



# Felix

Issue 995

25th March 1994



If you find the Oscars a bit puzzling...  
If you want a tough egg to crack...  
Then this is the Felix for you.

## SERC Funding

BY MIKE INGRAM

Many postgraduate students will be worse off financially because of a decision by the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC).

The Council, which funds many postgraduate students, has altered its student funding regulations. The new rules make it impossible for new postgraduates to claim daily travel expenses. Also, current postgraduates will also face drastic cuts in the amount they are allowed to claim as part of their funding. Some students have been told of reductions of several hundred pounds in the amount they will get.

SERC neglected to inform students about the changes, leading to financial problems for students who had budgeted for themselves on the basis of being able to claim more. Many student organisations, including Imperial College Union, have voiced concern about the way the changes have been brought in. Information is being coordinated by union advisers across the country and an organised protest from some source seems likely.

Minever Kavlak, the Union Adviser, described the cuts as "a national issue which affects every college and many postgraduates".

Staff at SERC have revealed that they have been given a standard paragraph to read out in answer to all enquiries about the decision. The organisation has stated that the continuation of meeting travel expenses is a "positive gesture" on their part. A SERC spokesperson agreed that students have been misled. She attributed it to staff previously being wrongly told that students who started before October 1993 would be dealt with under the old rules.

## Smoke Without Fire



*A member of the Fire Brigade adjusts his breathing apparatus.*

BY LYNN BRAVEY  
AND MIKE INGRAM

Imperial College has played host to a full-scale fire simulation in co-operation with the London Fire Brigade.

The exercise, which took place on Monday, involved the evacuation of over four hundred students and staff from the Royal School of Mines (RSM). It was a joint initiative between the College and the Kensington, Chelsea and Fulham Fire Brigades. The simulation was intended both to allow the building evacuation to be practiced and to give the Fire Brigade an opportunity to train in a realistic environment.

As part of the simulation, mock casualties were placed in lifts and top floor rooms and a smoke machine was placed at the bottom

of one staircase in the Bessemer building. The lighting was also shut down to increase the realism of the test. Additional College security guards were on standby to deal with any problems during the evacuation.

Fire-fighters from the three Brigades donned breathing apparatus and communication equipment before entering the building to rescue the 'casualties'. The Brigade said it was "useful to have an exercise that enabled fire-stations to work together", something they are rarely able to practice but are expected to do in most large scale fires.

The simulation was also described as a good exercise in communications with the Fire Brigade's Control Unit (situated by the Post Office on Exhibition Road) as it was 'on call' throughout the

exercise.

Barry Holt, a Departmental Safety Officer from the RSM and original organiser of the event, said the exercise was "realistic for us... and them". He also described how useful the exercise was in giving "the Fire Brigade a good idea of the layout of the building".

The Fire Brigade were reported to have had slight difficulty with the sheer amount of hose required to be transported to the source of the 'fire'. The simulation also encountered a problem in that smoke in the stairwells seemed to clear faster than the organisers would have liked.

It is hoped that another fire simulation will be staged in the future, though it would be likely to take place during a vacation to minimise disruption to the College.

## Software Challenge Competition

BY LYNN BRAVEY

Prizes to the value of £20,000 are being offered in a competition for young computer software designers.

*Business Software Challenge '90s* is aimed at students in higher edu-

cation, as well as recent graduates, working individually or in teams. It challenges them to submit original software designs - usually developed as coursework - to address defined business problems.

Winning designs from the last

three years have ranged from a small hotel management system to a sea-bed profiler. The competition, organised by the software company Computer Associates Plc, has helped designers to develop their entries into commercial products.

The closing date for receipt of entries is 2nd September 1994. Further details are available from Margaret Cunningham, Senior Tutor in the Department of Computing, ext 5053.

**Copies of *Cracking Cryptic Crosswords* are available from Felix**

## Equestrian Elections

Following the close of this year's sabbatical elections, there is controversy surrounding the way in which they were run.

It seems certain that the secrecy of the ballot has been broken with the identity of a voter being connected to one of their ballot papers. The current voting process is designed to make this impossible.

The ballot paper in question was used at the close of voting after one voting station had run out of papers for one of the posts. The Returning Officer, Andy Wensley, printed more and verified the only one used by signing it in ink. All other papers had a photocopied signature.

According to the people counting the votes in that particular ballot box, the paper was queried due to the difference in the signature. One person said that Mr Wensley then "definitely" identified the voter as he certified that the paper was valid. This has been backed up by other people who were at the count.

In an interview with *Felix*, Mr Wensley first denied the event, saying the paper could not have been identified: "It was a secret ballot. Full stop." He later admitted that he could have identified the paper, saying: "I don't think it was [identified]." He added: "I must admit, it wasn't a high point of the evening - being asked 'is this a spoilt paper?'."

One person present at the count has alleged that he then revealed the way in which the votes were cast on the ballot paper.

Many people have questioned whether President should be the Returning Officer. Mr Wensley agreed that either a member of Union staff or one of the Deputy Presidents may be in a better position to do the job.

Students have expressed concern at the lack of publicity for New Election. At the South Kensington Hustings, New Election was only mentioned by Mr Wensley at the end, after having to be reminded.

Posters advertising the Hustings were not put up until the day they were due to take place. In his defence, Mr Wensley said the posters were only "to remind people". He also said that New Election was publicised on a flyer distributed around College.

Preliminary results from a survey carried out by *Felix* show that only 5.6% of students interviewed said they had read the flyer. This may be attributable to it not being sent to every eligible student as was originally promised by Andy Wensley. This was in spite of address labels having been obtained and people having offered to stick them to the flyers well in advance of them being sent out.

The survey also asked students about what prompted them into voting. None of those interviewed rated the flyer as their primary influence, while over 15% cited candidates' posters. This may indicate that the major force behind this year's record turnout was campaigning by the candidates. The survey ended by asking students their opinion of the President and how he is doing his job. Almost half of those interviewed were indifferent. An equal percentage (6%) of students described him as "good" as called him a "a horse's arse".

Perhaps ironically, Mr Wensley said this year's election committee intend to produce a document advising on election matters for future reference.

## Science Week



William Waldegrave visits Imperial College earlier this week

BY JOE MCFADDEN

William Waldegrave, Science Minister, visited Imperial College this Tuesday to meet schoolgirls taking part in GETSET. The two day event, part of National Science Week, aimed to encourage more women into science and engineering.

The GETSET projects were based on the film 'Jurassic Park', and over 300 girls, aged 13 and 14, spent two days working in teams on projects ranging from dinosaur rescue missions to taking a dinosaur's 'pulse'.

The challenges were designed by CREST (Creativity in Science and Technology) with the aid of children's TV presenter Johnny Ball. Female mentors from industry and academia were on hand to provide the girls with help and guidance in solving the problems.

Mr Waldegrave, when awarding prizes to the most innovative teams, said: "So many people only think of text-book bashing when they think of science, but the young people here today have shown an altogether

different side to science: the exciting, innovative side which is what science is like in the real world."

During his visit, Mr Waldegrave also saw some of the research carried out at the College, such as work using neurotoxins to treat movement disorders by Professor Oliver Dolly of the Biochemistry Department. While there, he spoke to some schoolgirls who were testing 'dinosaur' blood as part of GETSET. Simple biochemistry experiments let the girls learn about lab work and diagnostic tests. One girl said she'd really enjoyed the experiments, and "hadn't realised science could be so much fun".

In an interview with *Felix*, Mr Waldegrave stressed the importance of events like GETSET in encouraging interest in science amongst women. He said: "We are wasting nearly half our population." He went to say that the drive to get more women in science and engineering should not be a "one off thing" but "has got to be long term and it has got to be continuous".

## Breathing Molecules

Last Thursday's Schrödinger Lecture by Nobel Laureate Max Perutz revealed the workings of haemoglobin, the 'breathing' molecule.

Speaking to a packed Great Hall, Dr Perutz explained how haemoglobin transports oxygen around the body with an animated film of it 'breathing' (changing its shape to pick up and release oxygen).

"Haemoglobin is a moving mechanism," he explained, "a mole-

cular machine."

The Lecture, entitled 'Living Molecules' was an overview of research into the structure of DNA, as well as Dr Perutz's own work on haemoglobin. He illustrated his talk with molecular models and even demonstrated the extraction of DNA using a kitchen blender!

Dr Perutz, who is still an active researcher at 80, received the prize for his work deciphering the structure of haemoglobin. He finished by

discussing the implications of genetic engineering, including the current trails of synthetic haemoglobin, designed to reduce the risk of AIDS. "If it works it will do away with the risk of infection that blood transfusion now carries," said Dr Perutz.

The Schrödinger Lectures are held annually at Imperial College, and previous lecturers have included Stephen Hawking and Benoit Mandelbrot.

## Dismissed?

In issue 991 of *Felix* we stated that Carolyne Osner was the Sports Centre Manager at the time of its refurbishment. We would like to acknowledge that Pamela Thomas was the Manager at the time and Carolyne Osner was the College Sports and Leisure Manager.

Currently, Pamela Thomas is taking legal action against the College for her alleged unfair dismissal in September 1993.

The last UGM of term is today at 1pm in the Ents Lounge

# The Many Moods of Mahler's Fifth



Paul Gowling (second from right), ICSO's principal horn

The evening of 11th March saw the second concert this academic year by the Imperial College Symphony Orchestra (ICSO). The orchestra, conducted by the College's Musician in Residence, Richard Dickins, represents some of the best instrumental talent that Imperial has to offer. Their programme consisted of Mahler's Fifth Symphony, a large and demanding work – there were nearly ninety performers on stage.

As to the music, ICSO played with style and vigour. The symphony consists of many mood swings, from mourning through wild despair to jubilation, all carefully controlled and executed by Richard and the players. Occasionally the brass had a tendency to overplay during the joyful chorale sections, bringing an unwanted harsh edge to the sound; though this was mainly due to the poor musical acoustic of the Great Hall. The fourth movement Adagietto, for strings only, was played beautifully with well sustained melodic lines, while the last movement stormed to a close with great panache.

The principal trumpet is heard many times during the piece, including at the start, and Stephen Hicks must be congratulated for his playing. Amongst others, Paul Gowling should be mentioned for some good obbligato horn playing in the third movement, and Ann Turner for the angelic touches of harp in the Adagietto.

This was also a special concert for ICSO, as it marked two events. Firstly it was Richard's fifteenth year with the orchestra, for which he received various presents, including a score of Mahler's Fifth. Also, it marks the first concert for the new leader, Edward Bale. ICSO's former leader, Heather McCann, was thanked for all her work over the previous years with the orchestra.

The evening was a great success. The drama of Mahler's score was well portrayed, with only a few imperfect moments. I look forward to their next concert.

Frank Taylor

## Well-Drilled Choir in Verdi's *Requiem*

The Great Hall was filled to overflowing last Friday evening, with over 600 people in the audience for the College Choir's performance of Verdi's *Requiem* mass. Eric Brown, the Choir's everlasting conductor (he was the Choir's first accompanist and has conducted their every performance since the '50s) remains a choir trainer of the very highest order. Every member of the Choir seemed confident of what he or she was doing, and each part was clearly audible in the complex sections where the Choir splits into eight very separate parts.

Another hallmark of their meticulous drilling is the ability to stand up or sit down together silently; many more famous choirs would do well to take note! Unfortunately 108 student voices simply didn't have the power to cut through heavy brass (it is brave to do this work

with anything less than 150 mature voices), and it was amusing at times to see them clearly singing at the tops of their voices to little audible effect!

The accompaniment is often the weak link in IC Choir's performances, because the orchestra is made up of individuals who, although in the main very good players, are not used to playing as an orchestra; add to this a conductor who is not always entirely clear (at one point he decided to conduct three consecutive bars at three completely different speeds for no reason that I could fathom!) and a tendency to raggedness is the result. Prof Brown also seemed to be taking the occasional rest, sitting on the small balustrade at the back of his podium, but I *think* this was just to give him a better idea of what the soloists were doing! In addition in this particular

performance the brass playing was not always up to the rest and arguably should at times have been more sensitive to the needs of the comparatively small choir.

Soloists are often a problem for the Choir, due at least in part to its limited resources, but on this occasion the standard was unusually high. The tenor in particular shone radiantly, and the soprano (despite a rather fast vibrato which some found annoying) was also well up to the part – her top C came over the full choir and orchestra with all the power required, yet she was sensitive where necessary too. The mezzo and bass could each have done with more power at times, but nobody could complain about the quality of their tone.

Chris Purvis

Prizes from  
CHAMBERS

## 3D Crossword Competition II ~ 15x15x15

by Penguin  
& Sphinx

*It's back, bigger than ever and with great prizes.*

### About the Crossword

The FELiX Christmas edition saw the birth of the first ever FELiX 3D crossword. Now it's back, bigger than ever and in a new format, a centre page pull-out.

Putting the booklet together as indicated on the pull-out pages, you will notice that there are 15 consecutive 15x15 crosswords. These make up a 15x15x15 layered cube...our crossword grid.

The puzzle is solved in exactly the same way as a standard cryptic crossword (see the series of *Cracking Cryptic Crosswords* that has been running in the last eight issues of FELiX, copies still available) with the addition of a set of 'through' clues as well as the usual 'across' and 'down'.

### For the Solver's Convenience...

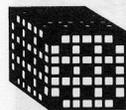
...squares containing a 'through' word have been shaded in grey and, for long through words (any of nine letters or over), we have included a series of dashes (of the number of letters in the word) for you to fill in any letters provided by crossing with another word on any particular level.

### Why it is Easier to Solve than its 2-Dimensional Cousin

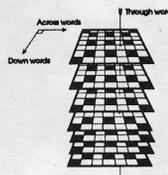
It will soon become apparent that due to the increased checking (crossing of any two words) this crossword is actually *easier* to solve than its 2D cousin! This is because, after answering the easier clues, you will find that most of the remaining words will have a higher proportion of their letters already filled in. But don't just take our word, try it and find out for yourself.

### Why it is a Real 3D Crossword

Many 3D crosswords that have existed so far have been of the type shown here (left). These are, in our opinion, not true 3D crosswords as they are merely six sets of 2D crosswords linked at the edges. The one shown here (right) is our format, a 'true' 3D crossword, as any given square can be part of an across, down and through word simultaneously.



In keeping with 2D standards, our crossword is



not only 15x15x15 (an extension of the broadsheet standard 15x15), but it is also 4-way rotationally symmetrical on each level and the whole stack is 2-way rotationally symmetric in the other two planes.

### Competition and Separate Clue Writing Competition

Competition details are given in the assembled booklet, along with details of an additional clue writing competition. They can be entered independently of each other and for both competitions we have managed to obtain a top prize of a Chambers dictionary – the Bible of the crossword world.

### Final Erratum

In addition to the one erratum in the booklet, another was discovered before going to press:

1. Level 15, 7-t. (12) should be (14) and thus you also need to add a couple more dashes.

### P.S.

There's a long stapler available in the FELiX Office for stapling you booklet together.

**April** sees the introduction of the  
College's new **telephone system.**

Do you need your **stationery reprinted**  
with your new telephone numbers?

Then contact:

**ICU Print Unit, Felix Office,  
Beit Quad or phone ext. 8672**

Prices from £26.00 (+ VAT)

(for 250 Letterheads, black ink printed on high quality watermarked paper)

*Other options available on request.*

# The FELiX Easter Egg Survey

*Many people maintain that chocolate is an effective substitute for sex. So, as winter recedes and the nights become shorter, what could be nicer than curling up on a rug with a large pile of rampant easter eggs? By Mike Ingram.*



## The Verdict

Eggies (Mr Bendy)	8
Elizabeth Shaw (TM)	7
Flintstones Mug	7
Quality Street	6
Dairy Box	6
Galaxy Truffles	6
Pingu	6
Smarties Egg	5
Flake Egg	4

### Flintstones Mug Egg

£1.95

It seems that there are fewer eggs with mugs in the shops this year. If they are all of the same quality as this one, then it is a great shame as we were all impressed with this product.

The packaging for this egg is minimal: it sits on top of a "really cool" Flintstones mug (there is a choice of designs) in a rather cheap piece of plastic which was apparently injection blow moulded (according to our resident mechanical engineer). The mug itself is of much higher quality and was unanimously praised by the panel.

Unfortunately, the chocolate doesn't match the build-up it is given. It is of rather a low standard and was described as "very sugary", with a "horrible aftertaste". One reviewer was inspired into using somewhat more forthright language that I shan't trouble you with. The shell has an uneven "rippled effect" giving "bulges in places" which are quite pleasantly dinosaur-like.

This egg is definitely recommended if you want a fantastic new mug and are able to find either a pet or a gullible victim to feed the chocolate to.

Packaging	6
Value for Money	8
Taste	6

### Elizabeth Shaw (TM)

£5.99

This egg sets out to intimidate you right from the start. It costs nearly six quid and comes with a drum-kit arrangement of "mint biscuits inside a welding helmet". The general consensus was that the box goes "way over the top" trying to impress. Looking at the outside, we expected to find "oeuf trop cher" written somewhere (in that lovely gold-leaf handwriting, of course.)

The manufacturers have also adopted the 'kung fu action movie' technique of telling you what they are going to do to you before they actually do it. Two paragraphs on the back of the box warn you of the company's fame, lowering your guard for the final showdown.

The chocolate itself is a different story entirely. If you have ever liked dark chocolate, this will blow your mind. The smooth minted taste reduced our reviewers to comments like "orgasmic", "cosmic" or "good quality internal finish". The individually packaged supporting mints are also excellent.

All in all, this is an egg that is best either to give or receive as a present. If it is at all possible, we recommend eating it all yourself and being sick.

Packaging	7
Value for Money	7
Taste	9

### Flake Egg

£2.65

The tension as this box was brought into view was palpable. The other eggs had been mere foreplay. This was the big one. Donning their lingerie, the reviewers delved in.

The packaging was almost universally unpopular. Comments ranged from "blatantly yellow" and "asymmetric" to "I like it". The heterosexuals, agreeing that the box was probably designed for women, suggested putting some of them on the box. Busy executives and people in a hurry should note that this box was by far the easiest of all to open. The egg itself shows class: it comes pre-halved and is printed with Cadbury's traditional duck. The chocolate tastes much the same as that in a Flake, but "loses the texture" – some were just "not impressed."

Another surprise was the inclusion of two bog-standard Flakes in the packaging. Most of the reviewers had expected specially designed smaller Flakes, but were thankful that this meant there was no danger of a repeat of the Smarties fiasco (see other page).

Finally the panel agreed that it would be much better to "go and buy a box of Flakes instead" unless you're courting a topologist.

Packaging	4
Value for Money	3
Taste	6

All the eggs featured were bought from Sainsbury's

## Pingu

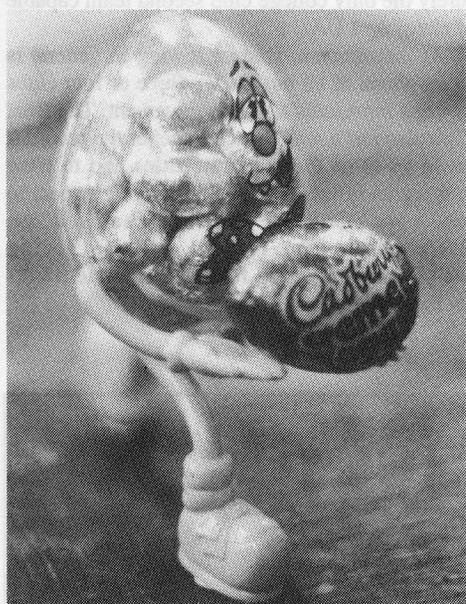
£1.19

The packaging of this white chocolate egg is aimed somewhere between toddlers and Krypton Factor contestants. Despite the friendly penguin pictures, the flimsy cardboard box makes it difficult to open without ripping it.

The egg itself is made of white chocolate, which is unfortunately "not as nice as a milky bar". It breaks apart with a "rather satisfying pop", revealing a small packet of dolly mixtures, which were snapped up in a matter of seconds. When questioned, the reviewers responsibly declared them to be "really nice".

Penguin, perhaps understandably, was a big fan of this egg. For the price, the fun, sweets and heated debate on the packaging, are hard to beat.

<b>Packaging</b>	5
<b>Value for Money</b>	7
<b>Taste</b>	5



Poached Egg

## Galaxy Truffle Eggs

£1.99

This isn't really a traditional egg: it's twenty little sweets stuffed into a transparent tube. The tube itself was mostly admired ("long, long, long") and was noted for its reusability (currently it is holding chopsticks).

The sweets themselves were chocolate truffle ellipsoids with a hard centre. They were well received ("the best tasting mini eggs I've had"), if "quite rich." The panel also acknowledged "we were strangely worried by the hard bits".

The truffles are not very good value: the packet contained twenty eggs, working out at 10p per egg. Not recommended, except for practicality after the party.

<b>Packaging</b>	5
<b>Value for Money</b>	5
<b>Taste</b>	7

## Smarties Egg

£1.95

This egg looks extremely promising from the outside – the "erm.. sturdy" box has a toy card elephant on the back. A mild flurry of excitement broke out among our reviewers at the chance to "stick your fingers through an elephant's bottom". (The idea is to use your fingers as its legs.)

Sadly, that appears to be the best part of the whole experience. The chocolate egg is "pretty heavy" with a "stodgy, traditional" taste. It does stick to your mouth, but was described as "rough and ready – chocolate with stubble". Whiskas would have hated it.

The worst part is the bag of smarties inside the egg: it was terrible. A smartie connoisseur described the contents as "sub-standard, smaller, flatter, easier to bite through and with a different texture to real smarties". Everyone agreed to being disgusted.

We wouldn't recommend this egg, unless the shop has run out of real smarties. To add to the dilemma, this is a Nestlé product, so you should think twice before buying it.

<b>Packaging</b>	7
<b>Value for Money</b>	4
<b>Taste</b>	5

## Dairy Box

£4.29

This is the kind of egg you send to your mum. It comes with a dainty cream bow on the front and the egg is wrapped in flowery blue foil.

Less tactfully, the egg is quite fat, making it "very good for spinning". The chocolate is "thick and creamy", by far the best milk chocolate we tested.

The sweets inside the egg are strangely unmarked: those engaging in "culinary Russian Roulette" will find standard Dairy Box fare very nice but unexceptional.

<b>Packaging</b>	5
<b>Value for Money</b>	5
<b>Taste</b>	8

## Quality Street

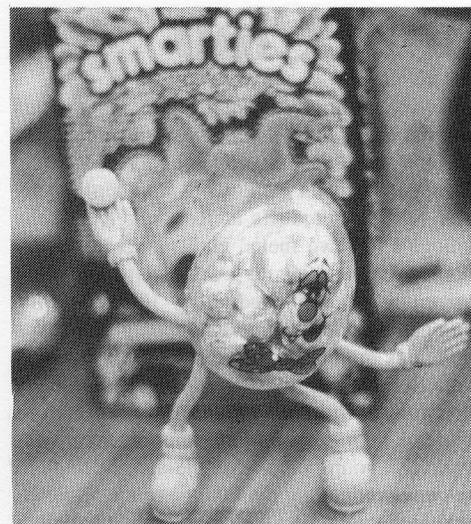
£4.29

Fans of Dairy Box will be pleased to know that the egg is seemingly identical. However, one big difference is in the sweets: they are properly packaged Quality Street favourites (fudge, hazelnut & caramel, toffee, etc).

Another advantage is the packaging: the more low-key approach ensures you won't lose your street cred buying this one.

Overall, a better egg than Dairy Box.

<b>Packaging</b>	6
<b>Value for Money</b>	4
<b>Taste</b>	8



Even Mr Bendy hated the sub-standard Smarties

## Eggies (Mr Bendy)

£1.49

Mr Bendy (as he was christened) won our hearts and minds immediately. As soon as we saw him lying in a heap on the shelf, we just had to have him. A transparent, egg-shaped being with pink arms and legs that bend. And you even get some chocolates inside. Brilliant.

The only problem was how to get at the little sweets without damaging his torso. Eventually we found a washing machine-like opening at the back, cunningly concealed behind a sticker. Unfortunately, the chocolates "look like animal droppings wrapped up" and taste "buttery, very nice", "alright in small quantities" or "like cack."

Despite this, the quality of the sweets doesn't seem to matter. To quote one of the reviewers: "It's the bendy bits that count." We think that Eggies show the way forward in confectionery. One panelist suggested that "a foot tall Eggie filled with Ferrero Rocher would be near perfect".

For the present, though, "if you can feed the chocolate to other people it's righteous".

<b>Packaging</b>	10
<b>Value for Money</b>	6
<b>Taste</b>	3

## The Panel

Ivan Chan	"Oh no"
Mike Ingram	"Righteous"
Jon Jordan	"Hehhehhehhehhehheh"
Beccy Land	"Hard bit in the middle"
Penguin	"I really do feel sick"
Simon Shaw	"Long, long, long"
Patrick Wood	"Fondling Mr Bendy"

## Special Guest Chompers

Tim St Clair  
Jane Hoyle  
Rachel Mountford

## Boat Club

Following an unprecedented run of success this term the Boat Club is gearing up for the climax of the winter season: the Eights' Head of the River competition on 26th March. Following their best-ever results at Reading Head, the College's top two mens' eights were asked by Oxford University to participate in some sharpening work on Wednesday 16th. The Blue Boat got cold feet and shamefacedly pulled out on the day but the ISIS (Oxford's reserves) - IC II match remained 'on' despite virtual North Sea conditions. The first two three-minute rows provided such emphatic margins of victory for Imperial's young crew that the scheduled third row was declined by the Oxford camp, while IC were sent straight to their makeshift boathouse gym by coach Bill Mason to complete a weights session!

A good result for the College oarsmen, but also a reminder that whilst they can now expect to compete with a beat such famous teams, the latter receive daily press coverage and millions of pounds of sponsorship in comparison with the very welcome but hopelessly inadequate funds their lower profile brings them. The club was very grateful for the new minibus it desperately needed but those rowers who will be representing the College at a regatta in Barcelona in April before their training camp on the '92 Olympic rowing course have to find the money for this almost entirely from their own pockets.

This will be brought again into stark focus



next weekend - the Boat Race will be watched by hundreds of millions worldwide, but it is only coincidentally because of this event, essentially irrelevant to the rowing world, that the far more important Head will be televised. Yet the standard of this 420-boat race belies its paltry coverage: Imperial's first boat is aiming to retain its Top Five position but this must be put into perspective: The probable winners and No. One crew are Hansa Dortmund, the World Champions from Germany and the next four slots will be filled by boats with reigning Olympic and World Champions on board. IC's second eight look set for a Top 15 placing which

would secure them the UAU Championship - surely the only college club second team capable of claiming a UAU title?

At the moment, student rowing in general is so far ahead of all but the top three or four clubs that this represents a real achievement. The Boat Club also has a real chance to better the record it set in 1992 of four separate titles and to have four eights in the Top 50 finishers. So expect to see your College heavily featured on Grandstand: The rowers will be giving everything and hoping for some tangible results for their efforts.

## Student Accommodation Office

Vacancies in College Residences  
as at 21/3/94

Ref	Hall	Type	Sex	UG/PG	From	Licence
1.	Southwell	Twins	M	UG	Now	34-Week
2.	8 Earls Ct Sq	Twin	M	PG	Now	51-Week
3.	Bernard Sunley	Twin	F	UG	Now	38-Week
4.	Bernard Sunley	Twin	M	UG	Now	38-Week
5.	Fisher	Twin	M	UG	Now	38-Week
6.	Holbein	Twin	M	UG	Now	38-Week
7.	Olave	Twin	M/F	PG	Now	BES Let
8.	Willis Jackson	Twin	M	UG	Now	34-Week
9.	Garden	Triple	M	UG	Now	38-Week
10.	Olave	Triple	M	PG	Now	BES Let
11.	Clayponds	Singles	M/F	UG/PG	Now	BES Let
12.	Holbein	Single	M	UG	28 Mar	38-Week

**For further information, please call in at  
Ground Floor, 15 Princes Gardens  
application forms for College flats available NOW!**

## ICCAG

Imperial College Community Action Group

## The Soup Run

Can you help us? We are looking for extra volunteers, especially over the Easter holiday. Contact us via the ICCAG pigeonhole in the Union Office.

### Volunteers

See the other side of life.  
Help us distribute food and drink to the homeless.

### Van Drivers

Can you drive a Union minibus?  
Can you spare us an occasional Thursday evening?



Thursdays 9pm  
Weeks Hall Basement

# A New Day For The Iranians

Sunday saw the beginning of spring and with it the arrival of Norooz (literally, new day), the Iranian New Year.

The Iranian calendar, being solar, consists of 365 days (366 every 4 years) divided into twelve months, each of them corresponding exactly to one of the houses of the horoscope.

This is no simple coincidence, since the rather dubious 'science' of astrology dates back to the astronomical practices of ancient Mesopotamians whose knowledge was inherited by Iranians when the region was conquered by Cyrus the Great and became part of the Iranian Empire. This was expanded upon by Iranians and made into a practical calendar based accurately on the movements of the Earth around the Sun.

In view of the ancient origins of our calendar, it may seem strange that this weekend we will be celebrating the end of the year 1372, 1372 years having passed since the prophet moved from Mecca to Medina the event which is the starting point for both the Iranian and the Arab/Islamic calendars. The modern Iranian calendar was drawn up and fixed by the great astronomer and mathematician Omar Khyram (the translation of his poetry made fame and fortune for Colonel Fitzgerald) in the 13th Century. The New Year ceremonies, however, are a very ancient and wholly Iranian affair, dating back to the days before the Arab invasion and the resultant conversion to Islam. Unlike most other Muslims, Iranians have held firmly on to their separate culture and the tradition of these ceremonies has been handed down to us by our Zoroastrian ancestors.

The celebrations begin on the last Wednesday of the year with fireworks, usually home-made and rather dangerous and bonfires over which people jump, signifying the life-giving powers of fire as like other ancient people, Iranians thought the Sun was made of fire.

On the day of Norooz, the whole family gathers around a table to await the exact moment

## Men's Hockey

For some unknown reason, 1993-94 has been the season for Imperial College Hockey. Ours is not to ask why, ours is just to keep receiving medals.

The Men's 1st XI won the University of London Premier League for the first time in memory with an unbeaten run of games. Led by the fearless, if slight, figure of Eddy Penfold, the team looked like they would do the double until stopped by King's College in the University of London Cup semi-finals.

Perhaps the absence of our German maestro, Andrea was the biggest blow in that game, as we found out the hard way what an integral part of the team he had become. Both as an awesomely lanky sweeper and a sharp short corner striker, Andrea was the find of the season although now back in his native land - ah, the cruelties of the short-term MSC.



One of the best examples of centuries old Iranian architecture

of the arrival of the new year, to be announced by army guns and broadcasting media, before exchanging presents. Seven items are placed on the table for which the Persian terms have the initial letter 's' (The Seven S's): Apples signify resistance to worldly temptations and sins, young wheat shoots signify new life, coins stand for wealth, Sumac (a spice) and vinegar signify the bitter and sour taste of the trials of life, Samanoa (a specially cooked paste of wheat and sugar) stands for patience and gratefulness towards the creator and finally Senjeds (a nut) signifies purity.

Norooz is the biggest, most important event of the year for all Iranians. It is a time for rest and recuperation and for family and friends to get together and heal any rift or wound that may have been caused in the previous year.

By the time this article is printed, the IC Iranian Society will have held a celebration so that those of us away from home can get together. We would like to wish everyone a very happy new year and hope that we all return to our beloved country as soon as possible.

The introduction of the formidable West London Institute team into our UAU group also created problems as we sealed our doom losing 1-6. That Brunel only lost 4-1 meant they went through to the next round on goal difference.

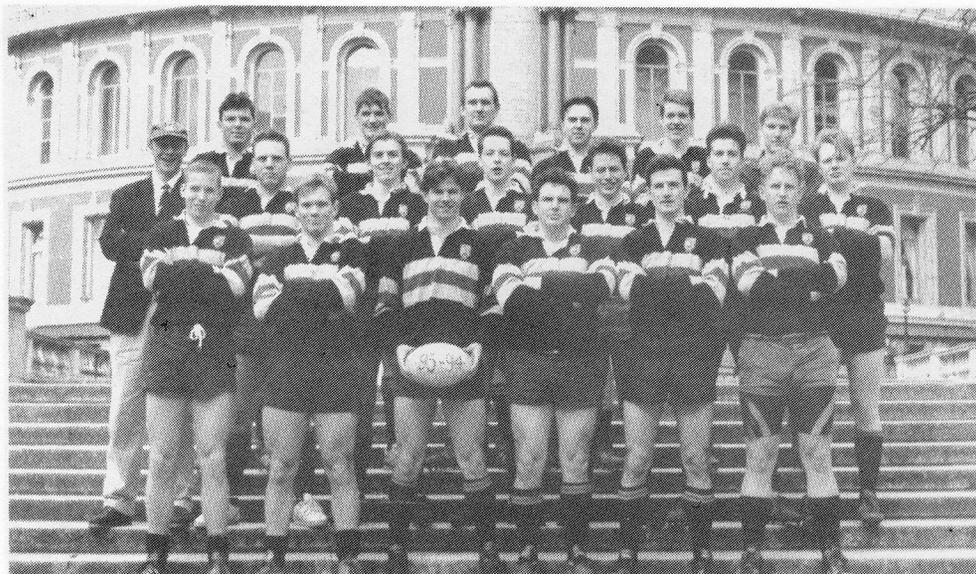
Our Saturday form was enigmatic in the extreme. The attendance of some figures, notably the weekend weary freshers, Beatty and Jabour, combined with the northerly attractions experienced by our captain-elect, Ian Haines, in allowing a frequently depleted team to play some pretty rank hockey.

The determination of our wayward keeper, Simon Curwood, to try to score a goal also contributed to the melting pot of our disgrace. Happily, Simon never scored, although he's now not quite as fat as he once was. Yet he remains a nice bloke despite his tendency to jump into doorframes.



The team, left to right:  
Back row: J.Furlong, D.Parkinson, J.Marshall, J.Jordan, Andrea, E.Penfold (cpt), S.Curwood,  
Front row: K.Jabour, I.Haines, S.Ishtiaq, S.Lam

# ICU Rugby Win The Gutteridge Cup



ICU Rugby 1st XV – the winning team

ICU Rugby 1st XV battled to a hard fought 12-0 victory over Charing Cross Hospital to win the Gutteridge Cup Final.

Playing with the wind in the 1st half, IC established the 12-0 lead through tries by Alexander Sell and Mike Hall, with the latter adding a conversion.

Turning around after half-time, the IC pack weathered the Charing Cross fight-back and took a firm grip on the match. The tackling and effort throughout was immense, with everyone giving 110% until the final whistle.

John Cassidy could have sealed an emphatic victory but dropped the ball over the line. Mark Wishart led by example and victory was a fitting reward for his effort throughout the season.

The team was: P.Grumett, R.Carr, M.Baker, L.Marquis, K.Drage, J.Cassidy, M.Wishart, S.Townsend, A.Montgomery, M.Hall, A.Sell, N.Flinn, E.Gilchrist, T.Oldham, S.DaVall, T.Townend, M.Toolan, A.Stormer, G.Williams and G.Mullett.

## Life in the Shadowlands

Perhaps you are one of those lucky students with some spare cash for a well-deserved movie at the end of the term. Richard Attenborough's latest film *Shadowlands* is a moving portrayal of the great writer C.S.Lewis' struggle with pain, suffering, love and death; issues he had known only in 'theory' but which then deeply touched his life through experience. To Lewis, death meant separation from a woman he loved.

This is one side of death, the one many have seen and perhaps experienced. But then the age-old questions: What about the other side? Is there 'life' after death? Which 'theory' will be fact? What awaits us in the 'Shadowland'? Do we ever glimpse what is 'beyond the veil'?

Well, apparently some people do, one such being New Zealander Ian McCormack. He was declared clinically dead after being stung by bluefish while scuba-diving, but miraculously came back to life. Since then, he has shared the moving tale of his life-changing experience all over the world – a story well worth hearing, especially during exams!

Some Christian groups at IC will be hosting a talk by Ian on Thursday 28th April in Huxley 308 at 6pm for 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome – perhaps Ian's story can help you put together some of your own *Shadowlands* puzzle.

## Budding Artists

If you want to put any artwork into the IC Staff-Student Exhibition (starting 17th May), bring it to the Ante Room (Sherfield) by noon on 16th May. Work must be framed (LeoSoc can help, contact them beforehand). For more info contact LeoSoc through the ICU Pigeonholes.

## SplotSoc Go Cruising

On Saturday 5th March SplotSoc decided to boldly go where no paintball club had gone before...well, not many anyway! It was decided to return to the urban paintball site at Greenham Common and this time it was the newbies' turn to rock and roll in confined spaces!

We got up at an ungodly hour of the morning and, after braving London traffic in a Union minibus and getting onto the M4 in one piece, we thought nothing would stop us getting to Greenham Common on time...but we forgot about traffic cones, which someone had put across two lanes of the M4 for no reason giving a three mile tail back.

Suitably stressed, we arrived half an hour late to find the first game had already started and that a lot of the best guns had been taken. After a brief kitting up session and pre-game tactic discussion it was decided that:

- a) we would try and obtain good guns by whatever means possible, and
- b) we had no tactics at all and would go into headless chicken mode whenever shot at.

So, out we went for some tactical repainting of a USAF airbase...and some of us came back again even quicker after realising that there were better players than even us on the red team.

After a brief wipe down and attempts to hide our embarrassment about being shot out thirty seconds into the game, it was a case of back into the firing line to try again. This time the yellows put up a good fight but alas were beaten again, despite heroic play from all concerned.

By now, it was obvious something else was needed, so out came thunderflashes and smoke grenades, with the reasoning being that if we can't shoot them we can scare them! Net result... ten minutes later we were multicoloured again and needed yet another re-think!

Our next game plan had the hallmarks of genius: One gullible person running for the



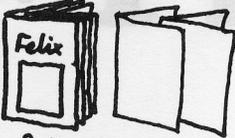
centre flag whilst everyone else covered him. The game was tense, with the flag grabber taking incoming from all directions, but he got the flag and ran it back to a friendly building.

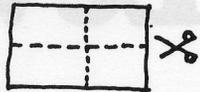
Suitably spurred on by this triumph the yellows proceeded to sweep the area clear of reds in a mass paintstorm before going on to hang the flag for their first win of the day.

Two more suitably inspiring wins followed, with the last game leaving both sides about equal on points, which is how it deserved to be.

Such an enjoyable day left everyone looking forward to next term when more trips are planned including the National Student Championships, which we have won for the past two years, so watch for posters.

# Constructing Your 3D Crossword

- 

Pull out centre  
2 Pages
- 

Cut along  
dotted lines
- 

Stack Sheets      Fold & Staple      & Voilà!

## The Official 15x15x15 ~ 3D Crossword

Sponsored by

# CHAMBERS

(The Official Crossword and Scrabble Dictionary)

### How to do your 3D Crossword:

The principles are exactly the same as an ordinary cryptic crossword, but with the addition to the normal across and down clues, of a set of through clues. These only go in one direction, i.e. down through the levels (e.g. 10 to 2). For your convenience, all of the squares with through words are shaded grey. We of course highly recommend Chambers Dictionary, Thesaurus & Phrase file, although Collins & Oxford dictionaries have also been referred to.



# 3D Crossword II

## - 15x15x15

What we hope will come to be the standard by which all 3D Crosswords are set! By Penguin & Sphinx

Sponsored by **CHAMBERS** - The Official Crossword Dictionary

**Prizes:** 5 Winners receive a Chambers Dictionary ~ £22 each

5 Runners Up receive a Chambers Thesaurus ~ £12 each

Name .....

Department .....

Tel. No. ....

### Competition:

Entries must be handed in to the FELIX office by 6:00 pm on Monday 2nd May 1994 (the 2nd Monday of Term). Entries are limited to one person per entry, and the competition only extends to staff and students currently at Imperial. The winners will be those who have got the highest number of correct answers. In the case of a draw the names shall be drawn from a hat. The interpretation of these rules is ultimately up to the organisers. Entries from people directly associated with FELIX will not be eligible for the prizes.

### Errata:

A list of errata can be found on page 30 (The last page to be printed).

## Level 1 Clues

### Across

- Supporter makes a noise after a bad start (7)
- Added sugar made it better (8)
- Conserve a fruit (blown) crush (9,3)
- Swallow most of the Aden Gulf (6)
- Board game moves fast? (5)
- Columns of drawers (6)
- People who construct the main part do so by working out (4,8)
- One in the interval - an actor (8)
- Jumble sale worker aims to be water-tight (7)

### Down

- Fed up holding cheese so ask questions (7)
- Took control and recommended a shake-up (12)
- They are tabulated periodically (8)
- English judge disperses sect and discharges (6)
- Hit sound and smell dance (4,4,4)
- Leading right in hand (5)
- Voice to be carried by Barney Rubble (8)
- Rotted, we hear, over some time (6)
- Commoner is most agreeable (7)

### Erratum:

- Level 14, 13-a. 'manor' should read 'manner'

### Credits:

3D Multi-axially Symmetric Grid Designer: Penguin

Word Insertion: Penguin

Clue Construction: Sphinx (Ed.), Catfish (Sub Ed.), Penguin, Santos, Toot, Stan and Jochie. With a couple of guest clues from Murph and Pestilence.

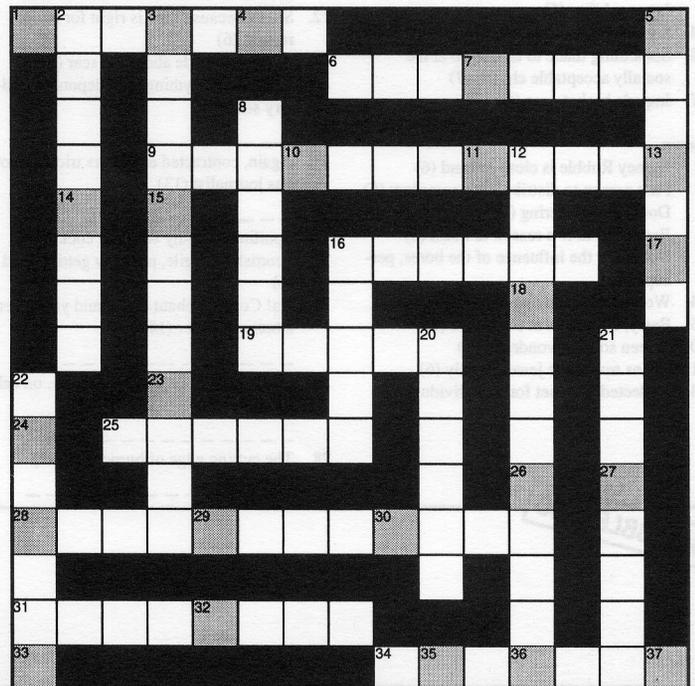
### Thanks to:

Chambers, Rose, Andy

This Crossword is dedicated to Rose's soon-to-be-born baby in the hope that she'll name him/her Felix, Sphinx or Penguin. It is also dedicated to Rose herself who after many years at FELIX will not be returning after the birth. Rose, we all hope that the birth goes smoothly and wish both you and the baby well.

This 3D 15x15x15 Crossword has appeared as part of FELIX, Student Newspaper of Imperial College, issue 995. Felix is produced for and on behalf of Imperial College Union Publications Board and is printed by the Imperial College Union Print Unit, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB (Tel: 071 225 8672, Fax: 071 589 4942). Editor: Rebecca Land, Business Manager: Simon Govier, Advertising Manager: Steven Newhouse. Copyright Felix 1994. ISSN 1040-0711. The copyright of this 3D Crossword however is held by Penguin & Sphinx. So there.

# ~ Level 15 ~



# Level 15 Clues

## Across

- 1. Imperfect United Nations plan left (7)
- 6. Spanish home to a star – a playboy (8)
- 9. To appear and understand invitation (4,3,3,2)
- 16. Country's ups and downs (6)
- 19. Man is coming back Monday (5)
- 25. From where preaching is conducted on the flesh and sex-appeal (6)
- 28. Our mistress, I could make-up (12)
- 31. Charm one's way in (8)
- 34. Charge of a university in the valley (7)
- 10. Conductor has reason to be generating force (13)
- 11. Criminal group takes a prepared rest (8)
- 13. Time to enquire about job (4)
- 14. Exercise ultimate control and draw the lines (4,3,7)

## Down

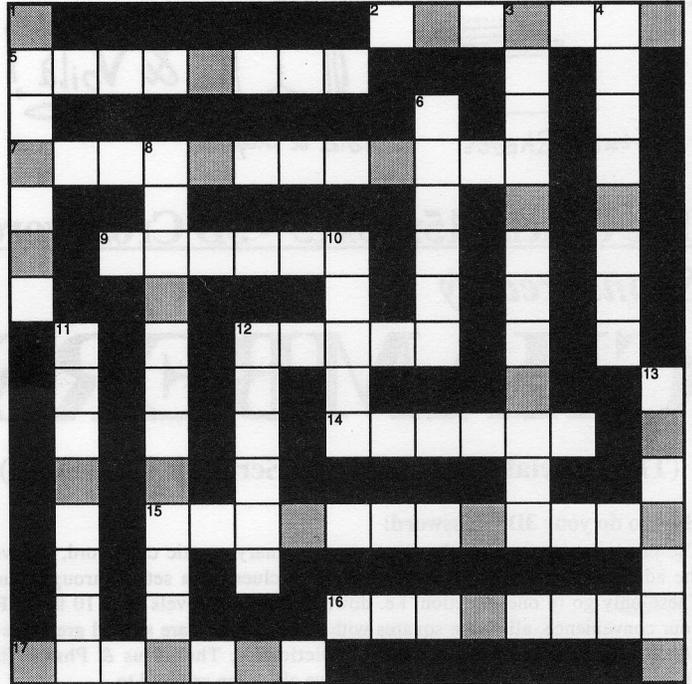
- 2. A game for those under ten to cut back on (8)
- 3. Do quiet chess pieces go there to dance? (12)
- 5. May be charged with assault (7)
- 8. Beams from a distance between two points (6)
- 12. Watertight pachyderm? (8,4)
- 16. Pardon me coming back in a TIR wreck (5)
- 20. Figure there is less sensation (6)
- 21. The relative advantage! (8)
- 22. Best suit and French instrument (7)
- 23. Verona's square (13)
- 24. Dress down the Queen getting honour (4)
- 26. To absorb recent Italian art? (8)
- 27. More than certain to be very fussy (14)
- 28. Flow surfacing at a rendezvous (4)
- 29. That dear French lady (8)
- 30. Taking the kinks out of heating elements inside string (13)

## Through

- 1. The upperclass's floor at a disadvantage? (15)
- 3. Run ruin (4)
- 4. Inquires about jobs not starting (4)
- 5. British Rail admit zone sell off is ranked third (6,9)
- 7. Government advert with small car running right into station (12)
- 32. A nostalgic aunt experimented with thinning drugs (14)
- 33. Roosevelt's ruling – is it one up on the three degrees? (3,4,8)
- 35. Evict the leaders of the offending undesirable striking teachers (4)
- 36. Keep bit of plaster (4)
- 37. The gift of life? (8,7)



# ~ Level 1 ~



# Level 14 Clues

## Across

- 3. Mr R E Smit, perhaps (6)
- 7. Church of England monarch found in drunken orgy at foodstore! (7)
- 8. Knocks vehicle carrying politician (5)
- 10. Sounds like an awful waste! (5)
- 13. Light beer thrown back in royal manor (5)
- 18. Rehabilitated copper gets embarrassed (5)
- 23. Young animal in South America has diving capability (5)
- 24. Serious place to rest (5)
- 25. Something made to take a jab at the socially acceptable church (7)
- 27. Impede basket-case (6)
- 2. Can future arms deals affect the producers? (13)
- 5. Drug's feature induced long clue chain I composed (14)
- 11. Can't acknowledge ensemble bearing counsel (14)

## Through

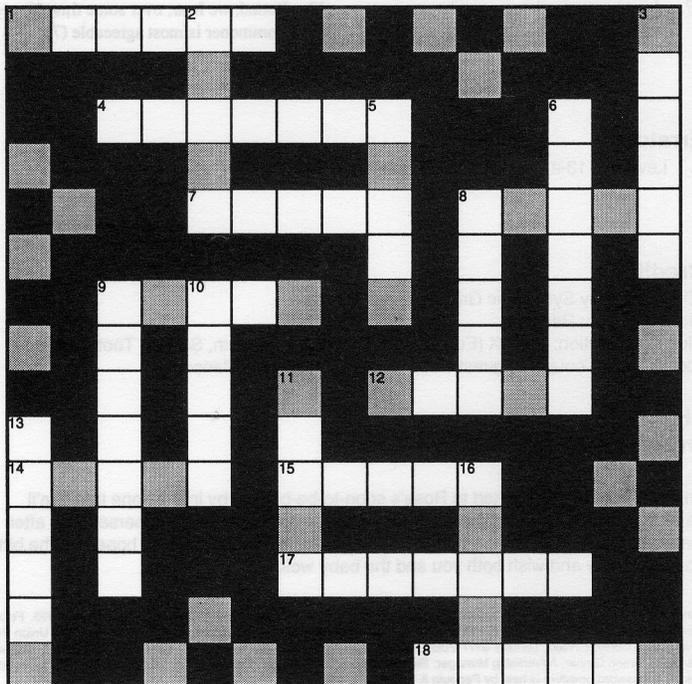
- 12. Shake because time is right for Rome reform (6)
- 13. Comment made about the scar (6)
- 16. At home everything is in depots or military sites (13)
- 17. Again, contracted engineers trick a rigorous journalist (13)
- 19. Spoiling Dorothy with gin cocktail (6)
- 20. Scottish are agile, possibly getting cold (6)
- 22. Ha! Copy elephant dance and you'll get a brain disorder (14)
- 26. Sir I pose theory, extraordinarily, on cell formation (14)
- 28. The cutting edge of humour? (4-9)

## Down

- 1. Barney Rubble is close at hand (6)
- 4. First person to distribute is exemplary (5)
- 6. Domanic wandering (7)
- 7. Butter left in is a reason to boast (5)
- 9. Not under the influence of the bores, perhaps (5)
- 14. Working and moving (5)
- 15. Barry, 51, works at bookstore (7)
- 20. Screen sounds wonderful (5)
- 21. Twins reveal the jewel in Italy (6)
- 23. Reflected on quiet for an individual (5)



# ~ Level 2 ~



# Level 2 Clues

**Across**

1. Rank by order of height (6)
4. First daughter from the London borough? (7)
7. Food, some of which makes us hiccup (5)
8. Passage to an island (5)
9. Andrew's hearing range? (5)
12. That's about the size of it (5)
14. Show appreciation for aspiration in a container (5)
15. Fellow gold supplier (5)
17. Crop Edward gave up (7)
18. Up-to-date Frenchman gives poem to the navy (6)

**Down**

2. Crying sounds as a result of rows (5)
3. Twilight on the boulevard (6)
5. Article contains falsehood about foreigner (5)
6. Uniform price of flightless bird rises (7)
8. A Greek (5)
9. Bill to demand praise (7)
10. Swallow died on ice (5)
11. Curiously, not even 50 yards (5)
13. A small flower (6)
16. Broadcast recently in the city (5)

## Clue Writing Competition

See previous page for entry details

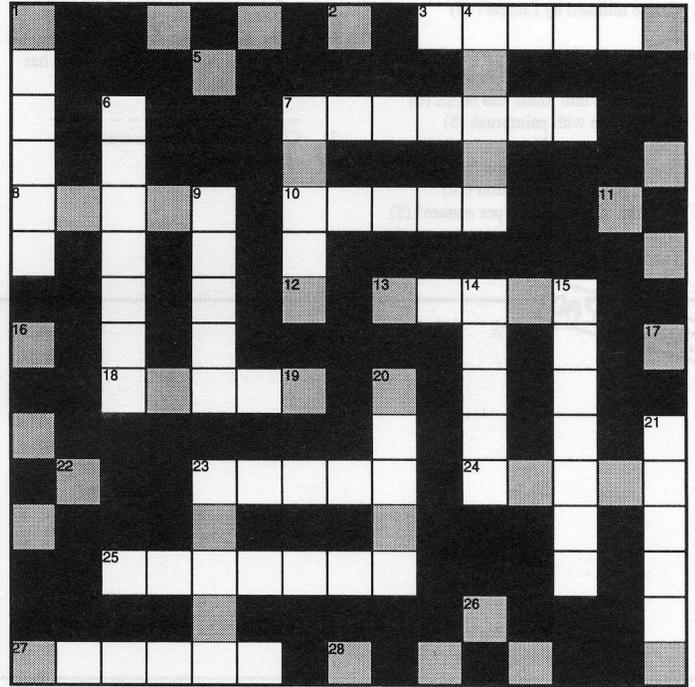
Write your best clues for:

- i) ALPHABET
- ii) LEVEL CROSSING
- iii) SPOON
- iv) ENCYCLOPEDIAS
- v) CONGRATULATED

Words may be across or down, but please make it clear if it is relevant to the clue.



# ~ Level 14 ~



# Level 3 Clues

**Across**

3. Sure to get tied up (5)
4. Entertainer accepts one for a raise (5)
6. Serviced colt exploded ensuring an almost equal outcome (5,7)
8. Rat on a stake with a fish (6)
11. Cries of a Frenchman before Iowa's reform (6)
13. Bags are tartan - as in local customs (7,5)
14. The thank-you letter from Greece (5)
15. Try a composition (5)

**Down**

1. She is over the Italian with a woman (6)
2. Annual celebration at club? (8,4)
3. Not even taken by ugly geek - that's swell (5)
5. A bit confused about the right direction for the race (5)
7. Persistent criminal ruining Kellogg's, we hear? (6,6)
9. Begin to shock (5)
10. Going to pieces over this puzzle? (6)
12. There are one hundred thousand in the way - it's crazy (5)

## Clue Writing Competition

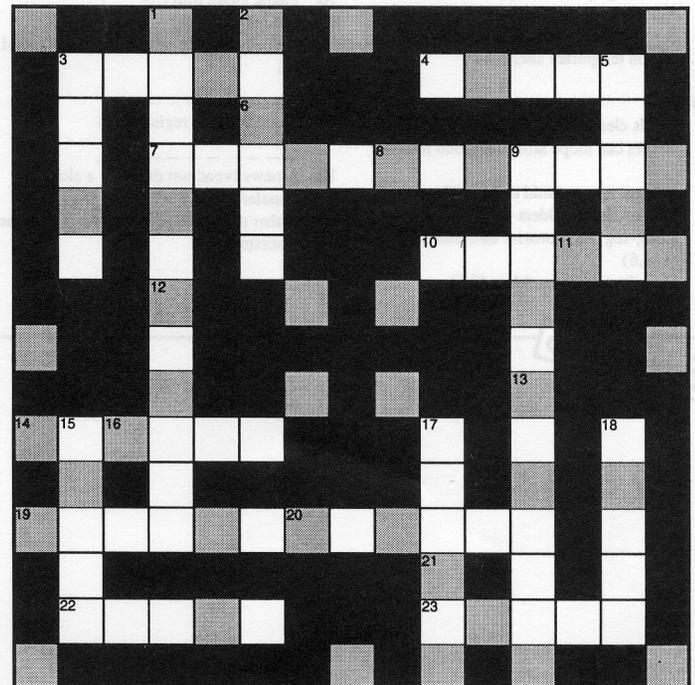
1st Prize: Chambers Dictionary (£22)

Runner Up: Chambers Thesaurus (£12)

Over the page are 5 words/phrases. Simply write your best cryptic clue for each. Write all five clues CLEARLY on a piece of paper and drop it into FELIX (either with or without your crossword) by 6:00 pm on Monday 2nd May 1994.

Please ensure you also add Your Name, Dept., Tel.No. and a Crossword Pseudonym. Clues will be judged by Sphinx, Penguin & Catfish, whose decisions are final. This competition is (unfortunately) only open to staff and students currently at Jmperial. FELIX associates are not eligible for prizes.

# ~ Level 13 ~



# Level 13 Clues

**Across**

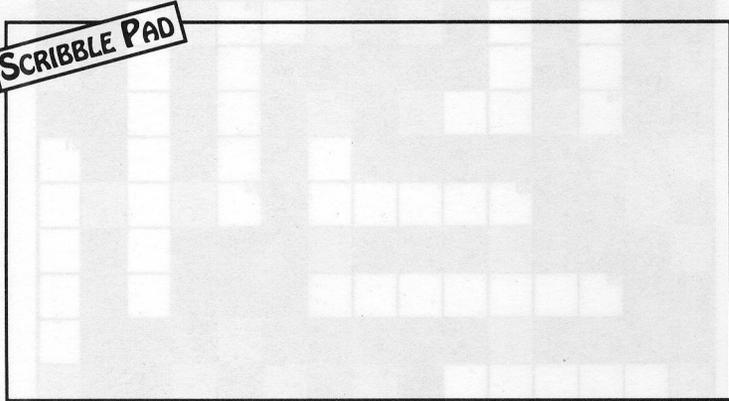
- 3. The devil of a man accepting article (5)
- 4. Last words from MENSA (5)
- 7. Sneering chef cooked birds (12)
- 10. Tory leader studies steps (6)
- 14. When American friend had a broken leg it swelled (6)
- 19. Colour of stone common in Ireland? (7,5)
- 22. Crazy upper-class abstainer in New York (5)
- 23. Crime initiated by Lucifer? (5)

**Through**

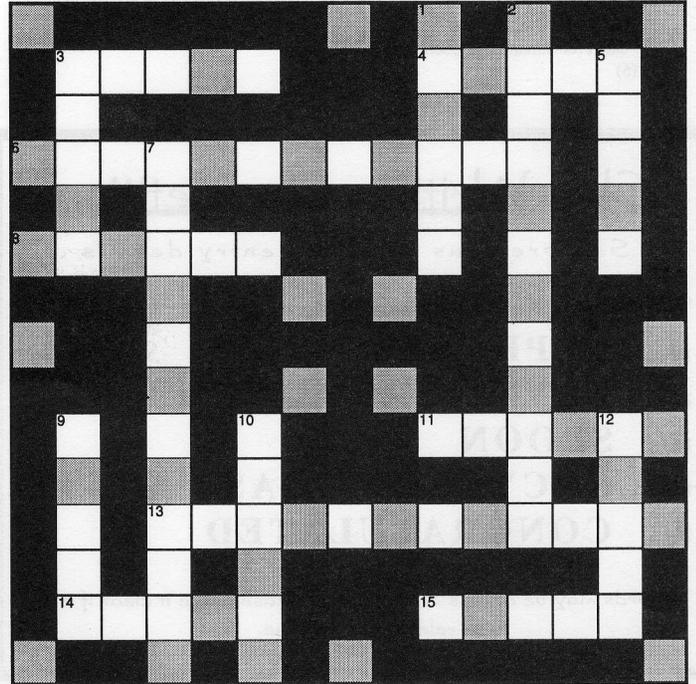
- 6. Painful return to see statue (4)
- 8. Left here ready to change liberally (4-9)
- 11. A fool arrives quickly? (1.1.1.1)
- 12. Notice a politician with gin cocktail conducting (13)
- 13. It's simple without a leader - people open a debate which is workable (13)
- 16. Some readily restore this instrument (4)
- 20. Painful manner in which princess has hair cut? (13)
- 21. Close central to a nonearner (4)

**Down**

- 1. Label put on boss in the theatre! (5,7)
- 2. Beginner is into joints and bends (6)
- 3. Point to can with paintbrush (5)
- 5. Pay out for pass (5)
- 9. Science's over-excitement having a strong power of persuasion (12)
- 15. Deprive of masculinity per annum? (5)
- 17. Returning rational painter to venues (6)
- 18. Get fruit - a melon cocktail (5)



# ~ Level 3 ~



# Level 12 Clues

**Across**

- 1. To design and so on at fashion centre (4)
- 2. Bonn male is mistaken for an earl? (8)
- 8. Monkeys in a rush to yield a crop (8)
- 11. By the side of a pine (5)
- 14. Having known in advance, Peter trained me to juggle (14)
- 18. Where the nail might be up for auction (5,3,6)
- 21. Marks a vehicle on board (5)
- 23. Encourage test, having tea break after four (8)
- 26. A reference to smoothen with comb (8)
- 27. 10-ton temporary shelter (4)

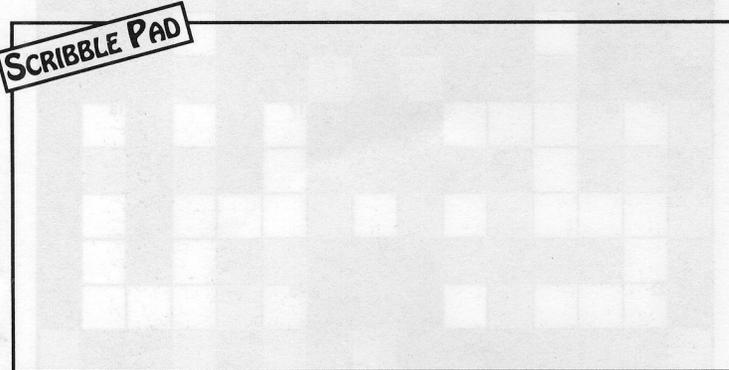
- 13. Stalk is cautious where glass is concerned (8)
- 17. Massacres centaur holding Turkish emblem (8)
- 20. Aloft! (5)
- 22. Sod it! (4)

**Through**

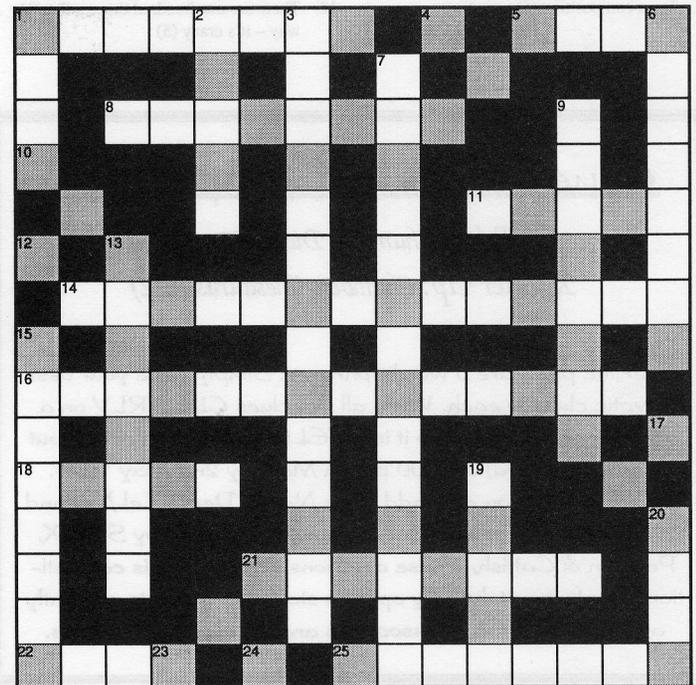
- 9. Chorus is under obvious strain (9)
- 10. Pierce small fruit (5)
- 12. Former monk (5)
- 15. Awfully big hen next to our close friend (9)
- 16. Turning out to register? (9)
- 19. A news broadcast draws to a close (5)
- 24. Popular permit for harbour (5)
- 25. Father returns to April as ordered for the assessment (9)

**Down**

- 1. Holds clean set on second thoughts (8)
- 3. Voters can mope around beyond redress (14)
- 4. Subject returns amid college illnesses (5)
- 5. Kiss on the shoulders (4)
- 6. Long-legged motorist and busybody? (4-4,6)
- 7. Less than 3d is worthless (3,5)



# ~ Level 4 ~



# Level 4 Clues

## Across

1. Prank ceased being funny when father came in (8)
5. Near the bottom of the article on Capone (4)
8. Vision of eight – yes how strange (8)
11. Horrify a f-friend (5)
14. Nursing lots at a resort because of killings (14)
16. Respite for the lungs (9,5)
18. Catch girl with nothing on! (5)
21. Blocked the European Community having an edge on some French returns (8)
22. Repeat performance for the bird (4)
25. Matches perhaps, tigers in trouble (8)

7. Flashy discharge on the bed? (5,9)
9. A cut above the rest! (8)
13. Pressured into throwing up puddings (8)
15. Condemned† (8)
19. That's evil redirected towards immigrant (5)
20. Hearing aids kept in some arsenic (4)

## Through

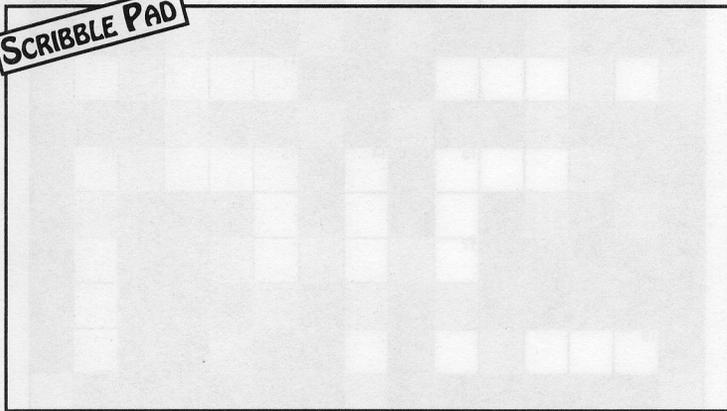
4. Employer taking first of the undergraduates satisfying educational requirements (4)
5. A taxi reverses into plot (4)
10. Mark gets a small automobile (4)
12. Capable – even without the hat (4)
17. Sounds like I will land (4)
20. Makes ingredients of Greek essence last (4)
23. Spoken the part of a judge or a lawyer (4)
24. Castor can accept a point (4)

†thus

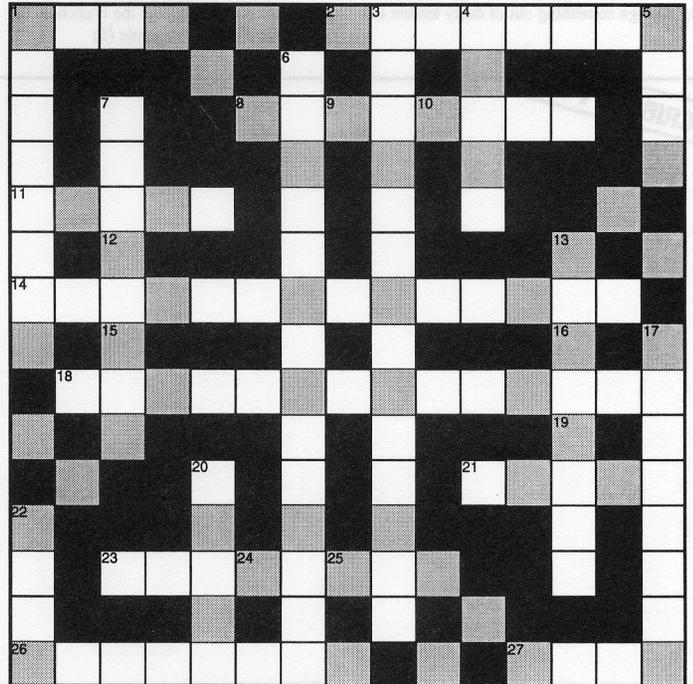
## Down

1. Consumes each way up (4)
2. Views from the summits – we hear (5)
3. Ticket to ride? (7,7)
6. Ally is to change to be a government supporter (8)

**SCRIBBLE PAD**



# ~ Level 12 ~



# Level 5 Clues

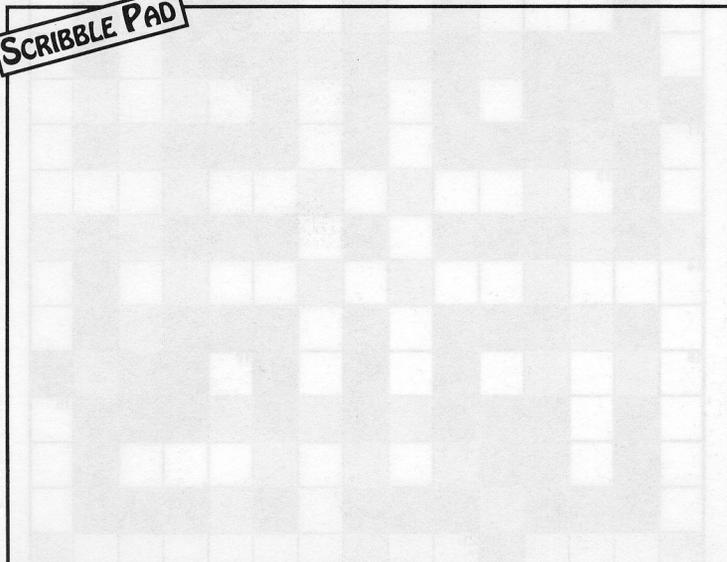
## Across

3. To back up woman's alternative (4)
5. Lifts cranes (7)
7. Realises on being left in the mornings (5)
9. Spanish sun on a plant (4)
10. First person to have Parisian nights with Eskimos (6)
11. Press Imperial to be sarcastic (6)
12. Reckons Dad's changing (4)
15. Man is just so in January (5)
17. 51 bowled 409 for nought – that's some drive! (6)
18. Man with the world on his shoulders regrettably keeping time (5)

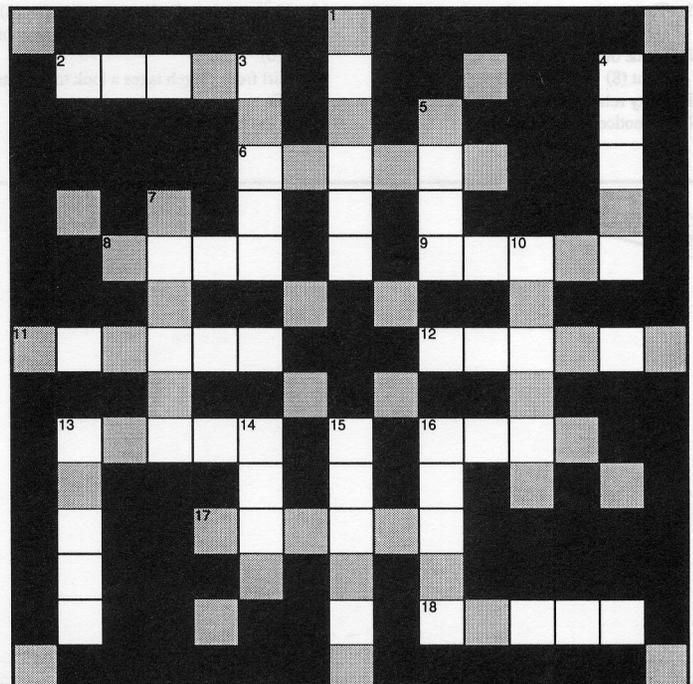
## Down

1. Washed out – it's an awful sin to be in the red (6)
2. 5.4.1.500 or 6.6.500, perhaps – clear? (5)
3. Refuge for the duck left alone? (5)
4. One's awful periods (4)
6. Albert has loads of shares (6)
8. An odd person to be doing dam work? (6)
13. Markets measure on board (5)
14. Firm native element (6)
15. Begins judging useful degrees of an art (4)
16. Push the German leader in the nude (5)

**SCRIBBLE PAD**



# ~ Level 11 ~



# Level 11 Clues

**Across**

2. Skull incision (5)
6. Navigates bulls (6)
8. Bring up to be stern (4)
9. Solicit for soft, soft metal (5)
11. Article Roy had composed generating hypothesis (6)
12. Get public relations onto it at once! (6)
13. Man ran by distressed (5)
16. Concept is not wholly perfect (4)
17. Interstellar cartoons have a point (6)
18. Design something out of dusty leather (5)

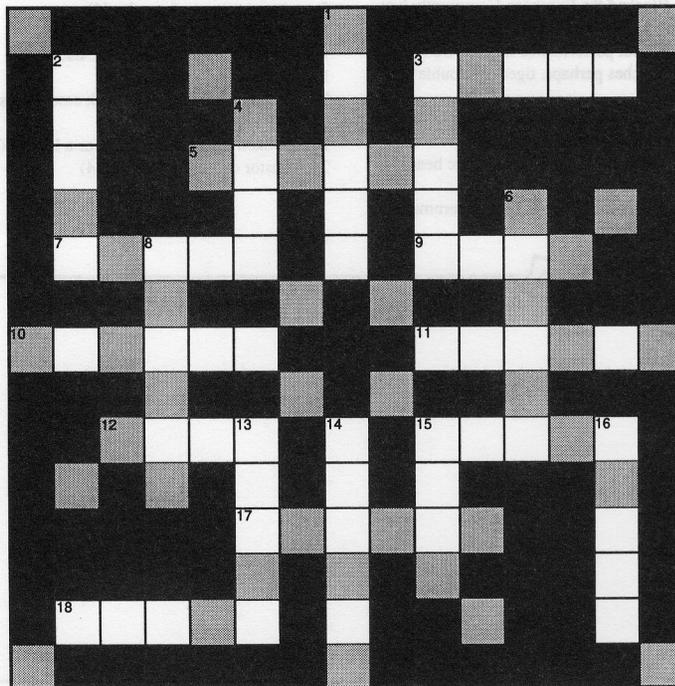
**Down**

1. Except when the French one is smaller (6)
3. Showy problem setter! (5)
4. You haven't done this until the devil turns up (5)
5. Support from the front row (4)
7. More inconsistency in my recollection (6)
10. English pope sits on note in Paradise Lost, perhaps (6)
13. Smiles broadly in support (5)
14. A time to reflect? (4)
15. Spot procurer before the French do (6)
16. Cain's reformed people (5)

**SCRIBBLE PAD**



# ~ Level 5 ~



# Level 10 Clues

**Across**

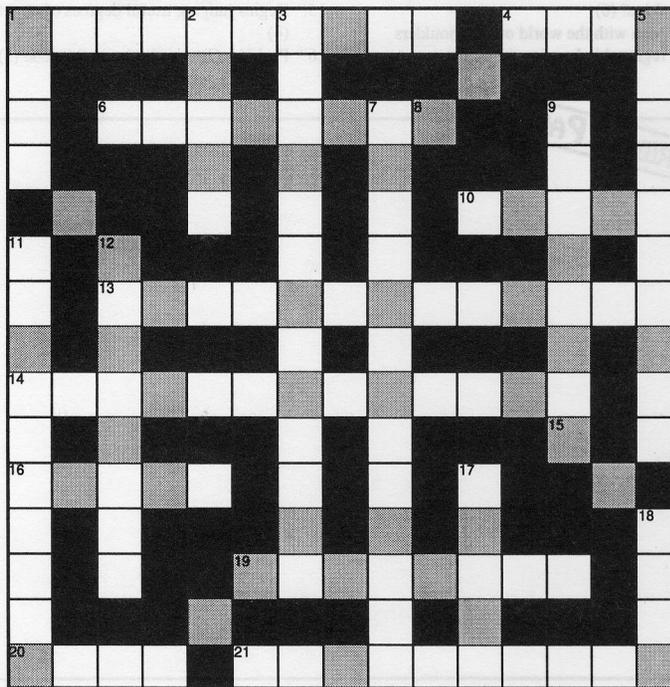
1. A front for the Welsh leader (4)
2. Brilliance of referee on UCL gene experimentation (10)
7. Digger's capacity reached when spud leaf is turned over (8)
9. Resistance, initially, on her majesty's internal committee (5)
12. The measuring of log or physical effects (13)
13. Mindless noise created without limits (13)
15. The requirement, we hear, for a massage (5)
17. Name one through a measuring instrument (8)
18. Dirty relative upset the Danes (10)
19. To notice an amphibian (4)

**Down**

1. Zoo patrons exploit the smallest animals (10)
3. Is lowly sewer too young to be called a drain? (13)
4. Presents soldier with newspapers (5)
5. Way-out one-time sex-appeal (4)
6. One branch of the police in house concerning murder (8)
8. Concept Ronnie formed about previous engagement (13)
10. Fire envisioned up in the mountains (8)
11. Study team colour - it's well thought of (10)
14. Girl from church takes a look to the East (5)
16. A list covered in food, maybe (4)

**SCRIBBLE PAD**

# ~ Level 6 ~



# Level 6 Clues

## Across

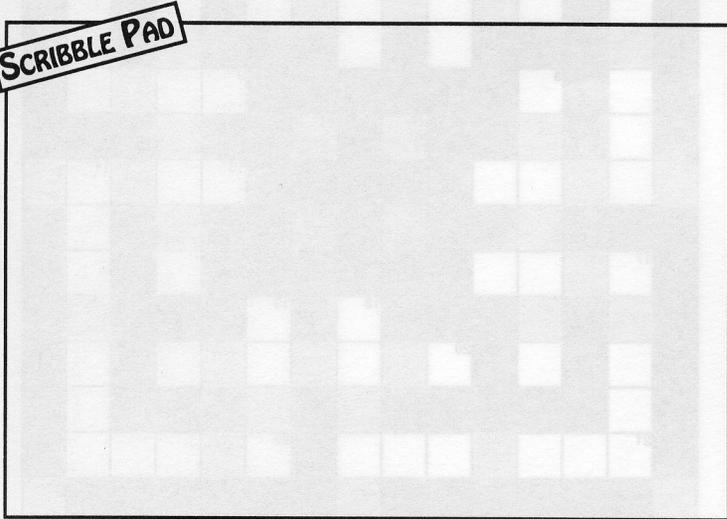
- Solitary popular princess is widowed (10)
- Prima donna was eager in retrospect (4)
- Extracts operations for wimps (4-4)
- Thread of support for a fish (5)
- Think on one's feet, logically (5,2,6)
- Prohibitions between styles (13)
- Chopping tail off cadaver still leaves the body! (5)
- Killer - two fools are in for it (8)
- Flat No. 2, perhaps (4)
- Charger changer (10)
- Giving up a group on a cocktail of gin (10)
- Split equally but in favour of wine charge over tea break (13)
- Repeat judgement concerning female fool (8)
- I evict next sort tending to die out (10)
- IC stereo production is a secret (8)
- Sounds like our lad committed a crime (5)
- Short of extra box (4)

## Through

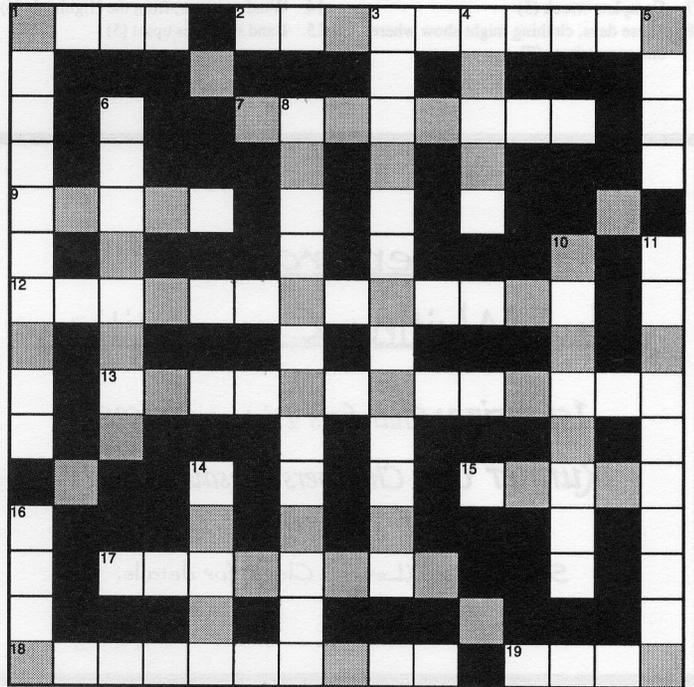
- Very satisfying food? (4)
- Lent, without hesitation, has some bearing (4)
- Therefore the house is in London (4)
- Drinks at a jumble sale (4)

## Down

- Make slow progress in church (4)
- Small volume of silver turned up in a river (5)
- Land disasters can induce cowardice (13)



# ~ Level 10 ~



# Level 7 Clues

## Across

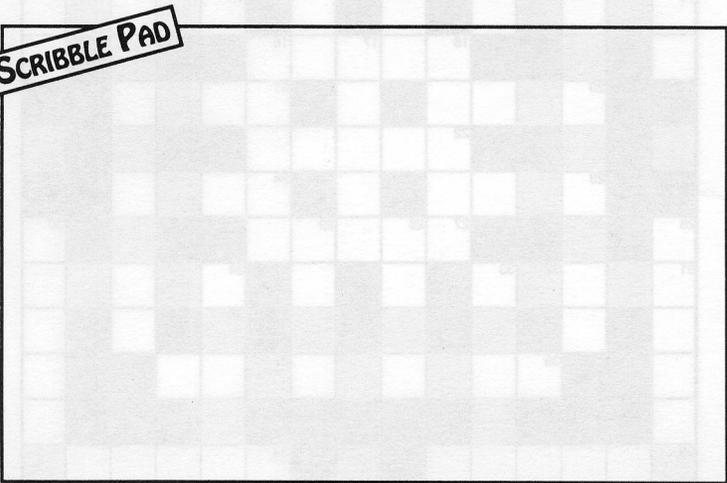
- Yearning to be terminally ill (5)
- In position to plot and to draw (7)
- Crucial, vital post office sorting (7)
- A crowd is to turn up (4)
- Sailor with body odour has time for clergyman (5)
- Approve the return of a clock (5)
- Prune harvest (4)
- Escorted woman in employed accommodation (7)
- An ultra-excitabile native (7)
- One could dig a place to live in the home counties (5)
- Yielded a hammer, losing tail-end (4)
- Mock relative after last night (5)
- Silver ring that is dividing North and South causes great pains (7)
- Perhaps Deuterium is nothing to play games with (7)
- Shape of slick rising between two points (7)
- 150 have a performer (5)
- Hot food, but not by the sound of it (5)
- Minerals found in the middle of the forest (4)

## Through

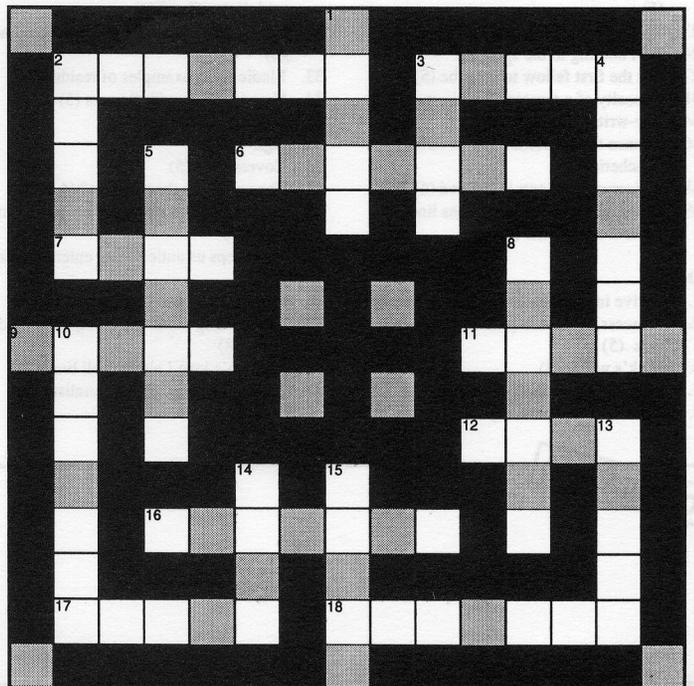
- Showing a commercial over long periods of time gets the messages across (6)
- Sample to measure type of sex cells (6)
- Top class child with love for martial art (6)
- Puts on and are acted on (6)

## Down

- To sample makes sense (5)
- The consequence if I'd burst out, perhaps (7)



# ~ Level 9 ~



# Level 9 Clues

## Across

2. Hide the criminal with lace trimmings (7)
3. School head in tree, reading verse (5)
6. Listener taking care of church in front of meadow (7)
7. Having risen, be lazy (4)
9. Royal returns to drink (5)
11. Schemes and applies without 'em (5)
12. Noticed, there is no denying, it is decorated (4)
16. Braziers give organ to hospitals (7)
17. Complete wreck (5)
18. These days, clothing might show where one comes from (7)

## Down

1. Girl seen with a drink around college (5)
2. HMS Deserter? (5)
3. Tree hideaway (4)
4. Art showing the virgin holding the child (7)
5. Put without meaning in article Ely wrote (8)
8. Chooses to vote on board (7)
10. Glider to stop before the tarmac (7)
13. Designs ties (5)
14. Wind, we hear, from the Highlands (4)
15. Band separates upset (5)

## Separate

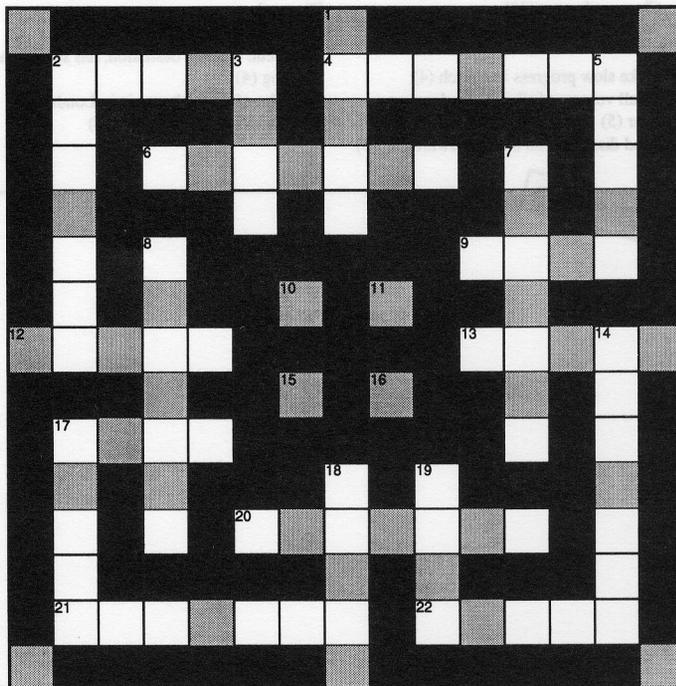
# Clue Writing Competition

*1st Prize: Chambers Dictionary (£22)*

*Runner Up: Chambers Thesaurus (£12)*

See page 26 (Level 3 Clues) for details.

# ~ Level 7 ~



# Level 8 Clues

## Across

1. Is dock isolated? (6)
3. Property in Eastern country (6)
6. The Community is tapering towards the peculiar (9)
13. Digression for a team (5)
14. An antelope – the one in a long story (5)
16. Very little matters when a cat steps in (5)
20. Got up to cultivate (4)
21. Many bow to this man (4)
22. Letter from Greece is nothing substantial (5)
23. Mother – a knockout, a shark! (4)
24. Add nothing to the sport (4)
27. Get the first fellow to inscribe (5)
31. Capacity of a remote advertisement (5)
34. Lay-writers (5)
36. Chance to cast some light on Albert's treacheries (9)
38. Swimmer swallows in the end (6)
39. One-time Greek character has lines to make a conclusion (6)

9. The side of Lawrence in the morning (4)
10. Mole's delivery score (9)
12. Reveals record shakes (9)
16. An idiot returns somewhat withdrawn (5)
17. Having six balls delivered to team leader seems obvious (5)
18. Belt round many a blow (5)
25. Drop the sixth letter of the alphabet and go away (3,3)
28. Always right after the first lady (4)
29. Alumni Pi dropped from municipality with little effect? (4)
30. Lost smooth finish from waste container (6)
33. Medic takes examples of residues (5)
34. Heard crowds with flowers (5)

## Through

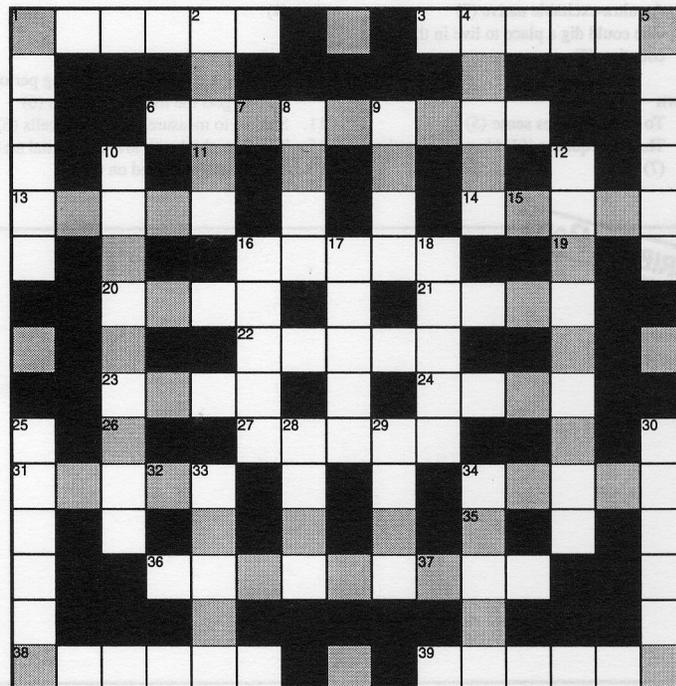
7. Covers food (5)
11. Take a trip by the roadside? (4,4)
15. Unable to write a plot before getting to Iowa (8)
19. Girl keeps us anticipating entertainment (5)
26. Regions measured squarely (5)
32. Confronting father returning from modelling (8)
35. Woman's love I almost call brave (8)
37. A position taken up by moralist (5)

## Down

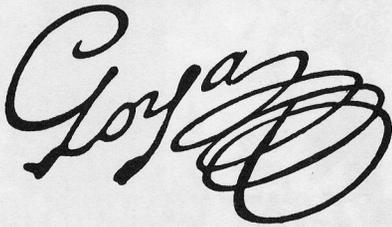
1. Native in the middle of guardianship (6)
2. A recess, it's hot in pleasant surroundings (5)
4. Nick's whips (5)
5. Stop listener to their delight (6)
8. Time is up for issue (4)

**SCRIBBLE PAD**

# ~ Level 8 ~



## Exhibition



Francisco Goya was an iconoclast, an individual strapped into the regulated canvas of 18th Century court painting. Like Blake in England, Goya became an isolated figure, a man who saw his life become littered with catastrophes: an illness which left him deaf at 46, an increasing irreligiousness, the deaths of all but one of his children and the ripping askew of Spain during the Napoleonic Wars of 1793-1814.

And so it is that the highlights of London's first major Goya exhibition for thirty years are seen in the macabre. Yet a large segment of the exhibition is taken up with the sketches he carried out prior to his full scale work. While these are scholarly they remain sketches, pieces of ephemera at worst, and strangely lifeless.

The raw scenes are pretty blood curdling, though. The first hint of impending fantasy is the sketch to *St Francis Borja at the deathbed of an Impenitent*. As gloating devils wait for the man to die, the cross wielded by St Francis spurts blood, thus saving the Impenitent from hell.

A series of works on witchcraft display Goya's shrieking imagination. In *The Spell*, a

crazed hag reaches out for a victim, whilst behind her, the other cronies clutch at babies and stick pins into a voodoo doll. Above, owls and bats swoop down from the darkness. And so it goes on. In front of the cannibal pictures a sturdy old lady remarked, "disgusting". On moving to the next picture all she could add was "absolutely disgusting".

The satire on the vicious Inquisition was also part of Goya's concern. He himself was indicted in 1815 for an obscene picture. The parade of gory flagellates and the hopelessness of those condemned to death remind us of the times of religious brutality. There is more. Scenes of lunatics, lots of lunatics, a shipwreck, robberies and bullfighting, more gored victims.

It would give a false impression to say that such works make up the majority of this exhibition, for there are rural settings, portraits and miniatures. But nothing can compare to the imagination of a deaf man set wild. His *Self Portrait in the Studio* has the painter steeped in an oversized square edged hat, looking outwards as if you are the subject of his brush. Goya was nothing if not a social realist, he based his paintings on what he saw. His momentous etchings, *The Disasters of War*, (not displayed) show that show powerfully. His works of darkness did not just involve fantasy.

Goya didn't need to twist things much to create his eye churning monsters. All he needed to do was look. Just as the cannibal reached inside the chest cavity for lunch, so Goya had his finger



Francisco Goya *The Spell* 1797-98

on the pulse of a fragmenting Spain. The painter in a silent world could still hear the cry of his age.

Jon

Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1. Tube: Piccadilly. Admission: £5 (concs £3.50). Until 12th June.

## Please Note

From the start of next term, could articles submitted to FELIX be supplied on PC disks.

If you would like to help type up articles and gain experience of Desktop Publishing, drop into the FELIX Office any time.

(And there's free tea or coffee, too)

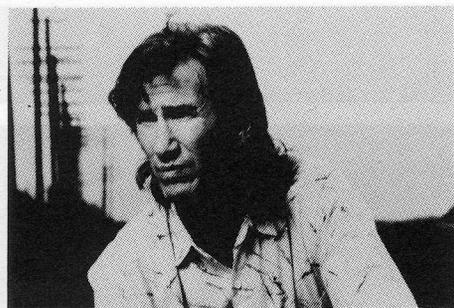
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## Townes Van Zandt

OK so this is blatant advertising, but for a great man. *Townes* has been there since before the beginning of the folk outbreak which started with the certain Zimmerman (aka Dylan). From classic albums like 'Delta Momma Blues' to versions of his songs covered by the likes of Janis Joplin and Willie Nelson, he has been around to see it all.

*Townes* plays his only British date for two years at the Union Chapel on Saturday 23 April.

Box Office 071 477 3812, 071 3881394

Tube: Angel and Islington, Ticket £10

## Album

### Lotion Full Isaac

By now I'm almost getting sick of it; another album, another band from New York, another mix of heartland guitars, stretched vocals, spunky speed chords, weird titles, more plaudits to handout. Back home in the UK we can only scrap around inventing scenes so the fag-end of punk wasted downstarts can release the odd single. Personally I'd vote for 53rd Statehood. Only Morrissey, Costello and Richard Thompson restrain my mad urge.

*Lotion* just wander aimless as a band. The occasional strings of cello or the crack of the tablas mix over the deep base of a two man guitar team. Some tracks have strange intros with outworldly voices talking mischief, "Last year at Malibu, only Jim was a fag" as on the classically balanced 'Dock Ellis'. And yes it



probably did only cost \$570 to record. *Lotion* give a private viewing, they draw the curtains and are intensely languid, faintly head nodding. The tempo at times just smiles itself into action.

Once, I thought that Pavement were the only US band worthy of Atlantic salt and now 2 years later I'm sounding like Everett True - stars and stripes tattooed across my mind. God bless the Queen mum. Pah! (8) *Tintin*

## Album



### Inspiral Carpets Devil Hopping

Hot on the heels of their smart chart hits, 'Saturn 5' and 'I Want You', comes the *Inspiral's* spankingly new and gorgeously packaged album, 'Devil Hopping'. And it's a class act. Less obviously commercial than either of the singles but full of little gems of songs and nuggets of feeling crystallised into lyrics. 'Plutoman' for example, has indecipherable phrases which seem to make some kind of power chorus to satisfy the hardest of song-structure technique.

And they're all like this, none really stand out as they are all so perfectly formed as to be infallible. From the slow and delicate 'I Don't Want To Go Blind' to the more aggressive 'Lovegrove', a range of pace and style is demonstrated. The *Inspirals* have created a rare thing - a good, hyped album. (7) *The Pear*

## Singles



**Senser** - 'Switch' They effortlessly fuse Kerstin's dub-pop chanting with Heitham's angry rapping to produce another classic. *Ridley Dash*

**Echobelly** - 'Insomnia' Catchy melodies, tripped out interludes and Sonya Madan. Excellent. *Camille*

**Transglobal Underground** - 'Earth Tribe' The Drum club mix is strangely reminiscent of Diddy's 'Give Me Love' but has sparser, skeletal beats, and the brilliant voice of Natacha Atlas. Is anyone listening? *Camille*

**Possum Dixon** - 'Nerves' Wow! I haven't heard something this weird in a long time. Kicking drums, chugging bass, dissonant piano. Entertaining. *Vik*

**Sidi Bou Said** - 'Thing' 'All These Things' stands out from the others, gently lulling before the guitar and vocals explode. *Ridley Dash*

**Nick Cave** - 'Do You Love Me' Nick Cave's world weary voice weaves through a barrage of military style drums, waxing cynical about love and various sorrows. Good stuff. *Joe*



**These Animal Men** - 'Speed King' "Amphetamines are where it's at." Yeah, right. Perhaps if they actually took the drugs they're trying to glorify, they'd be able to play this kind of post-punk pop

music with the vigour it deserves. Second hand enthusiasm is no enthusiasm at all. *Guy*

**Paw** - 'Jessie' The track begins like a Nirvana 'Bleach' out-take before quickly progressing to sub Alice in Chains territory. This lack of identity is their fundamental problem. *Ridley Dash*

**Terrorvision** - 'Oblivion' I've liked everything they have done to date, so I guess it was about time they let me down. Here abounding doo-wops take their '60s fascination a bit too far. *Vik*

## Gig

### Raging Slab London Astoria 2

*Headswim* play the first slot. In many ways like a trippier Soundgarden, what sets them apart is the use of keyboards; atmospheric swathes of synth texture or Rhodes piano as the circumstances dictate. Sanity does not appear to abound. The band lose themselves in an onstage frenzy that proves irresistible to the crowd.

"Boogie rock, schmoogie rock," announces *Slab* singer/guitarist Greg Strzempka. "What the kids want to hear these days is rap music."

Maybe, but *Raging Slab* follow no fads. Their brand of honest rock music will always be welcome. They're serious about what they do without losing their sense of humour. A happy medium that's hard to find in a time when bands seem to be either chronically depressed or taking the piss. Contrary to popular belief, the *Slab* aren't full-on, deep-fried Southern boogie merchants like Lynyrd Skynyrd, although the influence is there, especially in the slide work of third guitarist Elyse Steinman. (When she hasn't put the guitar aside to concentrate on singing, dancing around dressed like a Marshall cabinet, or taking over on bass whilst Alec Morton plays mandolin.)

Musicianship abounds; Greg also plays fiddle and Paul Sheehan knows that drum solos have to be stupid and above all short. Guitarist Mark Middleton takes over on vocals for a redneck version of 'Don't Bogart That Joint', by which time we know that there's still a band capable of putting on a great show with a good time to be had by all. Angst isn't everything you know. **Freddy Cheeseworth**

## Album

## Primal Scream

### *Give Out But Don't Give Up*

An anecdote: at last summer's Glastonbury, between madly binging on Verve, the Lemonheads and unlikely and unsightly tuna sandwiches, I'd find (blissed out) an enigmatic, insistent sound emanating from the stage. The stage crew moved like clockwork figures to a technoish yet folkish backbeat that, to me, recalls the summer festivals more than any spliff, band or barbecue. The music was two years late to these ears, was culled from 'Screamadelica' and the band were Primal Scream. The unlikely promoters of dance...

What Primal Scream did, like the Stone Roses before them, was produce music that blended the Euphoric rush of rave with enough rock-cred and attitude to convince committed indie-lovers that you could cross over, if only for a night. Pop down to a warehouse and pop those Es. And with 'Give Out...' it's almost like they're crossing back, a dove with an olive branch, bringing their dance cronies to the world of the Rolling Stones. I see Bobby Gillespie (playing musical cookery – the last great wok star?) get back from an all-nighter, whacked out,



with a few assorted clubbers and in the early morning the discussion turns to idols; our Bob says: "Well, 2 Unlimited are all very well lads but I'll level – it's Mick and Keef that really turned me on..." And then they get out their instruments and prove it, play 'Exile on Main Street' right there in the front room. The clubbers gasp and want more and the Scream nod sagely, remembering how much they made on duty-free imports last crossover.

See, despite what the music press would have you believe, 'Give Out...' is not the greatest 70s record never made. It is, however, a great

example of how retro music can mean revolution. True, 'Jailbird' and 'Rocks' are thundering leather clad beasts that'll have you rushing for a Harley and a highway, anthemic technicolour blasts of life, old Stones style. But the title track, or the endlessly danceable 'Struttin', pay their dues to late eighties dance, Massive Attack style rhythm soliloquies and even their own 'Screamadelica'.

So, while Denise Johnson and George Clinton add funky soul to songs that'll do fine for my roadie backdrop this summer, it's 'Jailbird' that I'll be hitching to... (8) **Owain**

## Album

## Submarine

### *Submarine*

Opening with 'I Can't Be Satisfied', it becomes apparent that *Submarine* never submit to complacency; despite knowing that conceit can sometimes lubricate the mind and can ease pressure. This refusal to be smug is perhaps the basis of their creative impetus.

The trebly crunch of Neil Haydock's guitar sprawls in all directions and lights the sky, while the reverberating atmospherics of 'Alright Sunshine Song' gives peripheral vision. In the slower, sparser moments, they sound like Codeine; but when they ignite they cut through sheet metal.

A transient, unreal quality about them makes them stand out; the unpredictable repeated reprises of 'Lips and Fingers', for example, are brilliant. While on the cover, a vision of a family on the beach gives an almost apocalyptic impression. The fruits of their work deserve some attention; I hope they don't end up pissing' in the wind.

Produced by Flaming Lips and Mercury Rev producer Keith Cleversley, *Submarine* have all the hallmarks of an American band. But they're from London. Get yer cheesy grin around that one. (7) **Camille**

## Album

## Insides

### *Clear Skin*

'Clear Skin' uses the ideas from the band's past and takes them a few steps further. This is what ambient music should be about – finely crafted washes of sound, samples and instruments used to create music that takes you out of your mundane little life and transports you somewhere... One track, 38 minutes. Most bands wouldn't dare, most of those that did would come up with no more than aural candyfloss, only suitable for consumption with large quantities of our favourite soft drug. 'Clear Skin' needs no narcotic assistance to be beautiful. It starts with a ripple of xylophone and gradually builds up, piling on the guitars, vocal loops, samples – including that old chestnut, running water – until it all fuses, breaks down and does it all again, only better.

The *Insides* are reclaiming ambient music from the inept clutches of innumerable bilge merchants. That they are gradually gaining some sort of recognition from the mainstream is to be welcomed with relief. We need music as endlessly inventive, as otherworldly, as fresh as this to remind ourselves that good music does not begin with loud guitars and blistering passion. (9) **Ridley Dash**

March 1994

1.	GIVE IT AWAY	Red Hot Chili Peppers	Warner Brothers
2.	LINE UP	Elastica	Deceptive
3.	ROCKS	Primal Scream	Creation
4.	THINGS CAN ONLY GET BETTER	D:Ream	FXJ/Magnet
5.	BIG TIME SENSUALITY	Bjork	One Little Indian
6.	STAY TOGETHER	Suede	Nude
7.	TEENAGE SENSATION	Credit To The Nation	One Little Indian
8.	INSANE IN THE BRAIN	Cypress Hill	Columbia
9.	CUT YOUR HAIR	Pavement	Big Cat
10.	SATURN 5	Inspirational Carpets	Mute
11.	CAN'T GET OUT OF BED	The Charlatans	Beggars Banquet
12.	NOWHERE	Therapy?	A+M
13.	PALE MOVIE	Saint Etienne	Heavenly
14.	AUSLANDER	Pop Will Eat Itself	Infectious
15.	SPOONMAN	Soundgarden	A+M
16.	NEUROTICA	Cud	A+M
17.	THE WHISTLER	Honky	Z.T.T.
18.	I LIKE TO MOVE IT	Reel 2 Real	Positiva
19.	PERPETUAL DAWN	The Orb	Big Life
20.	GIRLS AND BOYS	Blur	Food
21.	A DEEPER LOVE	Aretha Franklin	Arista
22.	LOCKED OUT	Crowded House	Capitol
23.	HEY JEALOUSY	Gin Blossoms	Fontana
24.	MOVE ON	BABY Capella	Internal
25.	BARNEY (...AND ME)	Boo Radleys	Creation

#### CHART BREAKERS

1.	VIOLENTLY HAPPY	Bjork	One Little Indian
2.	CAFFEINE BOMB	The Wildhearts	East/West
3.	AFRO	Jon Spencer's Blues Explosion	Matador
4.	GLAM ROCKS	COPS Carter U.S.M.	Chrysalis
5.	I WANT YOU	Inspirational Carpets and Mark E. Smith	Mute

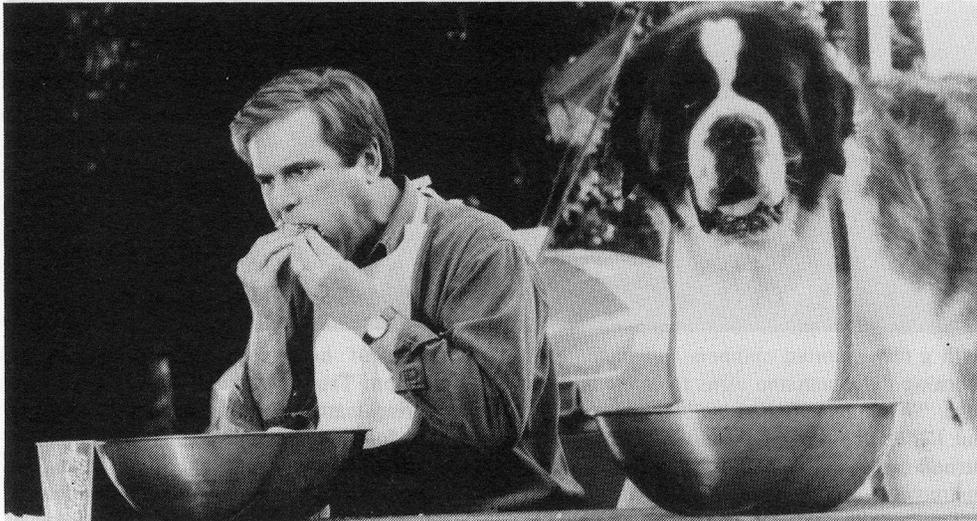
Chart compiled by **STREETS AHEAD**  
Telephone No: 081-852 8836  
Compiled: March 1994

Next, Tori Amos was misquoted from 'Silent All These Years'. Pavement again from the 'Cut Your Hair' single. Then an oldie came with Janis Joplin's 'Me and Bobby McGee'. The Pumpkins' gave us 'Today' and the unknown Rose Chronicles a line from 'Nothing's Real'. We ended with the McGarrigles and 'DJ Serande'. The Madder Rose quote is from 'Car Song'. Better luck next time kids...

## Cinema

## Beethoven's 2nd

Director: Ivan Reitman  
Starring: Charles Grodin



"He could almost be intelligent the way he looks at you."  
"Yeah. And the dog looks pretty smart too."

The success of the first film to star that loveable 150lb rough-coat St Bernard called Beethoven has proved to be irresistible to director Ivan Reitman. It's sequel time again folks...

This film introduces x lbs of a fetching smooth-coat St Bernard, Missy (Beethoven's love). This combined with four beautiful bouncing puppies, has made this another sweet film.

But a nightmare is brewing for dad (Charles Grodin) who has only just started to bond with Beethoven. His children are determined to turn the Newton household into a quivering six St Bernard family, insisting on keeping Beethoven, Missy and their offspring together. To make matters worse a money hungry Regina (Missy's owner) tries to steal the puppies from Missy and drown/sell them (boo, hiss...).

A simple film in which the doggies triumph, this should be popular with younger audiences and any accompanying not so young ones – though it may be hard to make adults admit it. In the making of the film, America's supply of St Bernard puppies is reputed to have been exhausted as they tend to grow a pound a day. The only unfortunate aspect of this canine bliss is the revolting pink bow on Missy.

R.N.

Out today in London. MGM Fulham Rd, concs £3.50 Mon-Fri before 6pm. UCI Whitelys Queensway, concs £3.50 before 3pm.

## REEL 2 REAL

It's the end of the spring term and the Easter break beckons. Of course, you could spend the next four weeks feverously revising for exams, but all work and no play makes Jack (or Jill) a very dull person indeed. Avoid that nervous breakdown and catch some of the latest releases at the flicks over the holidays, using this handy guide to the best and the rest...

Joe Public



Tom Hanks in Philadelphia

## Already Out

**Short Cuts** is over three hours of sheer brilliance. Robert Altman (*The Player*) weaves together twenty two different characters in the sweltering heat of an LA summer. The large cast are all impressive, but the real stars are the stories of Raymond Carver on which the film is based. It's difficult to describe how amazing this is, so just see it – you won't be disappointed.

**Schindler's List** hardly needs any introduction after winning seven Oscars, including best picture. This harrowing tale of the Holocaust is Spielberg's masterpiece and deserves to be seen by everyone as both a lesson and as a great piece of art.

**Philadelphia** has already won Tom Hanks an Oscar for best actor, portraying a lawyer with AIDS. Jonathan Demme's sensitive direction avoids any cheap emotional tricks and fine performances are forthcoming from the rest of the cast, especially Denzel Washington as the homophobic attorney who takes Hanks' case. For once, a movie that is both 'worthy' and worthwhile.

**Waynes World 2** is worth seeing just for the concert scene and, although it doesn't do much different from the first film, it does have the added attraction of Kim Basinger as the babelicious Miss Honey. Predictable, but fun in a pretty brainless way.

## New Releases

**Fearless** sees Max Klein (Jeff Bridges) coming to terms with the aftermath of a traumatic plane crash in a 'spiritual' love story directed by Peter Weir (*Dead Poet's Society*). Rosie Perez received an Oscar nomination for her role in this film. Released in the West End on 15th April, and across the country on 22nd April.

**Backbeat** is the true story of the fifth Beatle, Stuart Sutcliffe, and his menage à trois with John Lennon and Astrid Kirchherr in the sombre city of Hamburg. The hotly tipped Stephen Dorff stars and you can see it from 1st April.

**Kalifornia** has been touted as a cross between *Thelma and Louise* and *The Hitcher*. It got heavily slated in the US, but I've heard some favourable murmurings from people who saw it at the London Film Festival, so it might be worth a look. Again, it's released on 1st April.

**Sister Act 2** is released today. Whoopie Goldberg is back in harness (or should that be habit?) as the cabaret singer turned angel of mercy. Mercifully enough, it looks as if there won't be any more sequels after this one...

**The Scent of Green Papaya** was nominated for an Oscar as best foreign film and is said to be a moving and intelligent portrait of Vietnamese village life in the 50s. Watch out for a review at the start of next term, but if you can't wait 'til then, it's released in London on Friday April 1st.

Read about this year's Oscars on page 24

## Cinema

## Striking Distance

Director: Rowdy Herrington

Starring: Bruce Willis, Sarah Jessica Parker, Denis Farina

The plot of *Striking Distance* is much easier to predict while watching the film than to describe afterwards. Bruce Willis plays a Pittsburgh cop relegated to the river rescue patrol after grassing on his former partner and questioning his department's investigative techniques.

Who are we kidding? The plot is one of the oldest in the book: There's a good cop; he has some bad experiences; he spends two years in a dead-end job drinking too much Southern Comfort; a babe shows up; his past catches up with him; he shags the babe; he confronts his past; he saves the day; credits roll.

Speaking of credits, there is one worth mentioning: Mr Paul Abascal who put in a splendid performance as Mr Willis' hair-stylist. This should not be underrated, especially considering the scenes when both of the hairs get wet as Mr Willis plunges into the water with death-defying determination and awe-inspiring enterprise. Don't get us wrong, Bruce Willis does show acting potential when he is put into the right environment, namely a high-speed comedy (let's have another repeat of



*I want \$1 million dollars a plane, and a toupee...or the mannequin gets it.*

*Moonlighting*) or else an implausible mindless action movie (the *Die Hards*). Unfortunately, *Striking Distance* is neither and you are left lamenting the tragic waste of a good concept.

The, er...film, is not directed badly, it's not shot badly and even the acting is passable. So what if the fact that it's being set on the water is made no use of. What really lets it down is the screenplay. It's got the feel of a good intriguing story, but by the time it reached the studio, it was nothing more than a badly assembled pile of interesting five minute sequences with little or no continuity. You never feel that you can get into the characters and you get from the scenes of great revelation no more than you would from

watching a TV through a shop window.

In all, there was as much corn popping in our big bucket as there was on the big screen. There is one thing that still puzzles us though – the title. *Striking Distance*, we think to ourselves. What could it mean? To what does it refer? Did we see the right film? We think not. At least the film's catchy phrase is almost right: 'They shouldn't have put him in the water, if they didn't want him to make waves'. With a film like this they shouldn't have put him in the water at all!

**SphenX**

Opens at Odeon Leicester Square. 15th April. No student concs, admission from £7.

## Cinema

## Grief

Director: Richard Glatzer

Starring: Alexis Arquette

Another normal week at the office of 'The Love Judge', a frivolous daytime courtroom drama featuring circus lesbians, schizophrenic opera divas, and Tourettes victims.

Behind all this is Jo's crew: Mark, Bill, Jeremy and Leslie, Jo's assistant. This week is the anniversary of Mark's lover's death by AIDS, leaving him feeling suicidal; and the fact that he doesn't know whether Bill, to whom he's attracted, is interested in him worries him too. Bill broke up with his girlfriend three weeks ago and Jeremy's advice to forget Bill might have a baser motive. Also, who is leaving condoms and lubricant on Jo's new leather sofa?

This is a marvellous 'Hollywood' comedy, warmly and sensitively depicting its characters, except those of 'The Love Judge' of course, who are as absurd as they can be...

Go and see it if you can.

**Kristine J Vaaler**

Opens at the ICA Cinema on 1st April. Shown at the National Film Theatre on 31st March.

## Cinema

## Cool Runnings

Director: Jon Turteltaub

Starring: Leon, Doug E. Doug, John Candy

*Cool Runnings* has been out a while now and during that time its star, John Candy, has died. I remember thinking when I saw the trailers: "Oh no, a vehicle for John Candy, in which an ageing comedian indulges himself in what will probably be just a mediocre film." People can only live off previous successes for so long.

But now I've seen the film, I realise that this wasn't the case. Don't get me wrong; John Candy doesn't shine comically in this movie. Instead, he plays the serious part and he does it brilliantly. It's not the performance of a Geilgud or any other 'luvvie', but it's right for this role.

The film is based on the true story of the first Jamaican bobsled team to compete in the Winter Olympics in Canada, 1987. It follows the four intrepid Jamaicans and their coach, Irving Blitzen, a disgraced previous gold medalist, played by Candy. There's also Derice Bannock (Leon), an Olympic class sprinter following in his father's Olympian footsteps, and Sanka Coffie, played by a wickedly humorous Doug E.

Doug, who provides a constant flow of rich and spontaneous humour.

*Cool Runnings* is itself a bobsled ride with many twists and turns. It's one of those 'coming to terms with the person you really are' stories, but dealt with in a lighthearted humorous way. The laughs come thick and fast; no digs and gibes, but just the sort of belly laughs to make you feel smiley and happy. A couple of serious points are made, like being who you are and going after what you want, but the casual Jamaican style of the movie manages to avoid things getting too sickly. Another plus is the score, a good balance of typically commercially viable reggae and instrumentals by Hans (*Thelma & Louise*) Zimmer.

Other reviewers have complained about insulting stereotypes in the film, but this is ridiculous as the movie just doesn't take itself that seriously. *Cool Runnings* is suprisingly great and should be given a chance by everyone.

A fitting end to John Candy's career.

**Little Blue**

Now showing at Warner West End, Leicester Square. Concs £4 before 5pm.

This week's *Cat's Tale* is on the back page

# “I’d Like To Thank My Plumber..”

*Tony Grew sheds some light on the glitter and the dazzle of the Oscars.*

The Oscars. What the bloody hell is all that about, I hear you cry. The annual back-slapping and bitching of the world’s best known film awards is legendary and for movie professionals there is the chance to possess what Mae West once cheekily called “the most sought after thirteen inches in Hollywood”. Or was that Errol Flynn? Anyway, the point is that in its 66 year history the Academy Awards have had some famous and equally infamous moments. So we here at *Felix* have decided to answer all the questions that keep you awake at night or at least the ones about the Oscars.

The first one that springs to mind is: **Why call them Oscars anyway?** This is an easy one actually, depending on who you believe. Most likely is an academy employee called Margaret Herrick who, in 1935, exclaimed that the award looked like her Uncle Oscar. The proper title of Academy Awards doesn’t have the same ring to it somehow. Bette Davis claimed that she named it because of the similarity to the behind of one of her husbands but, frankly, no-one believes her. It is, in fact, supposed to represent a nude knight holding a sword where his cricket box should be and standing on a reel of film. Why anybody would claim this to be the behaviour of anyone they knew (even a Tory MP) is beyond me but there you go. If I had an uncle who behaved like this, I certainly wouldn’t tell anyone. The actual award is worth about \$200, weighs a little over eight pounds and is gold plated bronze.

The next obvious question is: **What Academy?** Well, it is the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and it was founded in 1927. Lots of very famous people are in it, as well as the people that make it all possible. There are about 4,000 members and it costs \$175 a year but you really do have to be asked. Anyone nominated to receive an Oscar is offered membership immediately. If you have powerful friends and major screen credits, you also have a goodish chance.

**So how does a film get nominated?** The process is pretty simple really. The Academy is divided into twelve branches, such as actors, writers and directors. The members of each group send in their top five recommendations in their particular field of expertise and everyone makes recommendations for Best Picture and Best Foreign Language Film. The five most popular choices in each category are then the nominations and the whole Academy then votes on these. Simple. This explains why a nomination is so important; it is recognition from your peers that you do good work. The Academy as a whole may not agree though, the case of Steven Spielberg being a notable



*Spielberg’s List: His films claimed a grand total of ten Oscars.*

example. Previous to his awards this year he had been nominated on three occasions but never managed to carry it off. This means that the directors valued him more than everyone else. The votes are counted by the accountancy firm, Price Waterhouse, who are the only ones who know who has won before the envelopes are opened.

**Why the tacky ceremony then?** TV possibly has a lot to do with the present form of the awards. Whoopi Goldberg had the supreme honour of hosting the proceedings this year, thereby becoming the first African-American to do so. The gold envelope bit is interspersed with various dire song and dance routines starring the likes of Jerry Lewis. It always runs over time, usually because of the...

**Speeches.** These are always the most amusing aspect of the ceremony and there have been some memorable gaffs. Cher, as well as having the dress sense of a retarded yak, also managed to give one of the least comprehensive thank you speeches in history, remembering only to mention her hairdresser and make-up

artist. She subsequently had to take out a three page ad in the trade papers the next day thanking everyone she forgot. The deranged babblings of Sally Field (“You like me! You cannot deny that you actually like me at this moment!”) are recalled with groans. She really should have learned from the Great One, Jack Nicholson, who oozed charm from every pore behind his sunglasses when picking up his 1975 nod for *One Flew Over The Cuckoo’s Nest*. “I guess this proves there are as many nuts in the Academy as anywhere else,” he mumbled, before ambling off in the wrong direction. What a guy. Many believe the 1982 sweep by *Ghandi* is what led to the now traditional Dickie Attenborough cry-in. Hankies out, too, for Sylvester Stallone who was overcome with emotion when *Rocky* won best picture in 1976. Which leads very neatly on to the topic of...

Unexpected winners and indeed losers. Whilst *Rocky* may seem like a prime example of the innate nuttiness of the voting patterns of the Academy, there has been worse over the years, not least Julie Andrews for *Mary Poppins*. Incidentally, Dick Van Dyke was nominated for his role in that modern classic, probably single-handedly responsible for the introduction of dialect coaches for all Americans.

This year, it has been very much an Oscars ceremony for remembering people the Academy have passed over in the past. This year’s winners have really yielded no surprises, with the long deserved recognition of Spielberg as a modern day god of directing. After the appalling snub of *The Color Purple* in 1988 (nominated for ten and won none) it has just been a matter of time, but of course *Hook* really wasn’t the film to honour. The Best Film Oscar for *Schindler’s List* is a powerful vindication of Universal’s courage in financing and supporting what must have seemed such a dodgy proposition at the time and I feel personally vindicated at the Best Actress award for Holly Hunter. Ever since *Broadcast News* I have been trying to convince people of her brilliance and now they have finally seen the light. Tom Hanks, a firm favourite with the Academy, is no surprise either, especially in his first serious role. The cinematography was, of course, worthy of its award; I have always felt they should give one to everyone in this category, but I do feel on this occasion *Schindler’s List* had to be recognised yet again. The chillingly bright black and white added immeasurably to the horror of the story. With Spielberg’s films collecting ten awards in total, the competition stood no chance really. It’s unfortunate that Robert Altman had to be nominated in the same year as Spielberg. We can only hope that his next piece will be half as good as *Short Cuts*.

## Theatre

## Futon And Daruma

Despite it's techno-smart modern exterior, Japan has often been stagnant when it comes to female emancipation (yes, still). As chronicled in films like 'Ripples of Change', any mould-breaking energy seems to have faded; previously bra-burning feminists of the 70s lib movement appear a tragic shadow of their former selves; now only bitter cynicism and Catch-22 resignation remain. Why? Weakness or ignorance is not the problem; more likely is the tenacious hold of traditional feudal values – epitomised by the conformity of mainstream society and it's resentment to 'rogue' elements.

Such is the unseen background context to Ryo Iwamatsu's 'Futon and Daruma', presented here by WaVe. Set in a room with two futons, the farcial (and often sexual) comings-and-goings of the characters form the backbone of the play. The evening after his daughter's wedding, Nomura's mid-life crisis worsens when his young second-wife suggests they seperate. Complications ensue as in-law couples, girl/boyfriend pairs interact in a very sharp Shavian-like satire. But there is a pressure cooker of emotions underpinning the play. Dramatic tension bubbles to boiling point in prolonged silences and makes it almost unbearable at times. This is in fact never completely released and the embracing of a new day, right at the end, perpetuates the whole situation to poignant intensity.

The set layout is essentially Japanese, and the content of the dialogue, a satire on said-culture. But with English characters speaking familiar

vernacular, it could also work as a satire on a more recognisable level.

The daruma is particularly intriguing; it is a small doll used to embody wishes and derives it's name from Zen Buddhist founder Dharma. Unbelievably coherent, it is also representative of (wo)man's essential resilience to the identity-jarring incidents that occur in life – the doll is weighted so once knocked over, it bounces back up again.

Maximum credit goes to Edmund Dehn whose articulate Nomura is compelling throughout. Kazuya, played by Alex Harland, is unnervingly funny, and not because there's a scene involving a romp with his wife and a silver vibrator. Esta Jakobs as Nomura's wife is a little too restrained even for Japanese standards and perhaps needs more charisma.

Tim Keenan's direction is incredibly dynamic and it's not hard to see why his WaVe company are 'committed to producing unusual and visually stimulating theatre'. The opening few minutes with Stuart Bedford's film backdrop and Jonathen Allen's 'ambient' station soundbites feel like a surreal kaleidoscopic hallucination and is almost like a cinematic clip from 'Mishima'.

In the play, the adage that appearances can be deceiving rings very true. Indeed, you can't judge a theatre by looking at it's doorway.

**Camille**

*Attic Theatre, 103 The Broadway, SW19. 081 542 6141. Tube: Wimbledon. Ends 9th April. Mon £5, Tue-Thu £6, Fri & Sat £7 concs £5.*

## Theatre

## Paddywack

*Paddywack* – the name did not appeal. The barman at the Cockpit Theatre didn't help much either: "It's about a paddy who gets whacked," he muttered. Expectations were rapidly sinking – nearly as quickly as the level of Guinness in my plastic pint cup. But then again, I was always told never judge a theatre by its barstaff.

*Paddywack* deals with one of the most ugly scourges of the modern cosmopolitan world many of us now inhabit: racism. Damien, a young Irishman starting work in London, is transformed and projected by each and every character he meets into what they want him to be, not what he really is.

The motives are all very different – for Brian, the token Alf Garnet character, it is insecurity – for Damien's girlfriend, it is the thrill of danger. But the projection is the same: Damien must be, has got to be...an IRA terrorist.

And you will have probably guessed the fate of our poor Damien – the innocent paddy, who in an enthralling last scene, finally meets his whack.

It is a stirring play indeed, and a poignant reminder that we should all be careful of false expectations – for, in the end, it is so easy to blame others when you own truth is so hard to find. Get a ticket, and make you own judgement...

**The Judge and Duke**

*The Cockpit Theatre, Gateforth St, NW8. 071 402 5081. Tube: Marylebone/Edgware Rd. Ends 26th March. Mon £5, Tue-Fri £8, £6 concs, Sat £9, £7 concs.*

# UGM

## (UNION GENERAL MEETING)

# TODAY

## 1pm, Union Ents Lounge

**Business:**

**Passing of new ICU Constitution**

**Election of next year's Student Officers**

**Ratification of new Sabbaticals**

**Reports from Union Officers**

# Editorial



## Election Coverage

Question: For someone being paid over £6,000 a year (and getting free accommodation), is Andy Wensley (ICU President) really earning his money? Is he doing his job and, more importantly, is he doing it *properly*?

If you read the news story on page three, you will see that he's screwed up over the sabbatical elections. There was late publicity for the hustings, virtually no publicity for new election, fewer voting stations because of too few swipe card readers, a non-secret secret ballot, no proxy voting, no flyers to all the students as promised...the list could go on.

But this non-secret ballot. How can someone be that stupid? Under no circumstances should you say who's paper it is if you happen to know. All you have to say is: "Yes, that paper is OK." Does he not think before he does things? Does he not appreciate the seriousness of the position he is in and the responsibility that goes with it?

There are a number of things other than the election screw-up that I could mention, but I don't have the space to highlight them all. One that I could mention is his lack of common courtesy and professionalism. On a number of occasions he has arranged meetings with students and then turned up late.

One example is an election interview for Felix. It was originally arranged for an afternoon, but Andy postponed it until 9am the following morning. He had to be phoned at 9:15am because he was still in bed and he eventually turned up at 10:20am, over an hour late.

Maybe he oversleeps after arranging meetings with College management as well. But if he can't make the effort to arrive on time for meetings he has arranged himself, I think it's disgraceful.

Add this to everything else this year and it comes as no surprise that comments such as 'horse's arse' and 'fuckwit' are being made about Andy Wensley.

## Second Class Citizens

Dear Felix,

You are our last resort.

We are students from Holbein and Willis Jackson houses (Evelyn Gardens) and we have had numerous problems with accommodation facilities which have not been dealt with satisfactorily, despite repeated complaints to the housekeeper (House 44, Evelyn Gardens) alerting him to the situation.

The most serious problem concerns safety. For example, several weeks ago, two stoves in Holbein and Willis Jackson houses broke. Despite assurances from the housekeeper that the stoves would be mended, they are still dangerous to use, resulting in the near electrocution of a student while innocently trying to cook his dinner. This is just one of many incidents; to catalogue them all would take up an entire page.



## Tick Tock

The clocks go forward one hour this Sunday morning. We'll be in British Summer Time at last and, looking at the weather, I can almost believe it. Don't forget to reset your watches.

On the subject of time, according to the New Scientist, we'll be gaining some time this June. The International Earth Rotation Society has decided that we will all have an extra second added to our lives between 23:59:59 and 00:00:00 on 30th June. Don't forget to reset your watches for this too and use this extra time wisely!



## Poison

The cause of death of Whiskas is still unclear, but contrary to the letter from Andy Clark, we were not feeding it dry roasted peanuts; it was surviving quite happily on a diet of Basics pizza bases and chocolate, with the occasional handfuls of proper mouse food or muesli.

Claims have been made, though, that Whiskas wasn't the original mouse that escaped from Biology two and a half years ago. Certain members of the Felix Office staff have suggested that they have been replacing the mice as they die off. Two and a half years seems quite old for a lab mouse, but I guess we'll never know the truth.



## Second Class Citizens

In reply to the letter below, I suggest that you talk to Jill Dove, the Union's Accommodation Officer. She will be able to suggest the best course of action to take and who the best people are to talk to. She might even be able to approach some of them on your behalf. You can contact her through her pigeonhole in the Union Office or through Dave Goddard, Deputy President (Finance and Services) on ext 3502.

The above example illustrates perfectly the unwillingness of the housekeeper to deal efficiently with problems with student defects etc only aggravates our situation as opposed to alleviating it.

Surely rent of nearly £50 per week entitles us to a safe hall environment with appliances which function properly.

We feel that we are treated as second class citizens, not as rent payers with tenants' rights.

In our belief, our accommodation contract has been broken. Does this therefore entitle us to a rebate for rent we have paid.

Can you advise us what to do in order that we may rectify this situation?

*This letter has been signed by 20 people including: Veronica Beswick, Paul Thomason, Rachel Muller, Kasper Juel Eriksen.*

## Answers to last week's Elimination

a	Round Off	27, 3
b	Flee, Escape	8, 36
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r	Moon, House	11, 23
s	Face Value	7, 31
t	Door, Bench	6, 20

The word left over was *Crafty*

## Credits

**Typesetter:**  
Rose Atkins

**Music:**  
Jon Jordan

**Printer:**  
Andy Thompson

**Theatre:**  
Rekha Nayak

**Business Managers:**  
Simon Govier  
Steve Newhouse

**Features:**  
Owain Bennallack  
Tony Grew  
Mike Ingram (and all the Easter Egg eaters)

**Layout & Proofing:**  
Kin Wei Lee

**Puzzles:**  
Sphinx, Penguin,  
Catfish et al

**News:**  
Mike Ingram  
Lynn Bravey  
Penguin  
Joe McFadden

**Photography:**  
Simon Govier  
Ivan Chan

**Collators Last Week:**  
Mike Ingram  
Tim St Clair  
Andrew Tseng  
Patrick Wood

**Cinema:**  
Joe McFadden

## Poetry Corner

Dear Beccy,

Would you please allow me to take some space – away from enlightened and constructive debate – with a humble poem:

Bendin' bowin'  
Seepin' sowin'  
The Comin's and goin's  
of oligarch  
Thank you,  
Eitaroh Arakawa, Materials 3

**The deadline for letters is 6pm on the Monday before publication**

## Poisoned?

Dear Felix,

I wish to send my condolences to you for the death of dearly departed Whiskas. I am sure that Whiskas' departure from this world was nothing to do with the dry roasted peanuts you were feeding him.

Andy Clark, EE3

P.S. Can I have my rat poison back yet? It's in the bag labelled dry roasted peanuts or something similar.

## Hebron

Dear Felix,

Sabri Saidam, in his letter to Felix of 18th March 1994 concerning the incident at Hebron makes no reference to the many other "lone incidents" committed by 'lone deranged people'. No mention of the almost daily 'lone incidents' in which innocent women and children are attacked without discrimination. It is perhaps worth pointing out that the 1929 massacre by a mob of 'lone deranged people' left Hebron Judenrein for the only time in thousands of years.

It would be well to reflect that although this incident has received well publicised condemnation by Jewish leaders, secular and religious, both here and abroad, the silence from other communities when their 'lone deranged people' act is quite deafening.

Yours faithfully,

A. N. Burton, Computing

## Censorship Of The Press

Dear Beccy,

I think that your attention should be drawn to a serious attempt to restrict the editorial freedom of one of the CCU newsletters, namely Pit of the Royal School of Mines (RSM).

Their last editorial, published on the fifth anniversary of the fatwa imposed on Salman Rushdie mused on how unjust it is that he is in hiding for writing a book offering a different opinion on aspects of Islam, whilst nearly every week, Islam Soc produce copy for Felix attacking many aspects of the British way of life.

## From Innocence To Cynicism

Dear Felix,

Firstly, clarification: I do not believe that Jon Jordan is a fascist nor a bigot, and I thank Marcus Alexander for being astute enough to question whether I really hold this opinion. I will admit that my letter last week was formulated on the basis of a superficial impression, and only after I had re-read it, did I realise that I had taken the very aggressive end of the stick. But I feel justified in doing this because if I got this impression by a first glance, I'm sure there were others who, skimming briefly through the letters pages may have thought similarly, so my words were of well-meaning caution, not of accusation.

In my final message of the term to any humanity which still exists at IC I would like to suggest a definition of tolerance. All of us are prejudiced to an extent, most of us resting somewhere comfortably between the extremes of intolerant suspicious bigot and naïve trusting fool. Now I believe that peoples' characters are a true reflection of their environment: if our environment makes us hostile and cynical, we tend to behave in this way to others, and thus the process is self-perpetuating, but it need not be: The cycle can be broken.

What I think is important for us to find are the points in our lives where our ch-ch-changes from childhood innocence to cynicism occur, and identify if possible, the reasons for them. Certainly from his rhetoric, it would appear that Marcus has passed beyond this point of no-return and become the battle-hardened cynic that he is. But whilst he might "hold little faith in the future of the world" I have faith in his (and every individual at IC's) potential to do a lot of

good with his life, rather than to spread gloom and doom as he is doing currently.

In response to his suggestion that I remove my blinkers, I should like to tell Marcus that my eyes have never been open so widely. I have lived in Warrington and walked the very street on which John Ball and Tim Parry were killed and each day in the media I see and hear of the most terrible atrocities committed by people against each other in the name of nationalism, greed or pure malice.

But I am not going to throw up my hands in the air and say: "Well, that's life and there's nothing I can do about it." Because there is something we can all do about it, which doesn't involve marching through streets or shouting into the wind: Simply to think a little about ourselves and about others.

So I approach the end of this letter, and hopefully the end of this vigorously and on the whole intelligently fought debate, which began so many aeons ago when Marcus started the ball rolling with his cry that despite IC supposedly laying claim to the top x% of the population of this country, it has degenerated into a "wasteland of mindlessness". I too find it tragic to know that we are amongst some of the finest brains in the country, who may become tomorrow's managers and leaders with the power to influence people's lives and futures, yet many of us will, by the time we have left college, have truly become detached from the reality of our one life on this planet. If we, as students do not think about these issues now, once we embark on our career-oriented lives proper it will be too late.

Yours sincerely,

Sagar Das, Chem Eng 3

I have since heard that the editors and the staff of the RSMU office have been subjected to considerable verbal abuse and intimidation by several large groups of Islam Soc members, protesting about the content of the last Pit editorial.

It is my view that this sort of behaviour only goes to prove that the editors were correct to remind their readers that there is a significant minority in this country and this College, who openly advocate murder, and have scant regard for the law.

I sincerely hope that the new Government rules on Student Union expenditure on clubs and societies exclude groups such as Islam Soc, who so blatantly abuse the freedoms guaranteed them by democratic constitutions; freedoms that would not be available to, for instance, a Christian Society at a university in an Islamic country.

Yours from a safe house in South Kensington,  
Anthony France, Civ Eng III.

P.S. Please do NOT withhold my name and department.

### The following people have been awarded colours by City and Guilds College Union:

<b>Full Colours</b>	Nick Morgans	Tammy Atkins	Subhashis Chowdhury	Tom Howell	Amand Sinha
Eric Allsop	Ian Parish	Shazia Afzal	Ralph Clague	Soraya Ismail	Ivan Tan
The Barbershop Quartet	Helen Roberts	Bulbul Basu	James Cooper	Tesneem Kaderkutty	J Tank
Mr Terry Briley	Prof Bob Spence	Kelda Bratley	Freddie Coutinho	Gavin Kenny	Matt Toolan
Prof Julia Higgins	Matt Turner	Alison Butt	Tim Dulle	Kieran McCullough	Adrian Treverton
Gabbi Hilu	Stephen Waite	Gavin Chow	Nathan East	Masoud Modarresi	Heather Turner
Colin Johnson	Steve Wilkinson	Jez Clayton	John Evans	Richard Oussedik	James Weekes
Prof Eric Laithwaite		David Cohen	Shirley Franklin	James Peng	Raymond Wong
Pauli Markannen	<b>Half Colours</b>	David Coleman	Paul Gowling	Rob Prior	Carol Whitworth
Dick Morgenroth	Ebenezer Adenmosun	Beccy Cotton	Fiona Grandison	Helen Randall	

Certificates will be available from the Guilds Office early next term. Please let us know any spelling errors before then.

# The Cat's Tale

## The Other Prisoner:

### Autumn Through Mirrorshades

- Where am I?
- In the village.
- Ooh, that sounds nice.
- Information – what?
- Oh yes, I'm sure I'll enjoy my time here.
- Eh?
- Did you say you wanted information? Well here goes. First when I was ten I...

AAAAARRRRGGGHHHHH!

In 1967, a Government Secret Agent resigned from his post, only to wake up hours later in a strange community known only as the Village. Its location: Unknown. Its inhabitants: Known only by their number. Our hero, No. 6, persistently attempted to escape, whilst those in charge endeavoured to obtain vital information from him. For copyright reasons, this is not his story. With apologies to ITC entertainments, it is the story of one of his fellow prisoners, No. 9...

The year is 1994. No. 9 did not resign his top Government post. He was sacked. For being an irritating git. His employers arranged for him to be taken to the Village, persuading the authorities to let him stay there, despite the fact that his job had nothing to do with the Secret Service. In short, they lied.

Several months later...

No. 9 woke up, stretched and yawned. It was an hour before the official wake-up call. This was not unusual. He got up, waved at the surveillance camera planted in the upper wall and began his morning walk. This was not unusual. He entered the official building, with a cheerful smile – No. 9 really enjoyed the morning. And his meetings with No. 2. In fact, No. 9 really enjoyed the Village.

"Hello, No. 2. How are you this fine morning?" he greeted.

"Oh, morning John, how's yourself? Up early again, I see," the older man replied.

"Oh, no, NO! How many more times! I am not a name, I am a number! No. 9! Get it?!"

"Well, as you will, old chap, now what can we do for you today?"

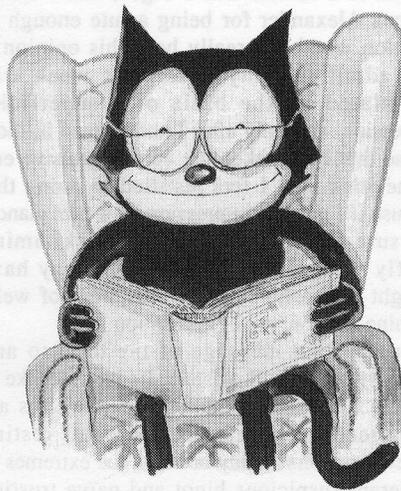
"I've come to confess. To tell more things – everything I know. All the reasons. Everything."

"Right, er, I don't think that'll be necessary. After all, you did all that yesterday. And the day before. And the day before that, too. Now, why don't you run along and try and join in with some of the other villagers?" the Chief Supervisor suggested.

"But I've done all that already. Only yesterday, I arranged four human-chess matches and two No. 2 commemorative concerts and exhibitions."

"Well, then, just push off, there's a good chap, will you." With that, No. 2 swung round his chair, turning to his back to indicate that the interview was over. You will not be surprised to learn that none of this was unusual either.

The next day, John, sorry No. 9, woke up, stretched and yawned. And then blinked because



the Village was unearthly silent. Even though he'd woken early, there was not a single sound to be heard. This was very unusual. Foregoing his usual routine, he left his house and stepped into the everpresent cool sunshine. A pair of rowing oars had been left, propped against his wall. This was very unusual. Next to them, a telescope was perched, pointing out to sea. He examined it, looked through and saw, drawn up onto the beach, a small one-man boat. Complete with mast and sail. This, too, was unusual. Indeed, today would be very, very strange. Curious, he picked up the oars and set off in the direction of the shore.

A few minutes later, No. 9 stood beside the sturdy little craft and began to examine it, to try and ascertain from where and from whom it had come. It was certainly very seaworthy, almost brand new and, partially covered in the stern, there appeared to be about a month's worth of provisions, carefully wrapped and packaged to protect them from a potentially long and arduous sea voyage. Very strange indeed. It was then that he heard the first sound of the day, as a gull flew overhead, heading inland. Following it with his eyes, No. 9 observed another curious fact. Although he could see his house and a few other buildings of the Village, he could not see the imposing Green Dome, the nerve centre for the authorities. The boat had been left in such a position so that it could be seen from his house and yet remained invisible to the eyes of No. 2's residence.

Quickly he ran back up to the Village, racing through its deserted streets until, breathless, he stood panting by the front door of the Dome. To this portal a note was pinned which read:

*Have gone off all day. Won't be back till late. Have taken Rover (the Village guardian) with me. Signed No. 2.*

*PS There's a map and compass under the seat.*

No. 9 read this, considered it for a moment and then removed the note from the door and

tore it up. Then he stalked back to his own house. The door, for once, did not open automatically, so No. 9 had to pull hard to get it open. Once inside, he sat down for a moment and then busied himself making some tea.

The next thing he knew, four thugs, the kind employed by No. 2, barged into his home and proceeded to beat him up. For a noncompliant Prisoner, this was common practice, but No. 9 hadn't experienced anything like it before. He did not resist, therefore, until they began to drag him towards the door. By then, resistance was useless and, knocking him out, they bundled him outside and into the waiting small car. This then drove them down to the beach where the four manhandled his limp body into the waiting boat and then slowly launched the craft into the sea. The strong current and wind soon carried the little boat into the distance and, satisfied, the thugs returned to the now strangely active Village. From the observation room a smiling No. 2 watched the boat disappear over the horizon.

No. 9 didn't know how long he'd been at sea but it seemed like many days and the food supply was beginning to get low. Despite this, he continued to use the map and compass intently, steering to his own highly accurate course. He was resting today after the exertions of yesterday – a fishing trawler had spotted his boat and had tried to offer him a ride. It had taken all his remaining strength to row frantically in the opposite direction, so that now he lay exhausted in the bow of the small sea-vehicle. He thoughtfully rubbed his new grown beard and gazed off into the middle distance at the far-off coast. He rubbed his eyes with astonishment but there was no denying that, after so long, he had finally sighted land. Quickly, he grabbed the oars and began to furiously row for shore.

After landing, he grimly used the remainder of a paraffin stove to douse the boat and then lit a match. As the burning craft slipped back into the sea, No. 9 wearily began to climb back up the beach to the dry land. Another twenty minutes had passed before he finally stood triumphantly atop the cliff. Looking inland, laid before him were the many houses of the Village. No. 9 smiled and swiftly began to descend the slope.

With a cheery smile and a jaunty step, he marched through the door of the Green Dome and into the office of No. 2.

"Hello, No. 2, it's me again, sir, I'm back!"

No. 2's face fell and he collapsed onto the floor. Weakly he grabbed his phone and sobbed, "It's no good. I can't take it. I need a replacement."

An end...

Remember – we're all prisoners – it's just that not all of us live in strange village communities in remote parts of Wales, peopled by men and women known only by their number and who follow strange and rigid rules and...