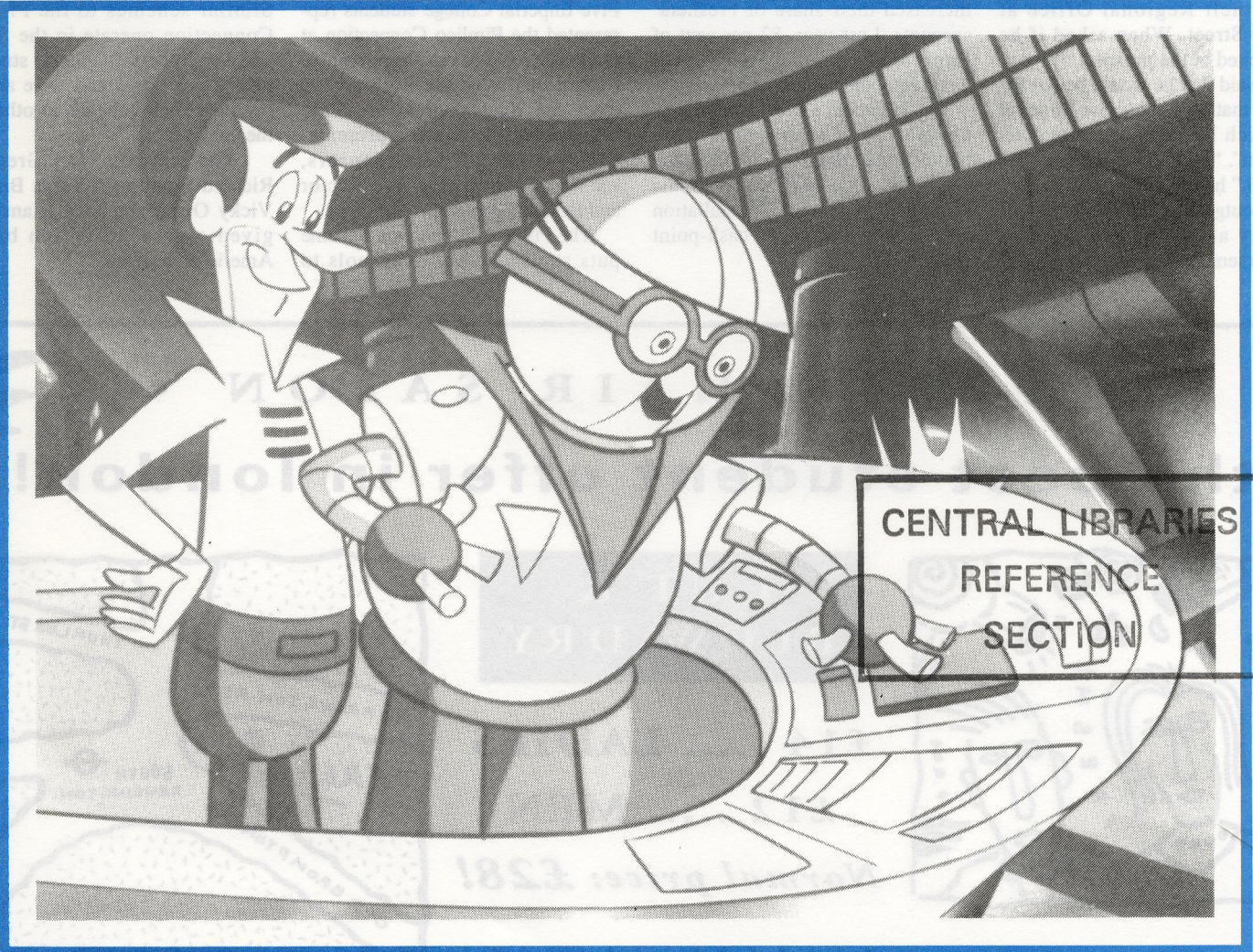




# Felix

Issue 998 13th May 1994

## What makes the President tick?



... and if we press this button we can get him to run the Union. But we don't use it, obviously.



## NatWest Manager Heads East

BY SIMON SHAW

The Manager of NatWest Bank's Imperial College Branch, Mr George Jamieson, leaves today after more than ten years at the College.

Mr Jamieson has built up a formidable reputation among students. Since the news of his departure became known, he has been awarded colours (recognition for an outstanding contribution) by all three of IC's South Kensington Constituent College Unions.

Mr Jamieson, who has been with NatWest for 25 years, will be moving to their Regional Office at Curzon Street. When asked if he was excited at the prospect of moving, he said that he would be but for the fact that he would miss Imperial for which he has a "tremendous affection". "I will always remember Imperial," he said.

The outgoing manager feels very strongly about the low level of Government student grants. He con-

fesses to having bent the rules in the past in order to accommodate students' financial needs and admits to being "unorthodox" in his approach to student banking over the years and has even been known to give a struggling student money from his own pocket for them to "buy a Burger King". "You have to take a long-term view with students," he said. The bank expects to make a profit out of them ten years into the future when they are successful in business or industry.

Since Mr Jamieson came to Imperial, NatWest have gradually increased their share of Freshers' accounts. Last year, 82 per cent of Imperial freshers banked with NatWest - the highest on record.

Mr Jamieson's successor will be Mr Hari Nair who comes from NatWest's Branch at Onslow Gardens. One project Mr Nair inherits is the possible installation of a second automated cash-point closer to Southside.

## Attack On Student

A female student was attacked last Friday night whilst walking from Southside towards Brompton Road.

The attack occurred at 1.30am in the alleyway near the Holy Trinity Church on Brompton Road. She was walking with a male friend at the time. The students managed to fight off the attacker and they were not badly hurt. Both students were very shaken by the incident.

The attacker was white, badly spoken, about 6'4" tall and with a mop of brown hair. He was accompanied by another white male who held back during the attack.

If you see anyone fitting these descriptions, please contact College Security (ext. 3392) or the Police immediately. This is the first assault of this type to have taken place in the district in many years.

## Pimlico Visit USA

BY LYNN BRAVEY

Five Imperial College students represented the Pimlico Connection at a Campus Outreach Opportunity League conference in Boston USA over the Easter vacation. This Wednesday they gave a presentation to some of their sponsors, including the Rector, Pro-Rector and British Petroleum.

The Pimlico Connection Scheme puts student tutors in schools to

encourage a better understanding about higher education and science. Similar schemes to the Pimlico Connection operate in the States and the Imperial College students gained new ideas and were able to promote their scheme to others at the conference.

The students, Ian Gregory, Richard Boardman, Kelda Bratley, Vicky Owen and Joey Islam were given a great reception by the American students.

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# Mastering Degrees Rag Fête

BY LYNN BRAVEY

Science institutions are up in arms over the implications of a new type of Masters degree proposed by the Department of Education and Science. The Royal Society have slammed the scheme in a report released this week, describing it as damaging and unnecessary.

The original proposal, put forward in last year's White Paper on Science, stated that anyone intending to take a PhD would need a Masters degree, the idea being to give students the basic skills required before beginning a three year research programme.

After almost a year of discussion on the matter, universities, scientists and industry remain united in their opposition to the degree. The Science and Engineering Research Council calculated that the high cost of financing graduate students for an extra year would force it to reduce by 30 per cent the number of PhD candidates it could fund.

A new type of degree was proposed by William Waldegrave in February. A Research Master (MRes) could be undertaken along-

side a PhD, preventing the need to delay the start of a PhD by a year. It was also indicated that students who had taken four-year first degrees may not need the MRes.

Some Universities have expressed enthusiasm for the new degree, but most have decided that the concessions are not enough. In a letter to the Office of Science and Technology, Sir Ronald Oxburgh, Rector of Imperial College, put forward some concerns. He said that the College "welcomed most warmly" the idea that seven years of study and training was required from the start of a first degree to the award of the PhD.

He went on to say, however, that the College was "not at all convinced" that the MRes proposal would "enhance the quality of PhD training in ways which could not be achieved within the existing academic structure".

The Royal Society holds similar views to the College and instead want more four-year undergraduate courses. In the Society's report on the MRes they commented that "someone with an MRes was likely to be labelled a failed PhD".



Students enjoy "the ultimate colour experience".

BY LYNN BRAVEY

Students took a break from exams to visit this year's Rag Fête this Wednesday on the Queen's Lawn.

Various activities were on offer. By far the most popular was the Amazon' Colour Maze, an inflatable labyrinth set up by the charity Turning Point. One student climbing out of the maze described it as the "ultimate colour experience".

Meanwhile, Imperial College Union's (ICU) sabbaticals, current and future, were being pelted with wet sponges while they sat in a set of stocks. Andy Wensley, ICU President, was the first victim. Jane Hoyle, Rag Chair, commented how some students were "eager to have

a go at Andy". Felix Editor, Beccy Land, also took her seat in the stocks and described the experience as "wet".

An IC Radio outside broadcast and live music from the Jazz and Rock Club kept students entertained as they sat on the lawn.

Helen Teesdale, one of the Fête organisers, said that it had been a great success. There were, however, complaints from College administration about the noise level, but this problem was soon "sorted out".

Student comments on the event were varied: "A distinct lack of ice-creams," noted one; "just not enough going on," said another. Most just soaked up the atmosphere and enjoyed the sunshine.

## Portillo Pelted

BY MIKE INGRAM

Two students have been arrested after Conservative MP Michael Portillo's car was pelted with eggs.

Mr Portillo, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, was speaking to Conservative students from the London School of Economics (LSE) on Monday. The speech took place in the Royalty Theatre opposite the School. Mr Portillo's speech was frequently interrupted by loud heckling and shouting from the crowd, including a cry of "slimy git". He attempted to calm the heck-

lers down by pointing out their "privileged" position as students.

The ministerial car in which Mr Portillo left was pelted with eggs, though only one actually hit it. Two members of the Socialist Worker's Student Society were arrested. One commented: "It's a bit wrong arresting us for demonstrating against ministers who lie about tax rises."

Mr Portillo is the second minister to encounter the wrath of LSE students this year. A previous attack on Education Secretary John Patten resulted in him being hit by an egg during a speech.

## Friends of IC Lecture

A lecture entitled 'Imperial College Then and Now' will be given by Professor Bryan Coles on Thursday 19th May at 6pm. It will be held in the Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley.

The lecture is organised by the Friends of Imperial College. More information is available from Eleanor Burke on 081 813 1230. All are welcome and admission is free.

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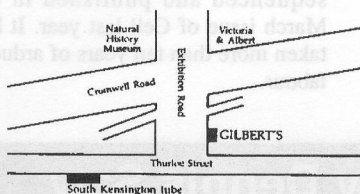
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# Genetic Roulette and Shakespeare

*Dennis Saw*

*writes about*

*Huntingdon's*

*Disease: how*

*the gene*

*responsible*

*was discovered*

*and what the*

*effect is on the*

*lives of the*

*sufferers and*

*their relatives*



Imagine that you are in your twenties. You've got a bright future: a whole life ahead of you. You plan to get married to your wonderful girl/boyfriend a few years after graduation – when you've both made that first toehold on the world.

Now imagine that you are greeted by an urgent message: Phone home immediately. You rush off to the nearest telephone and you are greeted with your dad's voice. He tells you in a low tone that your mother has been diagnosed as having Huntington's Disease. What disease? Hunting who?

It takes a while before the gravity of the situation seeps in; and you rush off to the nearest library to find out what Huntington's Disease is. You discover the following:

- a. Huntington's Disease (HD) afflicts one in every 10,000 Caucasians of Western European origin. It is less common in other races but has been detected in almost all populations studied to date.
- b. It is characterised by a prog-

ressive dementia with a middle age (35-45 years) onset – an asidious wasting of brain cells. It results in the sufferer slowly losing his/her higher mental functions, gradually becoming retarded and succumbing to death by secondary complication (heart disease or pneumonia) in about 17 years.

- c. It is an autosomal dominant disease.

If you understand the point c, the full effect of this disease will hit you. 'Autosomal' means that the disease gene is not carried on the sex (X or Y) chromosomes. 'Dominant' means that if one of your parents has the disease (hence the disease gene), you will have a 50% chance of suffering from it yourself. 50% chance. A flip of a coin gives you 50% chance of getting either face.

You are desperate to know if you are afflicted. Had you asked around for a test before November 1983 – to see if you had this time-bomb ticking inside of you – the answer you would have got was "No". And,

if you were carrying a child, had you asked for a test for your foetus, the answer would have been even more emphatic.

Your future shatters. Can you bear the responsibility of inflicting this gruesome disease onto your unborn children? 50% chance.

That was precisely the position Alice and Nancy Wexler were in in 1968. Their mother Leonore was fifty-three when she was diagnosed with the disease. She died after ten years of suffering (having tried unsuccessfully to take her own life in 1970). Because of their helplessness, Nancy and her father, Milton, began a crusade to get scientists interested in the disease. As a result of the combination of impeccable timing (the flourishing of molecular biology and several remarkable coincidences of scientists being in the right place at the right time) and their cataclysm, the gene was finally located, sequenced and published in the March issue of *Cell* last year. It had taken more than ten years of arduous labour.

**Coming Soon: *White Mice Can't Jump* also by Dennis Saw**



Why did it take so long? Finding a gene with an unknown function amongst a background of 100,000 other genes is no mean feat. The gene (now that we know) is 210,000 bases long (a base is a letter in the genetic code A, C, T or G) and the human genome is 3,000,000,000 bases long.

Considering that the gene could reside in either strand of the double helix DNA, it would be concealed somewhere within six thousand million bits of information. It would take up only 0.0035% of the human genome. It would be like looking for an unknown word that spans 52 pages in 800 volumes of *The Complete Works of Shakespeare* and the word could just as well be backwards.

But even that analogy is inaccurate for, whilst we have *The Complete Works of Shakespeare* in print, we do not have a base sequence of the human genome.

So how was it done? The location of the gene was homed into using a technique called linkage analysis. This powerful tool came about as geneticists like Thomas Hunt Morgan discovered that gene-pairs deviate from Mendel's Second Law of Inheritance. Why is it that we never see people with jet-black hair sporting blue eyes? A rather naïve conclusion would be that the genes for brown eyes are linked to black hair. (Naïve because we have not performed a statistical analysis on the human population to ascertain this casual observation.) So, if every sufferer of HD has black hair, we can conclude that the HD gene was linked to the genes for hair colour. And if we knew on which of the 22 pairs plus two chromosomes the genes for hair-colour resides, our search would be narrowed down to about 35 volumes of the bard's works.

That is the concept of linkage in rather crude terms. In fact, the HD gene was first found to be linked not

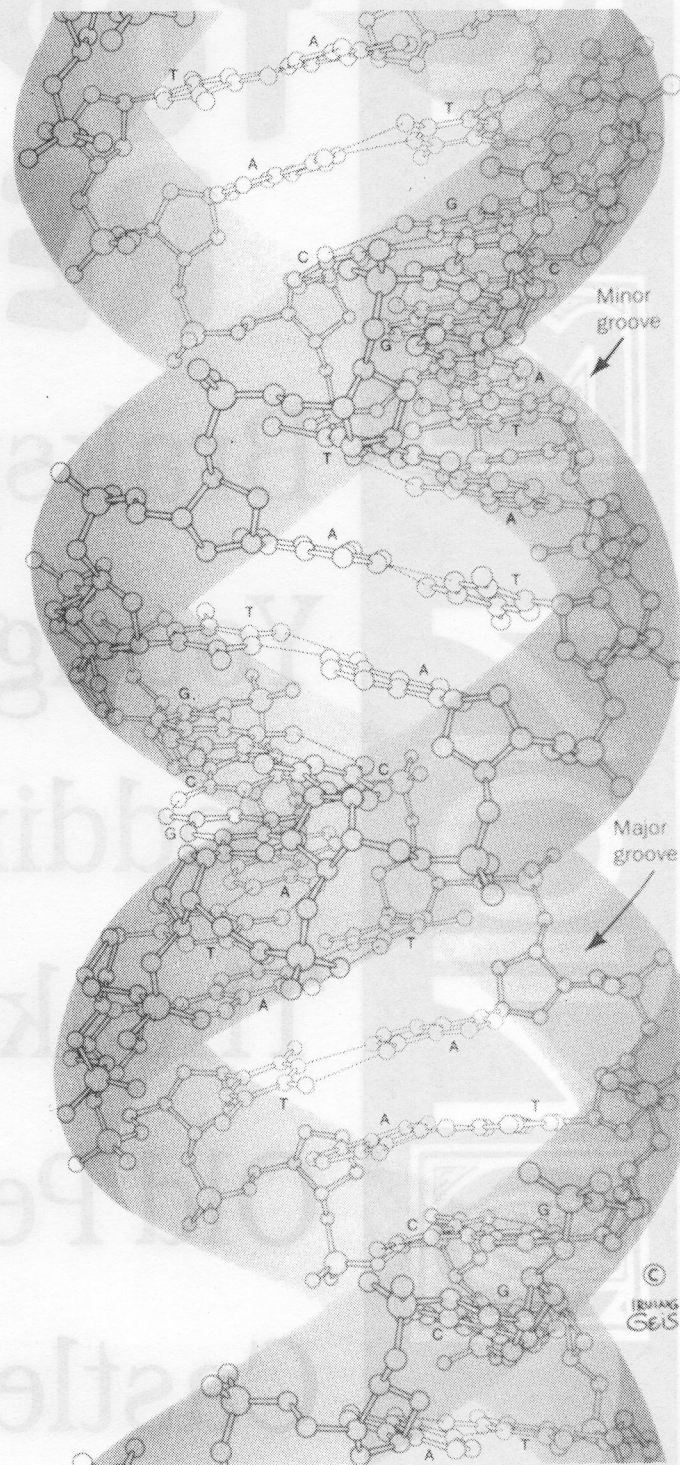
to some visible trait, but to a certain variant (a polymorphism) of a segment of DNA (known as G8) on chromosome 4. This was done using the then freshly emergent tools of molecular biology (and a rather large slab of luck); and it took more than three years of sifting through blood samples of Macaribo Venezuelans. G8 can be thought of as a marker – much like black hair – and this result was first published in *Nature* in November 1983.

It was to take another ten years and a score of scientists working in several countries, using G8 as a springboard, to pin-point the gene. Now we know where the gene is and what it looks like, but we still do not know what function it codes for.

What does this breakthrough mean? It means that if you were that person in the beginning of the article, we could tell you if you carried that time-bomb. Perhaps more importantly, if you were a carrier, and was with child, we could tell you if your foetus has inherited the disease gene.

The work, really, has only begun. For in sequencing the gene, we now have a handle with which to study what it actually does. This may lead to some medical therapy (gene therapy?) in the future when we may be able to cut the fuses off the Huntington's Disease gene before the clinical symptoms rear their ugly heads. Or we may be able to replace the disease gene with a normal one in the fertilised embryo. In addition, like our studies on cancer, dissecting the disease process would undoubtedly lead to our understanding of some very basic biology, like the ageing process.

Perhaps in *The Complete Works of Shakespeare* the gene would start as: "The web of our life is of a mingled yarn, good and ill together..." and when we have discovered how it originate, all's well will end well!



## Further reading:

**Genome: The Story of our Astonishing Attempt to Map all the Genes in the Human Body.** Jerry E. Bishop and Michael Waldholz. 1990. Touchstone Books (Simon & Schuster).

*This book gives a wonderful historical account of the Wexler story and how the search for the HD gene has led to the most ambitious intellectual endeavour this century – the mapping of the human genome.*

**Huntington's Disease. Chapter 3 in Advances in Human Genetics, Vol 20.** James F. Gusella. 1991. Plenum Press.

*The state of play in 1991. Gusella provides a very clear account of the disease, but the genetics portion is quite jargonised. The sections on clinical symptoms and epidemiology, however, are very good.*

**A Polymorphic DNA Marker Genetically Linked to Huntington's Disease.** Gusella, J.F. et al. 1983. *Nature* 306: 234-238.

*The original paper describing the G8 marker. Rather technical.*

**The End of the Beginning. In News and Views.** Peter Little. 1993. *Nature* 362:408-9.

*A short and incisive article describing the search. Rather jargonised, but it describes the process leading up to...*

**The Huntington's Disease Collaborative Research Group.** A novel gene containing trinucleotide repeat that is expanded and unstable on Huntington's disease chromosomes. *Cell* 72:971-983.

*Finally! The gene sequence. This paper, however, is extremely technical and complex. Get a biologist/biochemist/medic to explain it to you.*



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# Bic National Student Windsurfing Championships – Clacton 1994

After achieving a respectable array of results in the BUSF competition at Christchurch on 16th/17th April, coming 4th overall in the team event, the Imperial College Boardsailing team headed for the Bic National Windsurfing Championships held at Clacton over the Bank Holiday weekend.

This event was organised by the University of London Windsurfing Club, which includes several IC students. It is the second time the event has happened and this year everything was bigger and better, with a marquee on the front, a PA system and lots of prizes supplied by various sponsors. More than 20 colleges were represented with over 100 sailors taking part.

Even though the wind wasn't up to expectations, the May Bank Holiday sun was intense and bodies were bronzing rapidly – after all, that is what windsurfing is all about isn't it?!

Over the three days freestyle, slalom and course racing disciplines were run for the more accomplished sailors in division 1, with slalom events for the novices in division 2. Imperial was well represented in all events and not just on the beach. Will, in particular, was the first to make a name for himself by dancing with anyone (or anything) in the bar on the first night, including an Elvis look-a-like.

In terms of windsurfing events, the novice team achieved an impressive second place in the overall rankings. In division 1 the freestyle event was convincingly dominated by Imperial with the first four places going to Tim 'sail 360' Wilkes (4th), James 'everything' Slaughter (3rd), James 'railride' Mayhew (2nd) and Dan 'I like to somersault through the boom' Laurijssen, who is now the British Student Freestyle champion – well done Dan!



The remaining slalom and course events were run depending on the state of the wind and an overall ranking was constructed. After proving his competence at freestyle, Tim Wilkes went on to win the title of Bic National Student Windsurfing Champion with Imperial coming second in the team event.

Unfortunately, Imperial didn't win any prizes in the ladies events, simply due to extreme under-representation, like we had no women! So if there are any women out there who are interested in windsurfing or just like to do it standing up, then contact Imperial College

Boardsailing Club through Paul Cooper, Mech Eng III. You never know, you may become a future windsurfing champion.

The weekend was not all windsurfing though. On Sunday night there was a Mayor's reception (free food!) followed by a team pub crawl competition around Clacton, ending up in a local nightclub where we danced and drank the night (and most of the morning) away.

As for the coming months, the Boardsailing Club is pretty well wrapped up until the start of next term, so all that remains to be said is: "See you at Freshers' Fair!"

## Dune in May from icsf

A film review is a delicate thing. Know then that on Tuesday 17th May at 7pm in the Concert Hall, icsf are pleased to present David Lynch's epic film *Dune*.

The story revolves around the desolate, desert world of Arrakis (also known as Dune) which is the sole source of the hallucinogenic spice-gas melange. The actual spice production remains a mystery to the Spacing Guild who, along with the Emperor of the Known Universe, regulate its supply to their Navigators who use it to travel without motion; only the enigmatic Fremen inhabitants of Arrakis understand its connection to the giant sandworms which patrol the planet's surface.

Into this hostile world are thrown House Atreides to take over spice mining after the seeming departure of their sworn enemies House Harkonnen. As Paul Atreides, son of a noble duke and a Bene-Gesserit witch, is plunged

deeper into the web of political machinations which surround Arrakis he begins to question whether he is the messiah so long awaited by the Fremen and, if so, can he marshal their scattered tribes to end the mining on Arrakis and transform the desert planet into a paradise?

Gorgeously shot and stunningly designed, this is a film to be seen on the big screen. Lynch proves that he can sustain a lengthy film without resorting to weirdness with his excellent direction of every aspect: visuals, sound, acting and effects combine impeccably.

Oh yes, I forgot to tell you...admission is £1.50 to icsf members and £2 to non-members. Membership is just £3 and includes free entry to *Dune* along with the chance to borrow over 3,000 books, graphic novels and videos from our library in the corner of Beit Quad. The dream unfolds Tuesday at 7pm.

## Bic National Student Windsurfing Results

### Team Positions:

	Division 1	Division 2
1st	Plymouth	Sheffield
2nd	Imperial	Imperial
3rd	East Anglia	Plymouth

### Individual Positions (Imperial):

1st	Tim Wilkes
5th	Will Harvey
6th	Raul Payri
8th	Dan Laurijssen
10th	Jo Graham
13th	Ian Wickens
12th	Miguel Ortiz de Latierra
19th	James Mayhew
23rd	Marco Villargordo
25th	James Slaughter

If your Diary entry is incorrect, please let us know



## Assistant Subwarden Falmouth Keogh Hall

A vacancy exists for an Assistant Subwarden in Falmouth Keogh Hall from mid-September.

This is a position for an energetic and resourceful person who wants to live and work in a student community.

Applications are particularly invited from postgraduates, although any member of the College may apply. All applicants should have at least two years remaining at IC.

Application forms are available from Professor New's office (room 686) in the Huxley Building, or from Richard Evans (int tel 6586).

The closing date is Monday 23rd May

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# diary

## 13th - 19th May

### Friday 13th

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

**Chess Club** .....12.30pm  
Table Tennis Rm, Union Building.

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

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

**West London Chaplaincy** .....  
.....2.30pm-4.30pm  
'The Coffee Shop'. Basement of 10  
Princes Gardens. Drop in for a chat.

**Wing Chun Kung Fu** .....4.30pm  
Union Gym. Beginners welcome.

**IC Fitness Club** .....5.30pm  
Step aerobics in Southside Gym.

**Atmosphere** .....8.00pm  
Union Lounge. Happy hour 8pm-9pm  
in Da Vinci's. 20% off all drinks.

### Sunday 15th

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

**IC Fitness Club** .....2.00pm  
Southside Gym. Intermediate and  
step aerobics.

### Monday 16th

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

**ArtSoc Meeting** .....12.30pm  
Union Dining Hall, Union Building.

**West London Chaplaincy** .....  
.....2.30pm-4.30pm  
'The Coffee Shop'. Basement of 10  
Princes Gardens. Drop in for a chat.

**IC Fitness Club** .....5.30pm  
Southside Gym. Beginners aerobics.

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

**Leonardo (Fine Arts)  
Society** .....6.00pm  
Civ Eng 101. £4 staff membership,  
£2 students. £2 per class (2 hours).

**Chess Club** .....6.00pm  
Brown and Clubs Committee Rms.

**St Mary's Volleyball** .....7.00pm  
Wilson House Recreational Centre.

### Tuesday 17th

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

**Yoga Society** .....12.15pm  
Southside Gym. New members  
welcome.

**Food For Thought** .....12.30pm  
A weekly diet of discussion and  
talks. With food for the stomachs  
as well. In the Committee Rooms,  
Sherfield (317a/317b/318). Run by  
the Chaplaincy.

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

**Sailing Club Meeting** .....12.30pm  
Southside Upper Lounge.

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

**Liberal Democrat  
Society Meeting** .....1.00pm  
Southside Upper Lounge.

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

**Boardsailing Meeting** .....1.00pm  
Southside Upper Lounge. More  
information from J. Mayhew,  
through Mech Eng pigeonholes.

**Circus Skills** .....5.00pm  
Union Lounge.

**IC Fitness Club** .....5.30pm  
Advanced aerobics. Southside Gym.

**St Mary's Netball** .....5.30pm  
Wilson House Recreation Centre,  
Sussex Gardens, Paddington

**Dance Club** .....6.00pm  
Beginners class in the JCR.

**ICSF Presents:**  
**Dune** .....7.00pm  
Concert Hall, second floor, Union  
Building. Admission: members  
£1.50, non-members £2. Member-  
ship £3 (includes first film free).

**Caving Club Meeting** .....8.00pm  
Southside Upper Lounge.

**Mountaineering Meeting** .....9.00pm  
In Southside.

### Wednesday 18th

**Parachute Club** .....12.00pm  
Table Tennis Room. Top floor of  
the Union Building.

**Labour Club Meeting** .....12.00pm  
Southside Upper Lounge.

**War Games & Roleplaying** .....1.00pm  
Brown Committee Room, Top floor  
of the Union Building.

**Hoverclub** .....1.00pm  
Build a hovercraft. Southside  
Garage near Southside Shop or E-  
Mail j.bell@ee.

**IC Fitness Club** .....1.15pm  
Southside Gym. Intermediate/  
Beginners aerobics.

**Wing Chun Kung Fu** .....1.30pm  
Union Gym, second floor, Union  
Building. Beginners welcome.

**Tenpin Bowling Club** .....2.15pm  
Aero Eng foyer for a trip to Char-  
rington Bowl, Tolworth. Transport  
provided.

**West London Chaplaincy** .....  
.....2.30pm-4.30pm  
'The Coffee Shop'. Basement of 10  
Princes Gardens. Drop in for a chat.

**Flamenco Dancing** .....6.00pm  
Union Lounge. More info: Pablo on  
4999. Organised by the Spanish Soc.

**Chess Club** .....6.00pm  
Brown and Clubs Committee  
Rooms, top floor, Union Building.

**St Mary's Women's  
Waterpolo** .....6.00pm  
Medical School Swimming Pool.

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

**Club Libido** .....9.00pm  
Union Lounge, Union Building.

### Thursday 19th

**French Society** .....12.00pm  
Union Gym.

**Spanish Society** .....1.00pm  
Southside Lounge.

**STOIC Lunchtime  
News Training** .....1.00pm  
Top floor of the Union Building.  
Members free, non-members £2.50.

**ICYHA Club** .....1.00pm  
Southside Lounge.

**Fitness Club** .....5.30pm  
Southside Gym. Intermediate  
aerobics.

**Christian Union** .....6.00pm  
Room 308, Huxley Building.

**IC Choir Rehearsals** .....6.15pm  
Room 342, Mech Eng.

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

**IC Jazz Big Band  
Meeting** .....7.00pm  
Rehearsals in Table Tennis Room,  
top floor, Union Building.

**Dance Club** .....7.00pm  
Beginners Class in the Junior  
Common Room.

**STOIC: 'Into the Night'  
Training** .....7.00pm  
Top floor, Union Building.  
Members free, non-members £2.50.

**Cocktail Night** .....8.00pm  
Da Vinci's Bar, Union Building.  
Happy Hour 7pm-8pm, 20% off all  
drinks.

**ICCAG Soup Run** .....8.30pm  
Meet in the basement of Weeks  
Hall to distribute food and drink to  
the homeless. Contact Polly  
Griffiths, ext 98 212 for more info.

## diary entries

In order to have a diary entry, please supply the following  
information by 6pm on Friday:

Day, time and title of event.

Room in which the event is to be held.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you no longer  
want a diary entry.

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Kuala Lumpur	£283	£479	San Francisco	£180	£299

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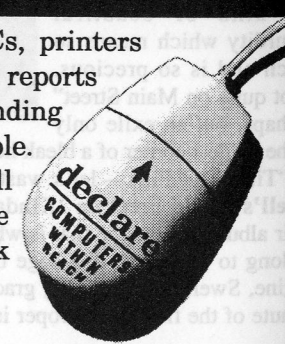
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## Albums

A new concept in reviewing this week from my fevered mind, a smorgasbord of cluttered albums. Heading off first with **Dig's** album *Dig* (see photo below).

You don't need to be au fait with the current music scene to know that there's a veritable glut of indie-styled metal bands scampering out of the woodwork and into the clutches of the major record label executives and, by now, the cry of "yes, but this band have a special quality about them" is becoming a cliché-beyond-cliché in the popular music press. Unfortunately this particular cliché does not apply to *Dig*, although many others certainly do. I mean, let's face it, do we really need more songs with that infamous semi-threatening bass line and barrage of squealing, wah-wah guitars, while someone hollers "I'll stay high" over the top? Every now and again they tease us with some inspirational dashes, such as the surf-guitar sound in 'Ride the Wave'. Nevertheless, at the end of the day, like their record label Radioactive, too much exposure to this could seriously damage your health. (5) *Vik*

The progression of snow queens gets one longer. **Stina Nordenstam** starts her album, *And She Closed Her Eyes*, with geographical nonsense (see photo right). 'When Debbie's Back From Texas' may be more than a mere air fare away from her native Norway, but it marks the beginning of a remarkable journey. Words so shy that they sound hardly formed float and quickly conquer. "I could think of a few things to believe in, but I don't know about love," she sings with all the uneasy certainty of the spurned. You may have to check what they actually are but the music is as compelling as glacial momentum. The whole thing is shot through with the kind of beautiful absurdity which means so much and is so precious. "Not quite on Main Street" perhaps, but an exile only to the coldest corner of a bleak heart. (8) *Tintin*

"Time and Pills - let's waste a year," says **Swell's** David Freel on 'Kinda Stoned' from their album *41*. Maybe that is why it's taken me so long to review it. A garage band without an engine, Swell do everything gradually. The first minute of the first track proper is a long straight



strum. The first track unproper, 'In The Door, Up The Stair' is exactly that. Someone opening a door and stepping up some creaky wooden stairs, maybe the same stairs which are on the front cover. Definitely so. What is slowly done is properly done.

The penultimate track is 'Down The Stairs, Out The Door'. In between are ten crafted pieces, taut with warm acoustic riffs and slow electric guitars. A phone rings, the band talk to each other. Like I said, there is no engine here. It is a stationary glide around the block. When you're already deeply in love with the place you're at, what's the point of moving on. (8) *Tintin*

**Dog Eat Dog** are another Noo Yawk hardcore/rap/metal hybrid, so what's new? Well, a horn section for a start. Lacking Biohazard's ferocity or Life Of Agony's sheer genius, they have carved out their own niche by mixing up an alphabet soup of influences to produce *All Boro Kings*, their first album. Fuelled more by beer than righteous anger this breathes fresh air into the often oppressively PC rapcore scene. Dog Eat Dog's social commentary is tempered by the need to have a good time. Musically fat, friendly, AC/DC riffs mix with hip-hop rhythms and the saxophones which set them apart from the crowd. Every track is a rousing anthem to shout along or pogo to. The sparse production captures the loosely jointed *joie de vivre* of the live show. (7) *Freddy C*

Brothers and sisters! Will y'all welcome the heart and soul of New Orleans: Aaron, Charles, Cyril and Art, the mighty **Neville Brothers** - *Live On Planer Earth*. Ow right! Funk, funk, soul, rock, reggae, jazz, gospel, soul, funk, funk, soul. It's all here, people. Yes, sir. Y'all be groovin' now, ya hear? Peace! One more exclamation mark! Yeah! There's 'Sister Rosie' for the Brother's mutha, his queen, his daughter and strong wimmin everywhere! Nobody rides on the back o' the bus, no more. Then there's 'Brother Jake', 'Voodoo' and 'Yellow Moon'. Y'all be fightin' back them tears when yo' hear Brother Aaron's virtuoso rendition of 'Amazing Grace'. Amen. One tapped one's foot a lot. Like James Brown without shotguns. Funky but harmless. (7) *Sphinx*

## Singles



**Helium** - *Private Prude*: There are some serious twisted moments at the end of the rainbow owned by Helium. This mini album has tracks like 'Baby Vampire Made Me' and its companion 'Wanna Be A Vampire Too, Baby' - a sort of grown up gritty slap in the face to Winona and Annie Lennox's Dracula weakness. Helium get you involved in such weirdness as you would not believe. Muses to their madness, Mary Timony croons away, affectionately high pitched, whilst the bass/drumming lads torture away the background. The perfect beast they build is the product of three eight-mile-high Bostonians as they trawl through some pseudo Taoist concepts. This is the Dalai Lama with a stratocaster and a bottle of Jack Daniels. Cool in an art school way. *Tintin*

**Ivy** - *Get Enough*: An ex-Melody Maker single of the week and for once we go along too. This is a beautiful two and a half minutes of easy pop forever stranded on 7" of white plastic. *Get Enough* is vacant enough to fill a head and with the edge to give a bloodied kiss. The purest record I have heard for a long time. *Tintin*

**Frank Black** - *Headache*: While his first solo album saw the former Pixies' frontman distancing himself from their unique sound, this does nothing but recall it. He seems far more at home now and, despite the title, the tunes are for more celebratory than on his recent work. *Ridley*

**Portastatic** - *Naked Pilseners*: Simplicity is all. Portastatic is the work of one man, Superchunk's Mac, in his bedroom with no more than a guitar or two and some drums and it's beautiful. The guitar strings have space to chime and the melody finds room to weave its way into your head, until all of a sudden it's over. Unusual, interesting, varied and excellent. *Guy*

**Galliano** - *Long Time Gone*: Definitely more Clare Short than Prince Charles this one. The guitarist takes more than a cursory nod towards 'Crosstown Traffic', but we can allow him that one. Brilliant groove. Remember those lazy summer Sundays down at Dingwalls.



**Vanilla Trainwreck** - *Kiss Me*: Starting on the chaotic escalator of sound does little to make this accessible. Things settle down as the grooves turn but this is for all those puritans who think Pavement have sold out. *Tintin*

**Stabbing Westward** - *Control*: Stabbing Westward? Heading upwards by the sound of this. They've toured with Front 242 and Therapy? and fuse the best elements of both, inventive keyboard loops and a menacing bassline, into an engaging piece of semi-industrial, techno-metal. *Vik*

**Inch** - *Linger*: Heavy guitars clashing with some neat bifurcations of direction (that B.Eng didn't go to waste) don't do enough to roll Beethoven for this one. Too much neo-California grunge clogs his ears. As for him being deaf, forget it. *Tintin*

I'm on the corner like a fallen Marishino cherry



## Cinema

## Blink

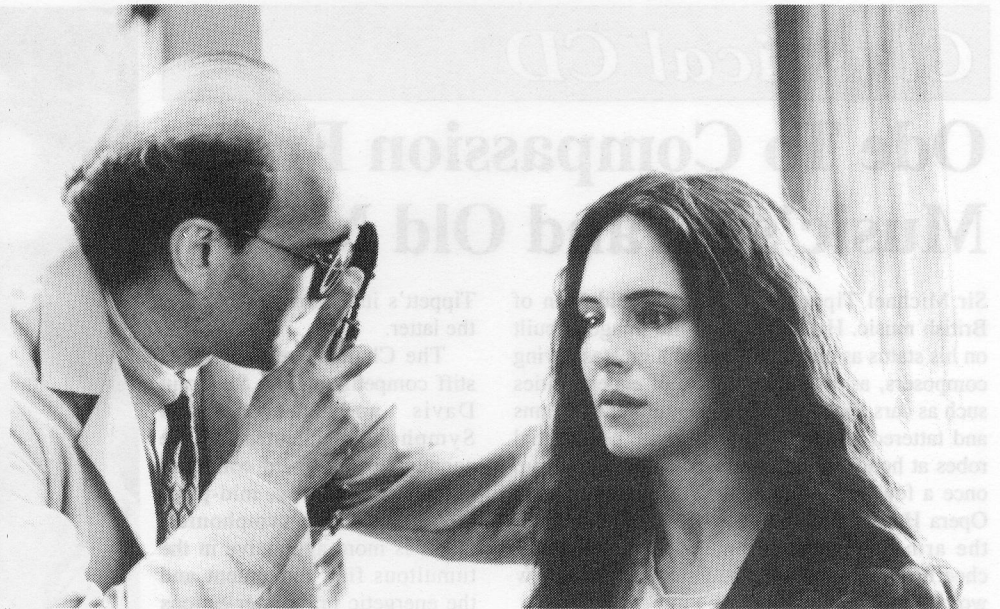
*Starring: Madeleine Stowe, Aidan Quinn, Peter Friedman*  
*Director: Michael Apted*

A corneal transplant returns the gift of sight to Emma Brody (Madeleine Stowe), but with this gift comes uncertainty and confusion.

When the bandages are first removed, by her specialist, Dr. Ryan Pierce (Peter Friedman), all she sees is a bright haze and a disfigured face. Nothing she sees is coherent and after a couple of days little has improved – she has sight, but she is unable to register what her eyes see until hours or days later, a phenomenon known as ‘retro-active’ vision.

One night, a disturbance in her neighbour’s flat makes her investigate. Unknowingly she sees someone leaving the building but, because of her retro-active vision, she is unable to tell who it was. When Emma’s neighbour is found dead in her flat, Detective John Hallstrom (Aidan Quinn) begins to realise that Emma is the key to finding the killer.

After picking out a policeman in a line up, John still believes that Emma did see the murderer despite his sceptical colleagues. From then it is a race to stop the murderer from



*Made you look, made you stare, made you lose you underwear...*

striking again as Emma becomes the next possible victim.

The filmmakers used computer graphics and animation to create Emma’s actual sight. The hallucinations and the out of focus effects give the viewer a greater understanding of what Emma is having to cope with. All she sees are shapes with no meaning and then, when her mind finally registers the images, they appear to her out of the blue, adding to the confusion. New images flood her mind that have no meaning, for

what is beauty to someone who has previously never seen anything before?

The film centres on Emma and John’s passionate relationship as well as the effects of her having sight rather than on the murderer. This is a shame since the murderer’s motive is one of the more complex ideas of the film and could have been explored more deeply.

**Magpie**  
*Opens at the Odeon West End today. Tube: Leicester Square. Tickets from £7.*

## Cinema

## Four Weddings And A Funeral

*Starring: Hugh Grant, Andie MacDowell*  
*Director: Mike Newell*

You’ve probably heard of this English film because it’s been a surprise hit in the United States. *Four Weddings And A Funeral* was made on a shoe-string budget of £3.75 million and has already made well over \$30 million across the pond. Its success in America is as much attributable to a shrewd marketing strategy as a sensational script.

The story follows the exploits of a group of friends as they attend four weddings and one funeral. One of the group, Charles (Hugh Grant) is apparently not suited for marriage. He is continually late for every engagement and has never committed himself to a long-term relationship.

However, at the first wedding, Charles meets Carrie (Andie MacDowell), an American girl who captivates him. A night of passion is not enough to keep them together and they don’t see each other again until the next wedding two

months later. Again, they sleep together despite Carrie having just introduced her new fiancé. The third wedding is Carrie’s, the fourth is Charles’ and the funeral is for a friend of Charles.

Andie MacDowell’s performance is put to shame amidst those of all the British actors and actresses but I suppose she had to be there if the film was to get previewed in the States. Hugh Grant plays Charles admirably with the innocent charm demanded by the part. *Four Weddings* oozes with stereotypical Britishness. Rowan Atkinson’s appearances as a vicar are brief but memorable. The scenes range from central London to English country villages to Scottish highlands.

*Four Weddings* is a hoot but with screenplay by Richard Curtis it was a dead cert. The facadic situations of official functions provide a rich seam of comic circumstance.

If I had a reservation it would be the romance. The mush between Charles and Carrie is taken a little too seriously considering the absurd nature of their relationship.



*Andie MacDowell and Hugh Grant take part in a wet T-shirt competition*

Well worth even the extortionate central London prices for cinema tickets.

**Sphinx**  
*Opens today. Odeon Kensington today. Tube: Kensington High Street. Tickets from £6 (£3.50 before 5pm).*

**Coming Soon: A Home Of Our Own and Look Who’s Talking Now**



## Classical CD

# Ode To Compassion From Music's Grand Old Man

Sir Michael Tippett is the Grand Old Man of British music. His larger-than-life image is built on his status as one of the world's greatest living composers, as well as rumours of eccentricities such as cars abandoned in high street traffic jams and tattered sneakers worn beneath ceremonial robes at honorary degree ceremonies. I saw him once a few years ago in the foyer at the Royal Opera House; natively bow-tied, frail, leaning on the arm of a companion, he was twinkling cheerfully at a fan who had stopped for a few words.

He is 90 next year and planned celebrations include a new production of the Trojan masterpiece *King Priam*. Among the record companies Chandos, typically adventurous, have begun a cycle of the four symphonies with Richard Hickox and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. The second release is the hour-long Third Symphony of 1972, coupled with the brief *Praeludium* for brass and percussion.

In the manner of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, which it quotes, Tippett's ambitious Third contains a vocal finale. The texts are the composer's own and are intended as a reflection on the Beethoven/Schiller *Ode to Joy*. If universal brotherhood seems, in the light of the horrors of this century, to be beyond us, then differences must be overcome and problems resolved, through mercy and compassion. This could be trite or profound; the quality of

Tippett's invention ensures it is the latter.

The Chandos release faces stiff competition from Sir Colin Davis and the London Symphony Orchestra, whose account of the Third comes as part of a three-disc, mid-price Decca set of the symphonies. Davis is more aggressive in the tumultuous first movement and the energetic brass interjections have a wilder glee. But Hickox is suppler in the hurtling string lines, high violins have a sweeter bloom and the Bournemouth winds are surer and crisper of ensemble than their London counterparts. Rich though they sound, however, Hickox's brass are blown away by the stunning virtuosity of LSO horn and trumpets, which gives Davis the edge in punching home the climactic fanfares at 7'00'' on track one of the Decca.

Of the soprano soloists in Part II, Faye Robinson for Hickox is brighter, Heather Harper on Decca warmer and more secure. In the crucial last section, Hickox is the more convincing, better than Davis at drawing together the threads of the symphony's second half: Beethoven,



Richard Hickox conducts the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in a new recording of Tippett's Third Symphony

Miles Davis-inspired flugelhorn blues and wistful murmurings recalled from the slow movement of Part I. Try the inspired final minutes from 6'15'' on track eight of the Chandos: this is visionary music and Hickox is more likely to convince you of the fact.

Patrick Wood

## Opera

# Warm Welcome For ENO's Sunny New *Così Fan Tutte*

English National Opera's new production of Mozart's *Così Fan Tutte* is a sunny success. It deftly conveys the humour and irony in this slightly wicked trial of female fidelity. Don Alfonso, a cynical (pragmatic?) old philosopher idly professes that the lovers of his two young friends are, like all women, wantonly fickle. Outraged, our Romeos agree to put their darlings to the test in an increasingly insane intrigue to woo them in disguise (and what disguises!).

According to Mozart and librettist Da Ponte, the women ultimately melt under these compulsions, only to be humiliated by the final revelation. Despite the multiple betrayals, both pairs of lovers conform to the convention of marriage with their original partners, wiser and stripped of any lingering innocence.

A dubious moral is cunningly subverted in this refreshingly lucid presentation. Nicolette Molnar, making her directorial debut with the company, ensures it is the women who have the last laugh in a wonderfully inventive *coup de théâtre* that it would be a crime to reveal.

The cast of young singers is uniformly strong, effortlessly combining the demands of director and composer. Over all is cast the sage influence of Richard Van Allan's sovereign Alfonso.

A delicious evening's entertainment and warmly recommended.

Ralph

In rep at the Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2N. 071 836 3161. Tube: Leicester Square. Student Standbys £14.50. Until 9th June.



*Così* nook: Richard Van Allan as Don Alfonso

Read all about the Boardsailing Club successes on page 7



## Theatre

## Darwin's Flood

"The history of ideas is full of hijackings," says Snoo Wilson laying down his trump card in the programme notes. As for the most hijacked characters, run away and play with Jesus Christ, Charles Darwin and Friedrich Nietzsche.

It is Darwin's last night on earth, he has a dream, he has been taking acid. Well, the last point isn't strictly true but, considering what occurs, he's been eating more than cheese before bed.

Nietzsche arrives, syphilitic and dribbling mad, in a wheelbarrow. His sister and her husband are in tow with 150 racially pure Germans. All off for a new Aryan utopia in Paraguay. Except that they have all fallen into a village pond in Kent.

Roll up, roll up. Next Jesus arrives, seemingly fresh from a leg of the Tour de France, cycle and all. As he says in his broad Irish accent, when you have all of human existence to choose from, why come back with sandals and a beard? He popped in to comfort Emma Darwin on her soon to be realised bereavement. Are you getting the idea? All we now require is escort girl Mary Magdalene, lowered in by helicopter to fulfil Nietzsche's carnal cravings. The boat is full, let the play really commence.

If the first half is satisfying, the second is absolute technicolour, whizz-bang, comic theatre. The compact set explodes more than just metaphorically, gains wings and flies away. I'm left wondering if Spielberg is paying the special effects budget. Bang your bones said Darwin when excited, my whole skeleton is in uproar.

The cast gets progressively more surreal and



Freddy Nietzsche and Mary Magdalene go beyond good and evil

the whole thing evolves into the best thing this reviewer has seen in the last 160 million years. Switching evenly from high brow to side-splitting in the blink of a line, the plot doesn't fall away and whatever end remains is poignant. The whole thing is rounded up with a blast from They Might Be Giants' 'Birdhouse In Your Soul'. A more apt a choice could not be imagined,

yes you're the only bee in my bonnet. If you have never been to the theatre and are never going again this is your one change of greatness.

**Tintin**

*The Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12. 081 743 3388. Tube: Shepherds Bush. Tickets £9, (concs £6) plus 50p membership. Mon-Sat 8pm. Initial run until 4th June.*

## Theatre

## Anthony and Cleopatra

One Nil.

Shakespeare adaptations are like Arsenal Football Club: you either love them or you hate them. But, while the Gunners were parading their handsome winnings in sunny Copenhagen, I was experiencing a rather different North London Italian Job and, although the seating arrangements were a touch more intimate (the Courtyard Theatre is a fifty all-seater affair), the entertainment was as grand and international as any European trophy. *Anthony and Cleopatra* (or Cleoparrtra, in the parlance of Sean Garvey's Caesar) is a brave adaptation of the least performed of all Shakespeare's tragedies.

In an attempt to make the play more accessible, Adrian Brown, adapter and director, like a pressurised England manager, has dropped

all but the central players in the squad. From an original cast of forty plus, there are now eight actors playing nine parts. The individual and team performances are most convincing during the lighter moments. But, because of its very slim lined nature, the play seems (inevitably) lacking in its more sombre scenes. Despite all this (and the cliched army motif) I would recommend Marc Anthony over boring Arsenal any time. But then again, I have always admired improvisation and prefer to watch Tottenham myself.

**LEM**

*Courtyard Theatre, 10 York Way, N1, 071 833 0876, Tube: King's Cross, membership 50p, tickets £7, concessions £6. Ends 28th May.*





# The Fun Just Keeps On Coming!

Are you interested in the Union? Maybe you are a member of a club or society. Maybe you're a year rep in your department. Would you like to help run a part of the Union? You can gain valuable experience doing just that, experience that employers are looking for. Perhaps you've a great idea for how you could run an existing activity better? Or perhaps you fancy running something yourself. If you think that way, then there is a chance coming up soon...

Imperial College Union needs strong student officers to serve the student body effectively. These officers work with the sabbaticals and staff of the Union to ensure that all the Union's activities are organised and run well.

In the box is a list of the posts available for next year with a bit about what they involve. If you are interested and want to know more, contact the Union Office and ask to speak to any one of the sabbaticals, Andy, Charlie or Dave.

If you want to stand, then sign your name up on the 'nomination papers'. These are pinned up opposite the Union Office, first floor of the Union Building. You need someone to propose you and ten seconders. The election (or ratification if there is no opposition) is to be held at the Union General Meeting on Friday 20th May. It will be at 1pm in the Ents Lounge ground floor of the Union Building.

If you want to know more about any of the posts, please do not hesitate to contact the Union Office, extension 3500.

## Union positions up for grabs at the next UGM

### Academic Affairs Officer

This post has the responsibility of co-ordinating the academic affairs within the Union. By working with the Academic and Departmental Representatives, you can help solve problems that students currently face in relation with their course. You are required to sit on several College committees, all of which will value the views that you represent.

### Union General Meeting Chair

This officer chairs all the General Meetings of the Union – the most important meeting that the Union has. Good communication skills are needed as well as a spot of diplomacy at times.

### Accommodation Officer

The Accommodation Officer works to improve the housing conditions of Imperial College students, both in and out of halls. By working with closely hall representatives, College staff and Union officers, you can make a difference. If you've had problems

while you were in a hall of residence or had difficulty finding accommodation out of College and want to make it easier for folk in the future, then this is the post for you.

### Transport Officer

The Transport Officer is in charge of managing the Union's minibus fleet, ensuring that they are kept safe and on the road. It helps to have a driving license (just a bit!) and you do really have to have a Union minibus license. If you're interested and don't have a license, don't worry, that can be organised.

### Handbook Editor

This post has the responsibility of organising and editing the Handbook on behalf of the Union. You will gather information from clubs and societies, Union Officers and a whole range of people throughout College. The post is paid since you do have to work over the summer. Not everyone can say they've edited a publication with a print run of over 4,000!



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# Editorial

## Superstition.

Being Friday 13th May, there are no doubt lots of people going around clutching a lucky rabbit's foot or a four-leaf clover and avoiding all the cracks in the pavement. There are probably some people who won't even venture out of bed today for fear of something awful happening. Why is one day in the year worse than any other? And why the number 13? (My old school had a lower and upper year 12 instead of a year 13 because it was thought to be unlucky for people taking their 'A' levels.)

But then there's other superstitions like not walking under ladders and throwing salt over your left shoulder if you spill it. Some people will do anything they can to stop the worst happening. I guess that's why people read their horoscopes – they want to know what to expect.

I personally think it is all in the mind. How can breaking a mirror bring bad luck, and how can one horoscope in a newspaper apply to one

twelfth of the population? They are all so general that you can read almost anything into them and twist them to your particular circumstances. And why are they never the same from one paper to another? Maybe it'd be a bit more believable if different astrologers managed to come up with the same predictions. After all, they are working with the same set of stars.

Just in case you are superstitious, there won't be another Friday 13th until January next year.

## More Publicity.

Has anyone noticed how Häagen-Dazs ice cream is more expensive if you buy it from the shop itself than if you go a couple of doors further down Gloucester Road to Harts? Maybe you are paying the extra for the tasteful creamy-yellow plastic spoons and foil coated paper bag you get with it? Admittedly it is better than the wooden spatulas and plastic bag you get from Harts, but even so, I don't think it's worth the extra.

# Credits

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Dennis Saw

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Wei Lee (Cinema)

Jon Jordan (Music)

Patrick Wood (Opera)

Fai Fung (Theatre)

## Collators Last Week:

Penguin

Will Towler

Tim St Clair

Simon Shaw

Patrick Wood

Ivan Chan

James Limh

Mike Mkpadi

# Missing The Point

Dear Beccy,

In response to Yasser Hatami's letter (*Felix* 996), I would just like to say that he has completely missed the point.

Regardless of what was contained in Salman Rushdie's book, in this country it is unacceptable to murder another person. This is a fairly basic fundamental of the British way of life or, for that matter, any civilised society.

I know that it has been said before, but if you want to live in Britain, then you will have to obey our laws, whether you like them or not. If you want to live according to all Islamic laws, then perhaps you should try moving to Algeria, where I hear that they are now killing people for not adhering strictly to all details of the Islamic dress code.

Please also feel free in your inevitable reply to this letter, to insult my mother. I know what she is really like and can guarantee that I am not so insecure so as to feel the need to kill you.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Anthony France,*

*Civ Eng III*

PS. There are now 24-hour armed guards patrolling the house and its surrounding area.

## Answers to last week's Elimination

a	Spot, Venetian	17, 41
b	Arms Race	4, 16
c	Battle, Tablet	29, 35
d	Treasure Island	40, 33
e	Brood, Brewed	20, 30
f	Snare Drum	25, 8
g	Wild Life	19, 13
h	Heavy Metal	21, 23
i	Deal, Truth	6, 27
j	French Kiss	32, 10
k	High Spirits	9, 37
l	See, Rag	2, 1
m	Washing Line	39, 14
n	Deed, Tenet	7, 28
o	Tomb-Stone	18, 26
p	Bone, Goodbye	5, 36
q	Never-Land	24, 12
r	Rising, Lamp	34, 11
s	Doctor Who	31, 3
t	Muse, Reflect	15, 38

The word left over was *Laugh*

# Alternative Ice Cream

Dear Beccy,

After last week's Häagen-Dazs PR blitz I thought it appropriate to mention a rival American ice cream 'Ben & Jerry's'. B&J's has a homemade taste that Häagen-Dazs lacks and in addition Ben and Jerry treat their workers well and give sizable donations to environmental groups and Third World charities. B&J's is starting to become available in UK shops and should be almost everywhere by the summer. Perhaps the only thing it lacks is sex appeal but the picture of two grinning bearded ex-hippies on the lid makes up for that.

*Jacob Tompkins,*

*Third World First*

## CAREERS INFORMATION

**Vacancies.** Don't worry if you were too late to apply for the Milkround, we are writing to employers asking for details of their remaining vacancies and you should apply in May or June at the latest. Ask to see the Vacancy File in the Careers Service.

**Penultimate Years.** Start thinking about your future now. If you don't know what you want to do, come to the Careers Service and try our computer careers guidance system, PROSPECT.

**Careers Talk For Penultimate Years.** There is a Careers Talk this week from 1pm to 1.50pm. No booking necessary, just turn up. Tuesday 17th May. *The Civil Service* by Mr John Cryer of the MoD. It will be held in the Sherfield Committee Room 317B.

**For Further Information** come to the Careers Service, Room 310, Sherfield, open from 10am to 5.15pm, Monday to Friday. You can also book a *short appointment* of up to 30 minutes between 2pm and 4pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, or a longer appointment of up to an hour at other times. Please note that the lunch time Duty Periods restart in the Autumn Term.

## SMALL ADS

*The Nancy Reverb*, one of the bands who played at Rag Fête (who were unfortunately interrupted) are playing at the Marquee on 19th May at 8pm and at the Powerhaus on 23rd May at 11pm.

**Central Libraries Book Sale.** Outdoor sale of books 9am to 4.30pm, Wednesday 18th May.

**The deadline for letters is 5pm on the Monday before publication**



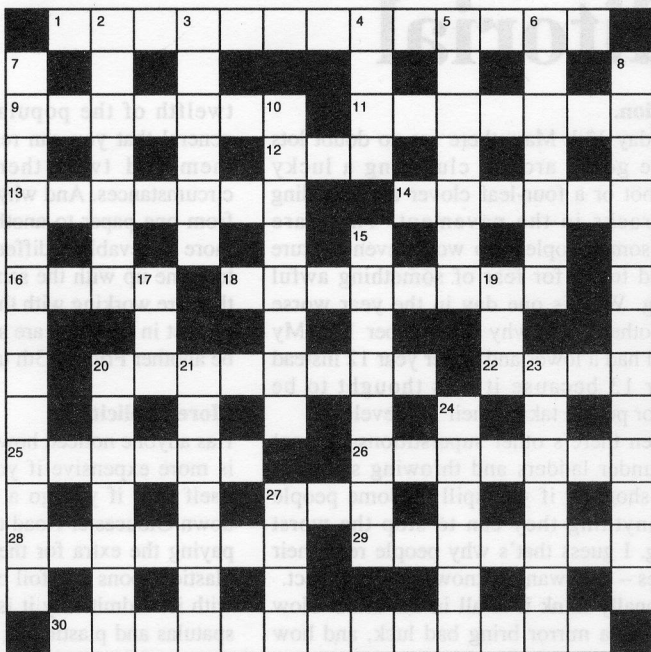
# Crossword *by Catfish*

**Across**

1. A group of criminals explain their position against charge (13)
9. Moves slowly towards woods (7)
11. The girl's about, and on the terrace (7)
12. Carbon that's made into diamonds (3)
13. Layabout used to be alert, but returned without article (7)
14. Title award caused man excluded to howl (3)
16. The shoe doesn't go with stockings (4)
18. Branch members backed support with nothing of substance (8)
20. Five out of fifty may be in charge of rock, perhaps (8)
22. Cover lots for article on sport (4)
25. Noise in front of queen first shocked the lunch guests (6)
26. Ex-student's union is after mineral (7)
27. West Indies' last "not out" gave offence (3)
28. Premier of foreign republic apparently turned on lights at the illumination (7)
29. The rat was later confused about the times (7)
30. With flags displayed, we passed successfully (6,7)

**Down**

2. On some matters, our scientist's interests seem initially absorbing (7)
3. Struts around the Orient with weapons (6)
4. Behold, five point to nothing (4)
5. Sailors start eating sauce (7)
6. Have intent to hamper oneself (3,4)
7. Boiled over when uncovered? (4,3,3,3)
8. This entertaining woman has a lot of time free (4,2,7)
10. Italian's agreement on pointless attraction to man of age (8)



15. Overwhelming act when the Tin Man broke down (8)
17. Self-contained in keg of explosive (3)
19. Bow, having lost high start at bridge (3)
20. Let off steam line without one at the front (7)
21. Teaching by the French single girl who's beautiful (7)
23. Alun ran off to get rings (7)
24. The stories are fair, in that way (4,2)
27. The good man is above taking silver - for venison? (4)

**Selected Spirit  
& Splash:  
£1 a Single or  
£1.75 a Double**

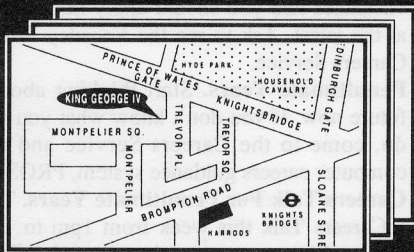
## GREAT ENTERTAINMENT

**EVERY THURSDAY FROM 8.30PM**  
Acts include illusionists,  
comedians, escapologists,  
magicians and **MORE**

**Flowers IPA:  
£4 a 4 - Pint  
Pitcher**

**Lowenbrau  
Pils:  
£1 a Bottle**

**PARTY ON A POUND ALL NIGHT**  
**MONDAY - THURSDAY**  
**& SATURDAY**



**Sparkling  
Cavalino: £1  
a Glass (125ml)**

**King George IV, 44 Montpelier Square, Knightsbridge. Tel: 071- 589 -1016**