone, Jonathan Lacey*

Peter Greenaway is, without doubt, a difficult film creator. His adeptness at a particular technique for film-making does not make up for the fact that *The Baby of Macon*, his latest offering, is a very hard film to watch.

Greenaway's films aren't 'real'. The fineness, the gilt, the almost stilted acting, are baroque and formal. But it would be incorrect to label Greenaway as purely an art director. *The Baby of Macon* is art which reflects life closely - too closely for comfort.

It's set in the 16th century and narrates the story of the birth of the Baby to an old woman. The Baby is soon adopted by his sister who claims a virgin birth. He is held up as a miracle child and is exploited by the sister and later by the church.

This story is acted out as a 'play with music' within the film. And the film, of course, is a play to us, the audience. These layers are a striking technique, bringing us much closer to the film. But within these layers of the plays threads 'real life'. For instance, the play has a scene involving the goring of the Priest's son and another involving the gang rape of the Baby's sister. These are in a play, but the actors actually do murder and rape. It's disturbing and surreal

watching both scenes: the audience of the play admire the life-like acting, not really realising how real it actually is.

Central to the whole film is the evil of exploitation: the Baby's sister exploits him, the Church exploits the Baby, the Priest's son exploits the sister and, in a bizarre inter-layer exploitation, the Prince (who is watching the play) exploits his royal status and condemns the sister to her horrifying and real rape death.

This exploitation theme is served to us in its complete rawness. Greenaway's obsessions - grotesqueness, humiliation, nudity - are present throughout the film and culminate in the two previously mentioned and much criticised scenes. But what Greenaway serves is the real thing. Hollywood exploits our voyeurism, our shadenfreude, but only Greenaway takes us to the limit.

Greenaway has defended *The Baby of Macon*'s explicitness by saying that this is experimental cinema. But excuses are not needed. *The Baby of Macon* addresses some fundamental problems and, with its real-artificial dimensions - is a powerful, sophisticated and indeed difficult film.

**Samin Ishtiaq**

*The Baby Of Macon is showing at the National Film Theatre, South Bank, SE1. Tel: 071 928 3232 (Info 071 633 0274). Tube: Embankment.*

## London Film Festival

### Little Dreams

This Egyptian film is about the effects of war on civilians. It is set in Nasser's period and is seen through the eyes of a young boy. A close look at human relationships is a strong feature of this film - in particular the relationship between the boy and his widowed mother. The characters are impressive and the scene is well drawn.

The film has an award from the Birmingham

Film Festival to boast of, and to say that it's refreshingly unexploitative and extremely emotive would be little praise for such an excellent film that surely deserves a very wide audience. I was very fortunate to be able to discuss the work with its writer/director after the show.

**Amir Rehman Khan**

### Bodies, Rest and Motion

This rather unusual movie has little interest in story-telling or conventional narrative techniques. It's essentially about the unpredictability and transience of human desire and the film portrays this in the story of four drifters.

Nick (Tim Roth) broke up with Carol (Phoebe Cates) and now goes out with her best friend Beth (Bridget Fonda). He decides that he and Beth should move to Nowheresville, where they might be happier. He leaves a day early, phoning Carol, telling her that he needs to be on his own. When Nick returns two days later,

Beth has already replaced him with painter Zed (Eric Stoltz). All four characters are forced to consider what it is they are really after.

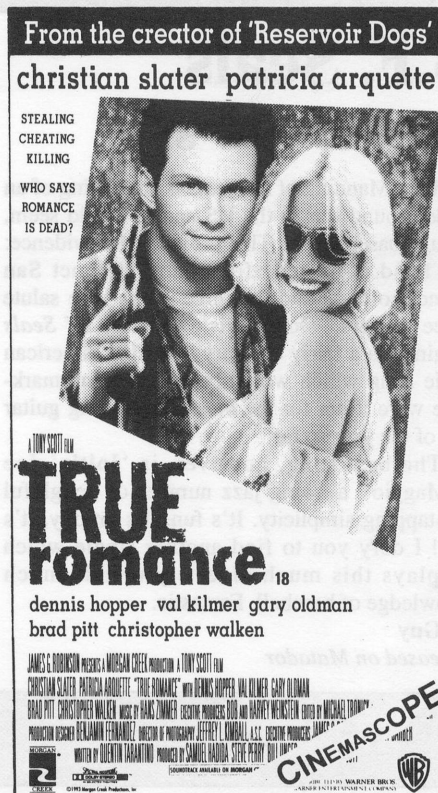
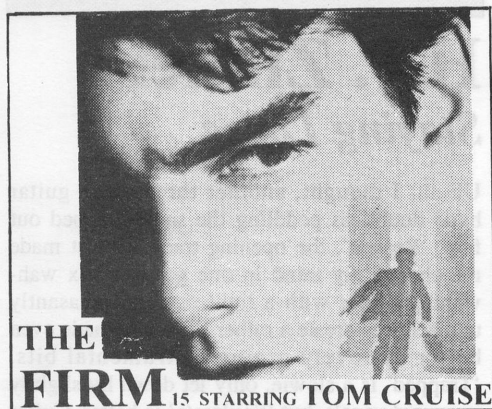
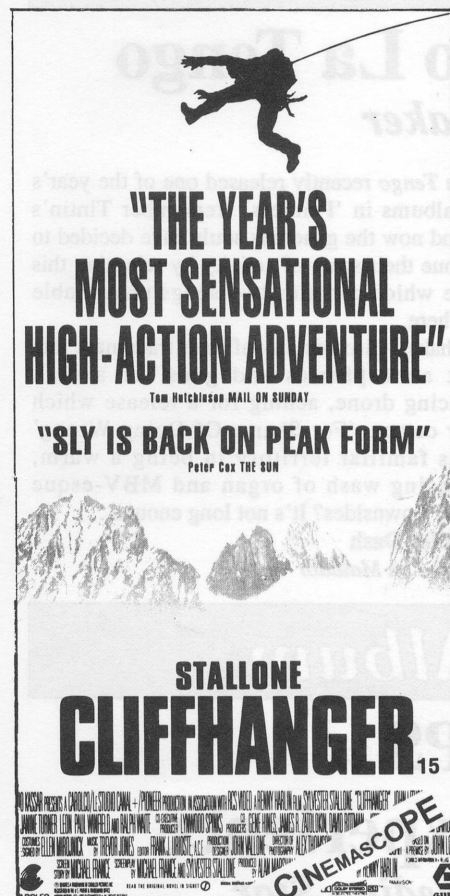
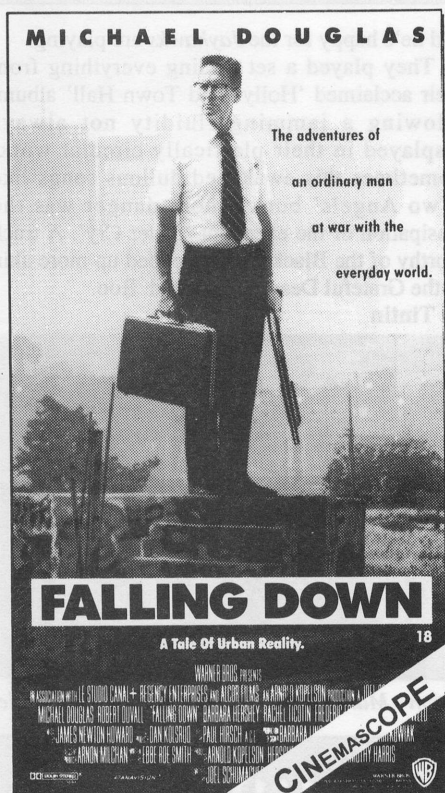
The movie is unpredictable and often quite funny, as wills clash (the title is taken from Newton's first law). Performances are good and although the film is slow, it's never boring. *Bodies, Rest and Motion* is different to the vast majority of both mainstream and 'indie' fare in that the story just doesn't go anywhere, but it's well worth a look if only to enjoy the trip.

jk

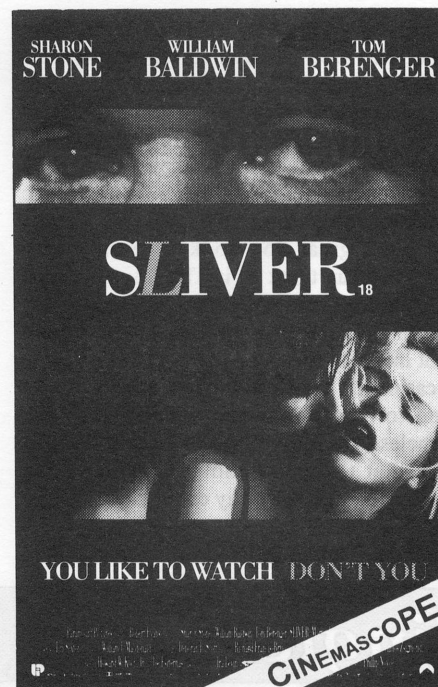


# Christmas Movie Madness

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Monty Python's **LIFE OF BRIAN**



**THE FUGITIVE** Sunday 12th Dec at 8pm and Wednesday 15th Dec at 3.45pm

**FALLING DOWN** Wednesday 15th Dec at 1.15pm (CS)

**CLIFFHANGER** Wednesday 15th Dec at 6.30pm (CS)

**SLIVER** Wednesday 15th Dec at 8.45pm (CS)

**THE FIRM** Thursday 16th Dec at 5.00pm

**TRUE ROMANCE** Thursday 16th Dec at 8.30pm (CS)

**MONTY PYTHON'S LIFE OF BRIAN (CS)**

Friday 17th Dec at 11.00pm (AFTER COMEDY NIGHT)

**CINEMASCOPE** Films marked with this symbol or 'CS' are shown on our legendary 9.8m wide screen.

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IC Union, Prince Consort Rd, S. Kensington  
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bus 9, 9A, 10, 52). Annual m'ship 20p.  
ULU MEMBERS & GUESTS ONLY: BRING ID.  
Doors Open 15mins before performance.



## Single

Yo La Tengo  
Shaker

*Yo La Tengo* recently released one of the year's best albums in 'Painless' (remember Tintin's 10) and now the generous souls have decided to continue their spate of activity by releasing this single which contains two songs unavailable elsewhere.

'Shaker' discards any of their trademark late night atmospherics and goes for a dark menacing drone, aching for a release which never comes. 'For Shame Of Doing Wrong' treads familiar territory in being a warm, embracing wash of organ and MBV-esque vocals. Downsides? It's not long enough...

Ridley Dash

Released on Matador

## Gig

Jayhawks  
Borderline

Labelled simply, the *Jayhawks* are proud purveyors of 'country rock'. Proud and confident on stage, Mark Olson, the lead vocalist, smiles a lot. A big rubbery grin which plays across a face reminiscent of a young Elvish Brando. He smiles because he's happy

and he's happy for the *Jayhawks* are playing.

They played a set trading everything from their acclaimed 'Hollywood Town Hall' album, allowing a jamming fluidity not always displayed in their plastically circular work. Sometimes this awakened dullous songs like 'Two Angels' but of more danger was the dissipation of the excellent 'Sister Cry'. A track worthy of the Black Crowes ended up more akin to the Grateful Dead on bad acid. Boo.

Tintin



The Jayhawks- country rocksters out to subvert the nation - Mark Olson (far left) with rubbery smile

## Album

JPS  
Experience  
Bleeding Star

Well, this is a surprise - a band from New Zealand who aren't Crowded House! What's more, they're actually rather good.

They know how to plunder effectively. 'Ray of Shine' nicks a Johnny Marr guitar line and amazingly comes off all the better for it. The best track here though is 'Spaceman', where they kick up one heck of a fuzz and still manage to pull out a great Pop hook. The only lazy comparison I can think of is The Jesus & Mary Chain jamming with MBV, (*not again, Ed*) but this doesn't go half way towards describing the ambient intensity this band possess.

Occasionally they lose the plot and the tracks do tend to merge into one towards the end. Nevertheless, the subtle mix of light and shade ensures that there are enough highlights to satisfy, making this a worthy debut album. (7)

Vik

Released on Flying Nun Records

## Single

S.F. Seals  
Baseball Trilogy

Barbara Manning of *SF Seals* is something of an underground star in the US and, it would seem, a huge baseball fan. This provides the evidence: the band is named after a now defunct San Francisco team and the three songs here salute three players. 'Dock Ellis', the only *SF Seals* original, is a fairly ordinary sounding American indie song which would be entirely unremarkable were it not for the most exhilarating guitar riff of the year so far.

The best song, however, is 'Joltin' Joe DiMaggio', a swing jazz number of delightful toe-tapping simplicity. It's fun, it's groovy, it's fab! I defy you to find another single which displays this much diversity or this much knowledge of baseball. Fantastic.

Guy

Released on Matador

## Album

H.P. Zinker  
Staying Loose

Uh-ah, I thought, another three-piece guitar band doubtless peddling the same clapped out fare. 'Reason', the opening track, almost made me change my mind in one go. Hendrix wah-wahing mixes with a light rhythm, pleasantly unmacho, to create a rather fine song made even better by lovely urging instrumental bits. 'Trapped' is a slowie, only let down by slightly wayward vocals, but 'Soulmate' is better. Guitar rates chime out, interweave and die away leaving faint etchings on your heart. (Pretentious, moi?)

Roughly half of this album is very good indeed, the rest is at least passable, which will teach me to be prejudiced against three piece guitar bands. (7)

Ridley Dash

Released on Roughneck

## Single

Nirvana  
All Apologies/Rape Me

Hearing 'All Apologies' taken from the recent 'In Utero' album is like reading Revelation without the books before. It *can* stand alone - after all, it juicily wetted our appetites when served up at their shambolic set at Reading '92.

Ending 'In Utero', however, it's the last hoarse rasp of a man who's screamed about being rich, old and married and then shrugs and says 'Well, I love you so will you take me back?' Still he cannot acquiesce completely, spurning his new found comfort with the line that epitomises the new *Nirvana*, 'Married/Buried'. A classic track.

'Rape Me' is the song the band originally wanted released on its own single (rather than in this double A format). The new album's 'Polly',

it welds an EmptyTV-friendly hook with a sinister lyric about rape fantasy and the essence of coupledom. Let's hope the rednecks comprehend.

The final track on the EP is 'MV', a curious little number that would no doubt be less noticeable if Kurt was singing of 'Mushy Vegetables' rather than 'Moist Vaginas'...

Owain

Released on Geffen

First the album and then the single, **YLT** caught live next week!



# The Three Wise Men Speak Volumes

## Andy Wensley - President

**Student Union Reforms:** The Bill covering this has now gone to the House of Lords. However, it is the Commons who are not going to be on our side. Work by the Unions on influencing MPs and Peers has started but has been hampered by a lack of promised back-up from other organisations, notably the University of London Union (ULU). This should be sorted out and if everything else has gone okay by today, our letter writing campaign should have started and will be telling MPs and other notables about student unions, clubs and societies, sports and all the other activities we think are worthwhile. Information should be coming to you through the clubs and societies, in your departments and in your halls.

**University of London Union:** Leading on from some of the problems I've experienced with ULU, I shall be working with ULU officers in improving their services and representation to Imperial College students and our unions.

**Interviewing:** As the sabbatical in charge of staffing issues, the appointment of a new bar manager has taken up a fair amount of my time. I am happy to announce that a suitable candidate has been found and we are waiting to hear if the

candidate will accept our offer of employment.

**Grants:** In the Budget on 30th November, it was announced that student grants would be cut by 10%, effectively taking a full grant with London weighting from £2,845 to £2,560. Obviously I am lobbying on behalf of Imperial College students against this cut. How successful this will be, we must wait and see.

**Everything else:** Lots of little things that fill up my days and nights, problems that students, clubs and societies and student officers. Some people in College wish to limit the number of times that we can book certain rooms, namely the MDH and SCR in Sherfield and the Ante Room. Currently I am working for an acceptable result.

IC Radio are having problems with their Northside Studio. That should have been sorted out satisfactorily by now. Other than that, onward, onward into the breach my friends.

If you want to know anything about the contents of this report, how I spend my time or basically anything to do with the Union and College, give me a call on ext 3501 or pop into see me in the Union Office.

## Charles Leary - Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)

1. I have established a safety protocol in conjunction with the Health and Safety Department. This will ensure that clubs will be aware of safety procedures when indulging in their various activities. Briefings will be taking place over December and January.
2. I have investigated the possibility of using the Natural History Museum's sports facilities for our societies. Also there is a possibility of a joint project between Imperial College and the Natural History Museum to build a sports hall in South Kensington.
3. I have visited Silwood Park and liaised with the student executive there.
4. In conjunction with Carolyn Osner (Sports and Leisure Manager) I have put out a sports questionnaire. The College will be forming a sports strategy during the next year and it is crucial that student needs form a base for this strategy. If you have not filled out this questionnaire then please do so. Spare copies are available from the Union Office and the Sports Centre.
5. I have been involved in the negotiations concerning the modernisation of the rifle range. I have been representing student views to ensure that students come first in any decision that is made concerning this matter.
6. I attended the joint Universities Athletic Union and British Universities Sports Federation conference in Edinburgh. The two organisations will merge to form the British Universities Sports Association.
7. I am currently organising the knockout rounds for the sports teams that have gone through the first round of the national championships.

## Dave Goddard - Deputy President (Finance & Services)

The largest part of my time recently has been taken up with buying a new minibus for the Union (to replace the one written off over the summer). Thanks to the Harlington Trust and the insurance company, we have enough money to buy one - we're just looking for the best deal now (and what colour we want, of course). Hans Rutlin, Transport Officer, and I have also recently met with the Pro-Rector and the Safety Director to discuss minibus safety - i.e. they want us to buy safe minibuses and drive them

safely (please take note - no driving them into London Buses!).

On the accommodation front, we are currently concerned about the level of common room and kitchen provision in the Evelyn Gardens halls (particularly Willis Jackson). If you happen to live there and have any views on this, go and see your housing representative, the Housing Officer, or me. The more feedback we get from residents, the better our position when we discuss these things.

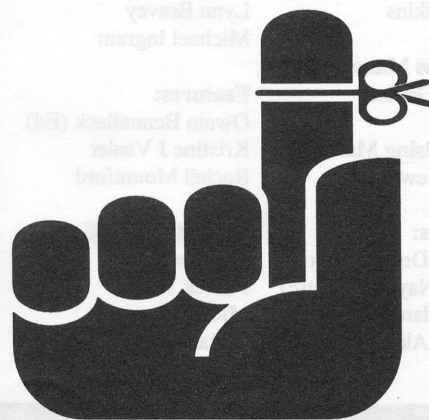
# HAVE YOUR SAY!

## IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

# UGM

## union general meeting

# TODAY, 1PM. UNION ENTS LOUNGE





# Editorial

## Paper

The student newspapers within Imperial College seem to be coming under attack at the moment. As well as the petition going round complaining about Felix, Pit is being criticised for not having enough naked women for the RSM's liking and Broadsheet is slagging off Guildsheet.

With the editors of each publication changing every year, the style and content is bound to change. But people will insist on comparing everything to years gone by. Things do change and people have to accept that. If the Pit editors don't want the pages of Pit adorned with scantily clad females this year, that's their decision. The same goes for the other editors. If they want to do things differently, that's up to them, they are the editors. That's what 'editor' means - the person in overall charge of the newspaper.

If people are unhappy about the content, then should do something about it. They should air their grievances, not to their mates, but to the people concerned. It's no good complaining if the people able to change things don't know what to change. I mentioned earlier about the petition that is currently circulating regarding the quality of *Felix* this year. None of the people who I understand to be involved have come to see me. If they, or anyone else has comments or complaints, please come and tell me. It isn't difficult to find me - I tend to spend a large proportion of my time in the Felix Office (next to the Union Lounge in the Union Building). I am perfectly willing to talk to anyone about *Felix*. If you don't feel able to come in and talk to me, then you can always write me a letter. It won't get ignored and I will take on board any suggestions you may have.

To be perfectly honest, I'm not totally happy with the way that *Felix* has been this term, but there are a number of reasons for it. Owain mentions some of them briefly in his reply to one of the letters on the opposite page. I feel that it is important for clubs and societies to be able to publicise themselves to the student population

and as a result, a large part of each issue is devoted to them. A common complaint is that there are too many reviews. If you actually look, there is, on average, one page per review type (such as cinema, books, theatre) and I think that it is a useful section.

I am trying to produce a *Felix* in which there is something for everybody. I don't expect everyone to like all of it, because that just isn't realistic. I am aware that there has been a lack of variety this term and a few people have already given me suggestions for changes that could be made. Next term will see a lot more features and quite probably some sort of opinion column. I need people to not only write the articles, but also people to suggest the ideas. So, if you have any, please let us know.

## Don't Forget

Anyway, rant over with and on to other things. It appears that there is a UGM today. In case you haven't seen the posters or you missed the captions on the front cover, it's in the Ents Lounge on the ground floor of the Union Building at 1pm. There don't appear to be any interesting motions for this one; in fact there don't appear to be any motions at all. But go along anyway. It'll give you a chance to ask the Sabbaticals (and any of the other Union officers) what they've been up to this term and what they've done for *you*. They are there to represent *you* and put forward *your* views to people both inside and outside the College. There are reports elsewhere in this issue from the Union Office Sabbaticals which tell you a bit about what they've done, but go along and quiz them about them - how much do you really know about their activities?

## Plug

The production of the *Felix* Christmas Special is now under way. It will be a larger than normal issue and it will hit the departments on the last day of term.

## SMALL ADS

**Christmas Carol Party** - video, AV, mince pies, mulled wine, plus surprise guest. Tuesday 7pm, Holy Trinity Church, Prince Consort Road (next to Student's Union, Beit).

**Paid for your flat over Christmas** and now you're going home? Ring me! I need a flat for two weeks. Toby, ex-Felix hack, 0332 264327 (day).

**Get your broken racket strings restrung** this Christmas and ready for the new year. Contact Jinyee on ext 4336 or drop by room 227, Chem Eng.

**Female Wanted** - to share penthouse flat, Southside, Prince's Gardens. £70 per week, all bills included. Single room, large kitchen, spacious flat, literally across the road from College. Contact accommodation office.

**Bass for sale** - Encore EB3 electric bass guitar (Fender precision copy), ideal beginner's instrument, £75 inc case and strap. Contact Tom Hawkins (Biochemistry) on ext 7032 or 071-266 1560.

## CAREERS INFORMATION

There are no Careers Talks or Short Courses this coming week.

**Milkround Closing Date One** is on Friday 17th December. Hand in your applications on the day before 4pm. Details of interviews are put up on the notice board outside the Careers Office a few days before the interview date.

**Summer Vacation Training Opportunities** are now available in the Careers Office. Apply to UROP for research opportunities.

**For further information** come to the Careers Office, Room 310 Sherfield. Open from 10am to 5.15pm Monday to Friday. A Duty Careers Adviser is available for quick queries from 1pm to 2pm daily.

## Credits

### Printer:

Andy Thompson

### Typesetter:

Rose Atkins

### Business Manager:

Simon Govier

### Advertising Manager:

Steve Newhouse

### Reviews:

Juliette Decock (Books)  
Rekha Nayak (Theatre)  
Jon Jordan (Music)  
Marcus Alexander (Arts)

### News:

Andrew Tseng (Ed)  
Shaun Joynson  
Joe McFadden  
Lynn Bravey  
Michael Ingram

### Features:

Owain Bennallack (Ed)  
Kristine J Vaaler  
Rachel Mountford

### Layout & Proofing:

Kin Wei Lee  
Patrick Wood  
Michael Ingram  
Mylan Lester

### Puzzles:

Catfish  
Sphinx

### Photography:

Ivan Chan  
The Hub Office

### Xmas Decorations:

Simon Shaw  
Penguin  
Owain Bennallack  
Joe McFadden  
Michael Ingram  
Melissa Parcell  
Ivan Chan  
Jon Jordan

### Last, but not least:

Penguin  
Charlie Leary

### Collators last week:

Ivan Chan  
Owain Bennallack  
Jon Jordan  
Simon Shaw  
Joe McFadden  
Penguin  
Michael Ingram



**The Christmas Issue of *Felix* will be out on the last day of term**



# Grumble, Grumble, Grumble . . .

Dear Felix,

I read with a certain ironic sense of amusement the letter from PIT in last week's magazine, wherein they blame the poor state of affairs of *Felix* on the lack of writers.

At the beginning of this term, I offered my time, energy and enthusiasm as a writer for *Felix*. And not just as a writer, but as somebody who had a desire to add a whole new dimension to the magazine - I did not do this for myself, but because I wanted to enhance the lives of the students in College by bringing them subjects they had no prior interest in.

Within a week, I had written two articles, within five weeks, I had written two more - I had also devoted a lot of time to organising the filing of information, telephoning art galleries, arranging for invitations to press viewings, etc.

And yet did these articles get printed? No, the week after? No! The week after that? NO!! Every week it was the same. "Sorry, but we haven't got enough space", "Sorry, we've got a very limited number of pages". Well, there may not have been 'enough space', but there always seemed to be room enough to print two to three pages of music reviews (I've got nothing against music, but this isn't the NME. Surely other subjects should be allowed some space as well). there was always enough space to print reviews of children's books (the joke may be amusing once, but more than once? A bizarre way to fill up pages in a college magazine.)

Interminably tedious there was always enough space, even, to print full page reviews of classical music. Now don't get me wrong here - I listen to far more classical music than popular music - but, in a college magazine such as *Felix*, surely things should be printed with the readership in mind. These reviews could only be understood by somebody who not only has a deep knowledge of the piece of music in question, but also knowledge of all the previous recordings done of it. How many people like that could be found at IC?

Whenever I wrote something, foremost in my mind was always the fact that the readership, in general had no prior knowledge or interest in the subject. I worked hard to make them interesting, amusing and lively so that anybody could appreciate them and gain something from them. If I did not meet those objectives I felt that I was failing in my job.

And yet, nothing was printed. Eventually, eight weeks into term and six weeks after I had submitted my first article, something was printed (even then, somehow, it was the wrong one - a draft version rather than the one I submitted for publication, but that's another story...). By which time, I just didn't care. OK, so one article

was printed, but would any others appear? "We're still very short of space..."

I have reached the point now, where I have a choice. I could just give up entirely, and accept that I have wasted a large amount of my time (at a brief count, at least thirty hours), expense and energy for nothing. Or I could carry on, struggling against a failing system to produce reviews and articles which only appear when they are already out of date...Should I bother?

Yours,

Marcus Alexander, Mech Eng.

P.S. Will this letter get printed? Or will it just be filed away along with my other efforts?

## Owain Bennallack, Features Editor, replies on behalf of Felix:

*Should you bother Marcus? Should anyone bother? You say you've spent at least thirty hours directed towards Felix, fine, I've spent at least two hours here every day since the term began and I'm certainly not unique. Have you ever collated? I can't recall seeing you swanning about, deftly enlightening us philistines as we folded paper during any of the Thursday nights I was here all night, eight hours, until six am in the morning.*

*Yes, we all have our own agenda. I myself would certainly produce a different newspaper if I was editor. But understand that Felix isn't what anyone would like to see in it - it's the best attempt we can manage at what EVERYONE would like to see in it. I've edited clubs and societies articles that neither I nor Felix received any thanks for running (people assume it's our job - is it the function of the boat club to take me for a spin down the Thames some fine weekend?). Did anyone like or even read those articles?*

*Following on from this, there are a certain number of pages to be filled and*

*certain criteria to be followed when deciding how best to fill them. Did you know that nearly all advertising comes in the first term and has accounted for around four pages in every issue? Felix, unfortunately perhaps, requires this additional income. Did you realise that clubs and societies clearly do most of their recruiting during this term and that may account for another five pages an issue? So there go ten pages, then you have the cover, then the letters and editorial, and then the news pages...*

*If you had asked, we could have explained that next term things will change as these constraints diminish. But no, you wrote your letter in your ivory garret, splendidly isolated and uninformed.*

*Yeah, I know about your article because I admired it and spent more than three hours proofing and editing it. Was it read? You admit yourself that you are bringing IC students 'subjects they had no prior interest in'. Personally, I disagree. But I have no problems with you holding your own opinions on Felix. How about having a conversation with us next time?*

# Matt and the Musical Mishaps

Dear Editor,

Due to musical differences, unfortunately 'The Revolutionary Dub Warriors' who were scheduled to play at IC Union tonight, Friday 10th December, will now no longer be doing so. But do not fear, this means admission tonight is back to £1 making that Christmas squeeze much easier. The night runs from 8pm until 2am with a bar extension till 1am, get there early for the happy hour 8pm to 9pm.

As I am the Chairman of the Ents committee, I really need people who use the Union facilities on our nights (or those who don't 'cos they think we should be doing different stuff) to come along to our meetings on a Tuesday lunchtime, 1pm in the Ents/Rag Office, and air their considered opinions. I do not personally choose the events we put on, I carry through ideas brought up by the Ents Committee and the kids, thus the

more input we can get from you the better chance we have of providing a representative programme of events for the Union population. I would also ask the Overseas Society Chairs or Ents people to approach me with any suggestions of ways of running events which appeal to their members.

Lastly, don't forget the Christmas End of Term Shindig with a special comedy night featuring Richard Morton compering (he won Time Out's Comedy Award a couple of years ago), Jeff Green and Steve Gribbon, tickets for the comedy are £3 in advance but limited. Get 'em from the Union Office. You can come along for the disco for just £1 and then there's a late night screening of 'Life of Brian' but you'll have to pay more. Any queries just call and ask at the Union Office (and smile), should be a ball darling!

Matt Park, Ents Chair.

## Answers to last week's Elimination

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. Boiling Point (32, 24)    | j. Skeleton Key (39, 1)     |
| b. Jack, Student (10, 35)    | k. Bear Witness (5, 37)     |
| c. Red Card (3, 7)           | l. Cheap, Peach (16, 23)    |
| d. Cancer, Libra (22, 27)    | m. Fall-Out (12, 2)         |
| e. Cross Country (18, 33)    | n. Bean, Front (4, 20)      |
| f. World, Whirled (25, 36)   | o. Safety Belt (29, 6)      |
| g. Calendar Year (38, 14)    | p. Fool, Showers (9, 34)    |
| h. Spot Check (13, 17)       | q. Draw Lots (8, 11)        |
| i. Early, Premature (19, 41) | r. Breast Stroke (26, 31)   |
|                              | s. Level, Surgical (21, 40) |
|                              | t. Chain Stores (15, 30)    |

The word left over was **Random**

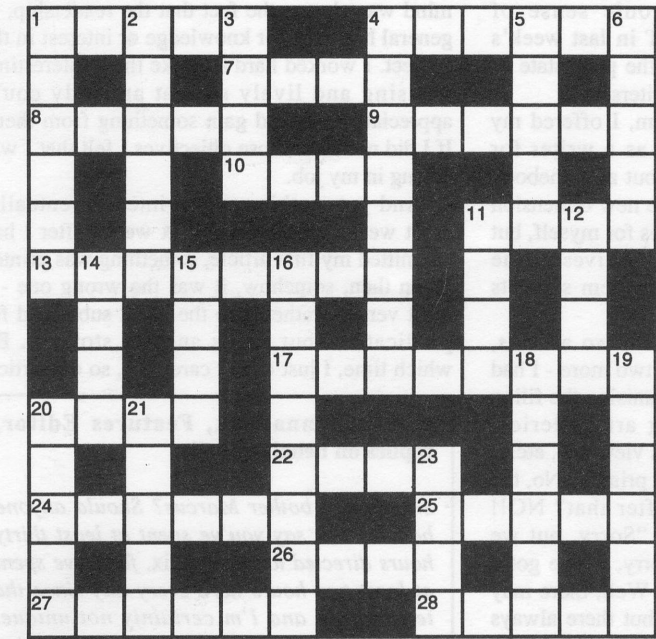
**The letters deadline for the Christmas Special is 6pm, Monday**



# Crossword by Catfish

- Across
- 1 The sense to breath gently over some tea (5)
  - 4 Short Beatrice pulls trick for light (6)
  - 7 I was in, before it happened, Southern Ireland (4)
  - 8 Rub out historic ages to the east (5)
  - 9 Informal hello of volume rising above a slight setback (6)
  - 10 Going it alone, very deep!
  - 11 Berries hung below the waist?
  - 13 To dress a mixed-up collection of oddments (8)
  - 17 Capital man in Britain (8)
  - 20 Growth, of one's family history (4)
  - 22 Harvest a rotten pear (4)
  - 24 Gain mixed with gold for reptile (6)
  - 25 At a twitch, a loft appears! (5)
  - 26 An overture for Will - I say! (4)
  - 27 Rabbit family living in Los Angeles evergreen (6)
  - 28 Part of the EC in a Greek flan! (5)

- Down
- 1 A nap sounds like Lewis' initials, ta! (6)
  - 2 Charts a flawed G-sharp (6)
  - 3 Sounds like poking fun - at golfers ? (4)
  - 4 Look and see, a letter in debt (8)
  - 5 IC cat, confused by prickles (5)
  - 6 Unpleasant panes in the neck? (5)
  - 11 The main character of her circle (4)
  - 12 Faded friend to the east (4)
  - 14 Confused, Rosa? Fly high! (4)
  - 15 Therefore, back to a fierce giant (4)
  - 16 Put up with one who tore tale mistakenly (8)



- 18 Irritate stringingly? (6)
- 19 'E cures haphazardly - but saves life (6)
- 20 To sing of some time on a waterway (5)
- 21 To supply one with an eastern joke (5)
- 23 Mouthpart of a little person on a French mountain (4)

## SCRIBBLE PAD

Tue 14th Dec

Tue 14th Dec

PaVinci's

Café-bar

BAR

QUIZ

with quizmaster Steve

Starts at 8:30pm

Teams of 4-6, 50p per person, Pencil & Pad provided

Win T-shirts for special questions

Win a Crate of Beer

or

Rugby Tops or Spot Prizes or Special Christmas Prizes

HAPPY HOUR 7-8PM

20% off all drinks

PaVinci's

Café-bar

Now you can watch Cartoons ALL DAY, while you have a drink and a meal!

Don't forget ....

Webster's Bitter £1.10 pint until Christmas!