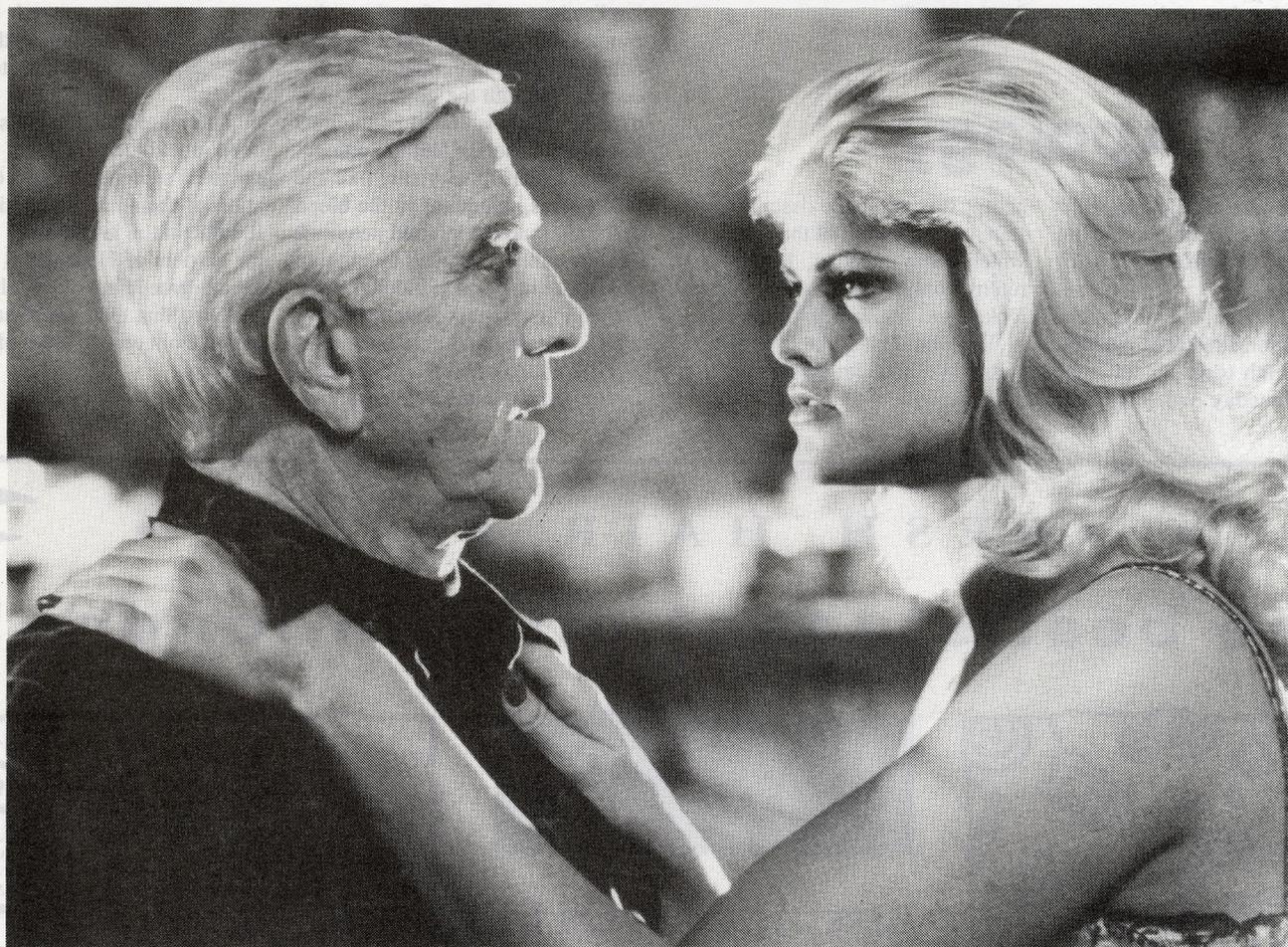




Felix

Issue 999

20th May 1994



It's a dirty job but someone had to make another sequel.

Naked Gun 33 1/3: The Final Insult

CENTRAL LIBRARY
REFERENCE
SECTION

Imperial Airways

BY LYNN BRAVEY

Students from Imperial College will be attempting to break a world record on Saturday.

A team from the Aeronautics Department are hoping to set the record for the longest distance flown by a paper aeroplane. The team will be one of 16 competing for the record at Duxford Open Air Museum, near Cambridge. The event is being organised by the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and is receiving coverage by the national media including BBC Television's 'Record Breakers'.

It is also hoped that the world record for the largest paper aeroplane to fly 50ft will be set. The favourites to do this are the team from British Petroleum, whose plane has a 32ft wing-span and has already flown over 50ft in tests. Sean Trinner, the event organiser, said that the design weighed 17lbs and had taken "700 man hours, 300 square metres of paper and 60 tubes of UHU glue." The record is currently held by NASA with a plane of wing-span 30½ft.

Mr Trinner estimated that the event would raise around £10,000 for the charity.

BMA Slams CVCP

BY MIKE INGRAM

The British Medical Association (BMA) has condemned medical schools for banning students who are carriers of Hepatitis B.

The ban came into force after new guidelines were issued last month by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals (CVCP). The guidelines call for universities to screen all applicants for medical and dental courses for Hepatitis B. Any student found to be infectious and carrying the virus should be excluded from the courses, given advice on the career implications and transferred to other courses. St Mary's Hospital Medical School operates its admissions procedure in line with the guidelines. The official policy is stated in the new prospectus under the Health Section.

The Hepatitis B virus, like the AIDS virus, is present in the blood and body fluids of infected people. It can be spread sexually, by sharing needles, or by blood to blood contact. People infected may have no symptoms, but many can develop serious liver disease, causing their death. Doctors who are infected cannot per-

form surgery because of the risk of infecting a patient, but are unlikely to be banned from other forms of non-invasive medicine.

The CVCP said: "Medical schools are mindful of their overriding duty of care to the public with whom medical students come into close contact at an early stage of their studies... medical and dental students have an ethical duty to protect patients."

The BMA has labelled the measures as "an alarmist and dogmatic approach to a problem which is well enough researched to be dealt with by reasonable management. It represents an overzealous approach by those responsible for protecting the public and could prove difficult to defend legally."

The Association expressed concern at discrimination against potential students without consideration of their individual situations. It said that it is perfectly possible for carriers of Hepatitis B to study for a degree in medicine, although it accepted that they might have to be barred from certain areas of medical practice.

Apology

Felix would like to apologise to James Handley, IC Radio Station Manager, for misquoting him in issue 997.

The story related to an incident involving Union President Andrew Wensley which took place in IC Radio on Tuesday 3rd May. We

accept that the quote describing his state was taken out of the context in which it was intended. Mr Handley referred only to the way Mr Wensley looked and not his actual state.

We would also like to apologise to Mr Wensley for portraying him in this way.

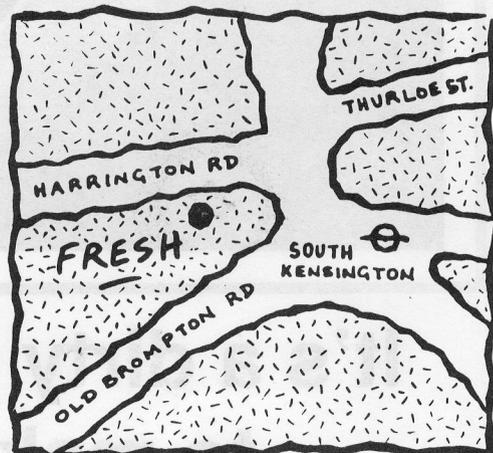


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Art Exhibition



A visitor to the ante room becomes transfixed

An art exhibition containing work by students and staff of Imperial College opened this week.

The exhibition, which is in the Ante Room of the Sherfield Building, opened on Wednesday. It will run until 17th June and entrance is free. Many of the works are for sale, at prices negotiable with the artists.

UCL Team Uncover Ancient European

BY LYNN BRAVEY

500,000 year old human remains have been unearthed by a team led by Dr Mark Roberts of University College London.

A piece of left tibia (shin bone) was discovered 100 feet below ground amongst animal bones in a gravel pit in Boxgrove, Sussex. Although the piece of bone is only around 5in long, scientists have managed to construct a picture of the size and build of the man. The early human has been estimated as being 6ft 3in tall and probably weighed more than 13 stone.

Boxgrove Man has been hailed as the earliest European and the finding destroys theories that Neanderthal Man was the ancestor of modern man. The ancient human was taller, stood more upright and had a bigger brain than Neanderthal Man, who stood no more than 5ft 7in and had a broad stature. It is now thought that Neanderthal Man was an evolutionary dead-end.

Dr Geoffrey Wainwright, chief

archaeologist for English Heritage, said Boxgrove Man "was surrounded by stone tools and the remains of animals, ranging in size from elephant and rhino to mink and voles." The early water voles have provided vital dating evidence as they had roots on their molar teeth which were absent in later breeds. This along with oxygen-isotope and paleomagnetic techniques have provided the necessary information for reliably dating the specimen.

The remains have caused international interest among scientists who have long suspected that the first European man predated previous finds. The discovery is likely to be classified as "archaic *Homo sapiens*" and is millions of years later than the earliest human ancestors, *Australopithecus*, who lived between 1 and 3.75 million years ago, and *Homo erectus* who flourished from 1.8 million years ago. Both of these ancestors have been found in Africa, only *Homo sapiens* is known to have entered Europe.

Mind Over Matter

BY WEI LEE

Questions which have puzzled philosophers for thousands of years may soon be answered at a seminar to be held at Imperial College on 26th May.

Futurists and science fiction writers have dreamed of the day when computers and machines have the ability to make decisions and think on their own. The advent of neural networks and artificially intelligent machines are making these dreams reality.

One of the guest speakers at the seminar, Igor Aleksander, Professor of Neural Systems Engineering at

Imperial College, says machines are now being developed which can think, hold their own point of view and even dream. The potential for these systems is enormous, with possible applications in medicine, communication and security.

Three other distinguished scientist, Prof Jean-Marie Lehn, Prof Lord Porter and Prof Robert May FRS, will also be offering their views on the future of scientific gains with the union of biological sciences and physical sciences.

The seminar, *Is Life Becoming Hard*, will be held in the Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley Building, at 2pm next Thursday.

Princess Royal to visit IC

BY LYNN BRAVEY

HRH The Princess Royal will officially open a new parallel computing centre at Imperial College next Tuesday.

The Imperial College/Fujitsu European Parallel Research Centre will support a programme of collaborative research in Europe into parallel software technology and a wide spectrum of applications. Fujitsu has donated an AP1000 par-

allel machine to Imperial College to provide the initial computational resource for the Centre. Many academic departments, including Aeronautics, Chemistry and Geology, will use the machine to tackle problems which cannot be solved by conventional machines.

An estimated £60,000 has been spent on giving the foyer of the Huxley Building a face-lift for the royal visit.

Minibus Safety

BY MIKE INGRAM

Union minibuses may be forced to have seatbelts fitted if predicted legislation on minibus safety goes ahead.

This comes after a minibus crash this week in which two 8-year old Cub Scouts and the 42 year old driver died and over 30 people were injured. The crash happened in heavy rain on the A59, when a minibus carrying the Cub Scouts collided with a coach carrying teenage Army Cadets.

The deaths have brought renewed calls for seatbelts to become compulsory in minibuses. As a result, the Government has pledged to make fitting seatbelts to new minibuses

compulsory. There have also been predictions that the law may force seatbelts to be fitted in all minibuses. If this became law, the Union would have to refit all of its current fleet of minibuses, which are mostly of the 'crew' type where seats run along the sides of the minibus.

Deputy President (Finance & Services) David Goddard said that the Union have been "looking, along with the Safety Department, at actually converting those [the crew-type buses] to front facing seats with seatbelts." The discussion came after a Union-owned minibus was written off in an accident last summer. The new minibus being bought by the Union will be equipped with seatbelts.

The Wordly Wise

Last weekend, the Regional Finals of the Times Crossword Championship took place in Knightsbridge. Simon Shaw tapped into some of the cerebral activity.

Last Saturday, more than two hundred seemingly ordinary people convened at the Hyatt Carlton Tower Hotel in Knightsbridge. They were there to take part in a competition, the Times Crossword Championship. There was a buzz of childish excitement in the makeshift foyer outside the hotel's Ballroom West as introductions took place. Sizing up of the opposition was masked by refined English smiles and casual nodding of heads.

Cryptic Crosswords test the mind in much the same way as any enigma does. They require simultaneous systematic and lateral thinking.

I watched and listened with interest as the puzzlers warmed up their cerebra.

"I do them in numerical order. It reduces the risk of missing a clue."

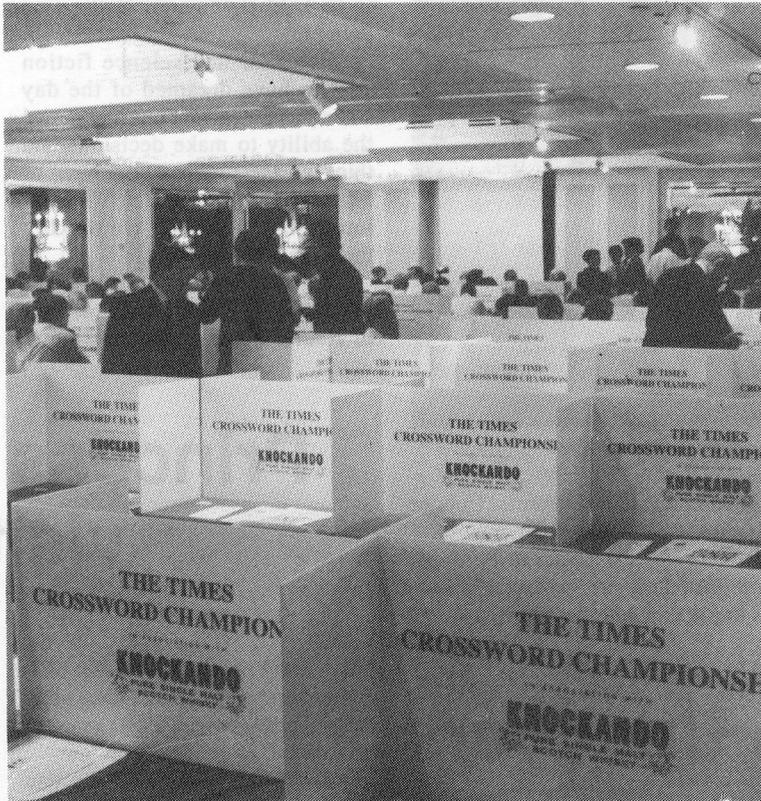
"I do them in a chain so that I have interlinking letters."

Eavesdropping on their conversations, you might have thought they were potty. Some were.

I had arrived early and took the opportunity to walk round the room in which the competitors were to solve their crosswords. It looked a lot like an exam room – four crossword grids were laid out on each table. The competitors were to be given half an hour to solve each crossword. Finishing early resulted in a bonus equal to the number of minutes left on the clock but an incorrect solution meant no score.

Before the start I was introduced to organiser, Michael Rich. It is the 25th year and the 24th event, he told me. This year's Championship is sponsored by Knockando, manufacturers of fine Scotch whisky. Today's event was part of the regional finals for which qualifiers had to have solved two Times crosswords. The second qualifying puzzle was an "eliminator" which was necessary to reduce the large number of entries arising from the first qualifier. The Glasgow regional final has already taken place. The other regional finals will be held in Leeds, Birmingham and Bristol. later this year. The national finals, for which the event returns to London, are held in September.

As I was talking to Mr Rich, a jolly-looking



The Hyatt's Ballroom. Scene of the enigmatic interrogation.

man ambled out of the Ballroom wearing a navy blue Oriel College blazer and a now familiar crossword competition tie. He turned out to be John Grant, former Deputy Editor of The Times and now, in retirement, their Crossword Editor. I inquired about the compilers of the crosswords. He was cagey. Compiling is a cottage industry and crossword setters are traditionally secretive. What he could tell me was that The Times has a team of some ten compilers, two of whom were responsible for this competition's crosswords.

It was time for the competition to begin. Mr Rich welcomed everyone and his wisecracks went some way to iron out the frowns on the nervous faces. He introduced John Grant as the man who would settle any disputes arising from the crossword clues. Mr Grant cordially invited anyone who had a quandary with a clue to discuss it with him in the tearoom but warned them jovially "It is unlikely I will share your

view."

"Three, two, one...go". The solvers turned over their clue sheets and began reading. About ten minutes later the first arms were being raised, each one signifying the completion of a grid. The triumphant few swiftly retired to the tearoom where they excitedly discussed the first crossword. I began to hear rumours of a misprint in one of the clues. Surely not. John Grant sat in a corner coolly meditating behind a pile of scruffy reference books – Collins and Chambers Dictionaries, the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations, the Collins Dictionary of the Bible and Brewer's Twentieth Century Dictionary of Phrase and Fable. The rumour proved to be with foundation: an anagram clue had the word 'got' in place of 'get':

7. We got confused with odd double entendre, for example (3-5)

However, being an anagram clue, (**TWO-EDGED**) there was little reason for it having

seriously put any solver off. Its relevance was refuted by a, nevertheless, quietly perturbed John Grant. The general consensus was that the first crossword had been pretty easy. I had been told as much and was anxious to see how the now relaxed solvers would tackle the second one. The competitors shuffled back into the exam room.

This time, the first person to solve the crossword had taken noticeably longer. However, in recognition of its difficulty he had praise for its compiler:

"Real artistry," he declared.

A more harassed solver looked visibly shaken by the more difficult second puzzle.

"When one's not under pressure, one can do it in ten minutes," he insisted; this one had taken him 17 minutes.

An honest solver said simply: "That was a difficult puzzle."

It was 5 across which provoked most of the debate:

5. Fly? One may have to down under (6)

The answer was

DOCTOR but its meaning as a type of angler's fly was not widely known even in these circles.

*All competitors
looked likely winners
on Fifteen to One.
Some were.*

23 across, an '&Lit' clue, was admired by a number of puzzlers in the tearoom. This type of clue works cryptically but also has significance when read literally:

23. Boy from inn almost captured by aggressive types (7)

The answer? **HAWKINS** of course.

The third crossword might be ranked as being of 'average' difficulty but one competitor had erred and tried to justify his wrong answer:

"It's probably only marginally acceptable," he said rocking nervously back and forth.

"Sorry," said Mr Grant politely, "It's not in the dictionary."

It was now the designated time for a cup of tea but the competitors seemed more keen to help themselves to the generous pourings of Knockando whisky. I asked Competitor 166 how it was going. It was his sixth year in the regional finals and he was aiming to improve on last year's 48th ranking.

"Number two was a stinker," he remarked.

I nodded.

"Yes, that seems to be the general consensus."

He then spoke my thoughts:

"If you could only somehow channel all the cerebral power in this room..."

I nodded again and smiled. All competitors

looked likely winners on *Fifteen to One*. Some were.

As positions were posted up on the walls of the foyer, the competitors scuttled out of the tearoom to see how they were doing. This gave the top solvers an idea of how well they would have to do in the last puzzle in order to be one of the four winners progressing to the national final.

The fourth and final crossword turned out to be an easy one.

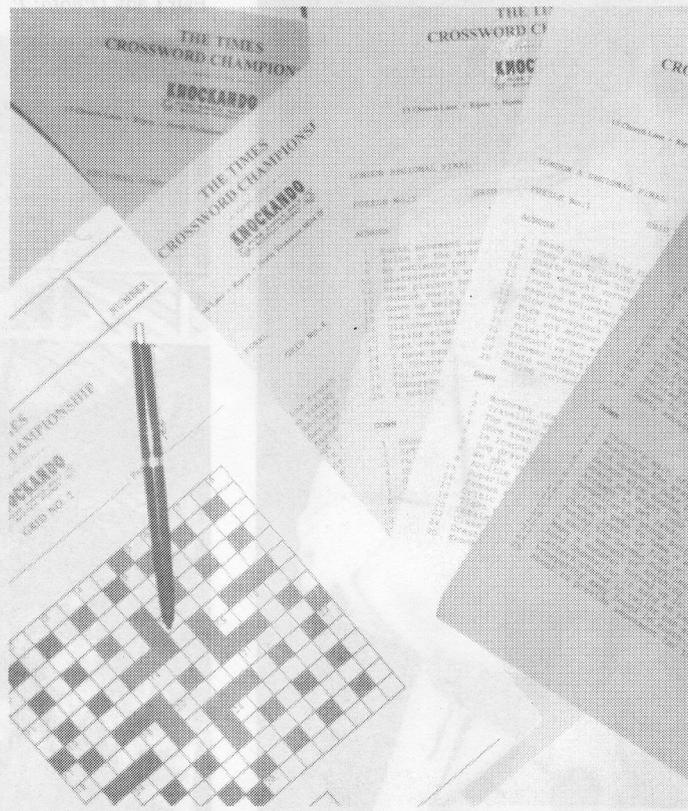
"Piece of cake," said one puzzler.

Despite this, a good proportion of the solvers still needed the whole 30 minutes. Not Competitor 166. He bid me a hurried farewell: "I'm off to watch the Cup Final."

Meanwhile, prospective victors gathered around John Grant's table and after a tense few minutes the winners were announced. They were a food distributions manager, an advertising consultant, an antiquarian bookseller and a Doctor of Philosophy. The winner had averaged 10¾ minutes per puzzle. The average age of the winners was 51 and despite a waiver of the £5 entry fee for students, only one took part last Saturday.

All competitors looked relieved and content at the end: "A most enjoyable afternoon," said one as he headed for the bar.

Indeed.



The competition's crosswords will be printed in *The Times* in the next month.

STEWARDS

- Do you like working with people?
- Are you a confident, intelligent person that can think on their feet?
- Can you be assertive without being aggressive?

We are looking to recruit new stewards for the remainder of this, and next academic year. Union stewards work closely with Union staff, sabbaticals and the bar staff to ensure the smooth running of Union events. Applicants should be easily contactable preferable by telephone, and generally available for work throughout the course of the term. The post can involve duties as varied as stewarding the Fresher's Week carnivals to assisting guests at dinner functions. There are reasonable amounts of work throughout the year, and sometimes through the holidays as well. The Union offers good rates of pay and training for these positions.

If you think you fit the Bill, then please leave your name and department with reception in the Union Building, or pop a note in the internal mail marked for the attention of the Events & Marketing Manager.

You will then be contacted for interview, if you cannot make this time then please contact the Union Office to re-arrange the appointment. There will be a training day on a Saturday nearer the end of term, **attendance is compulsory**. If you have any questions please contact the Events & Marketing Manager on x8586.

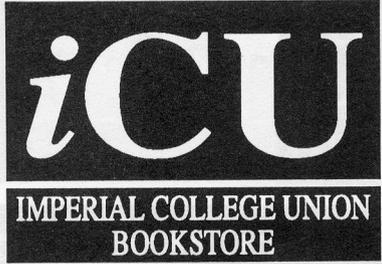


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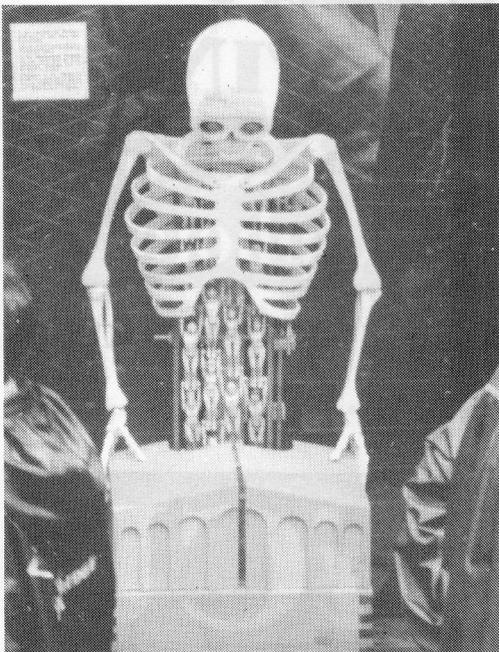
Left: Domingo as Don José and Denyce Graves as sultry gypsy Carmen (Photo: C. Ashmore).

Below: crowds watch last week's piazza performance of My Fair Lady (Photo: P. Wood)



Gypsies And Jackals Among The Trinkets

Below: Paul Spooner's Last Judgment automaton outside The Cabaret Mechanical Theatre (Photo: P. Wood)



What does Plácido Domingo have in common with Anubis, god of embalming? The answer is that both can be seen in Covent Garden Market today.

Bizet's *Carmen*, with the superstar tenor as Don José, will be relayed live on a big-screen from the Royal Opera House. The performance is at 7pm and the viewing in Covent Garden is free.

Entrance to the Cabaret Mechanical Theatre in the lower court of the Market costs £1.20. Here, among a collection of ingenious and surreal automata, or mechanical sculptures, are working models of the jackal-headed Egyptian deity swatting flies, making toast, working out in the gym and galloping a camel across the desert.

The Cabaret, which is open until 6pm (6.30pm on Fridays), stands out among the expected throng of wine bars, designer-label fashion shops and (during the day) trinket stalls. There are also a candle shop and a newly-opened branch of Hamley's. Until recently, there was even a life-size latex Alien in the Covent Garden General Store on Longacre; someone came up with the £2,500 asking price a few months ago.

Eating in the area needn't cost an arm and a leg (embalmed or otherwise). Quite a number of restaurants do pre- and post-theatre set menus for

under £10 and, at Ponti's in James Street, baked potatoes with cheese are £2.40 to take away.

There are dozens of pubs, of course. The Freemasons' Arms on Longacre has less of a 'fleece the tourists' atmosphere about it than many others. It owes its name to the presence of the Freemasons' Hall at the end of the road. Last year, this was an appropriate setting for performances of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. At 7.30pm tonight and tomorrow, Jane Glover conducts Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* there as part of the BOC Covent Garden Festival. More Britten can be heard today at 8.30pm in St Paul's Church, Bedford Street; Ulster Music Theatre perform the moving church parable *Curlew River*. Bow Street Magistrates' Court hosts Gilbert and Sullivan's *Trial By Jury* tonight at 7.30pm and tomorrow at 6pm and 7.30pm.

The next big-screen piazza relay will be the new production of Verdi's *Aida* at 7.30pm on Friday 22nd July, with Nina Rautio and Michael Sylvester. You never know, there might even be a guest appearance by Anubis.

Patrick Wood

The BOC Covent Garden Festival ends this Sunday. Recorded information on 071 240 0560. 24 hour credit card booking on 071 413 3531.

Cinema

The Draughtsman's Contract

Starring: Anthony Higgins, Janet Suzman and Anne Louise Lambert
Director: Peter Greenaway

Peter Greenaway, a name to curl the hearts of ink bespeckled critics and public alike. Even these diverse groupings were united in their disgust at his last film, *The Baby of Maçon*.

The Draughtsman's Contract harks back to better days for Greenaway; it was his most successful film when released in 1982. Now reissued in a new 35mm print, it lets those of us who have more recently lashed ourselves to his wagon see a different side of his work.

The plot suffers the intrigues of 17th century England; a place of blooming gardens and blue skies, where men get to wear the best clothes and wigs. An arrogant and suave draughtsman is asked to make a series of drawings. Initially, he refuses but such is the desperation of the patron that finally a peculiar contract is signed. Twelve drawings of the estate and the use of the lady of the house for the draughtsman's pleasure.

The draughtsman begins his work. He requires total control over his subject and anything which even inadvertently comes into the field of view must remain there.

However, like a Magrillian scene, strange things start happening. A ladder appears, some clothes are strewn in trees and when the horse of the master of the house (who is thought to be away on business) is found, foul play is



Framed by his profession, the Draughtsman gets involved in contracts written in blood.

suspected. The draughtsman is accused by the daughter of knowing too much about the mystery concerning her father. He allows himself to be involved in another contract, this time to be party to the daughter's pleasure. When finished, the objectiveness of the twelve drawings displays the duplicity of the living.

As in all of his films, the cinematography is stunning in its finery. If the plot is occasionally

forced in unreasoned directions then the film shows the broadness of the issues involved. This film is not one of his masterpieces, but in a world which bulges with sentiments becoming more immediate or more drippy by the reel, it remains a pool of deep attraction.

Tintin

Opens today. MGM Piccadilly £6 (Half-price on Mon, £3.50 Tue-Fri before 6pm).

Cinema

Naked Gun 33¹/₃: The Final Insult

Starring: Leslie Nielsen, Priscilla Presley, Fred Ward
Director: Peter Segal

The first one was rather drab. The second one, however, was a riot. *The Final Insult* falls somewhere in between. The plot, what there is of it, concerns Lt Drebin's attempt to retire because his marriage to whatsherbreasts (played by Priscilla Presley) is on the rocks. He is called away from his housework, however, to investigate a terrorist, Fred Ward, who is trying to blow up the Oscars ceremony for no apparent reason.

Some of the expected mickey-takes of other films are pretty good; it starts with a rip-off of the staircase scene in *The Untouchables*, which is of course itself rip-off the famous 'Odessa Steps' sequence of Eisenstein's *Battleship*

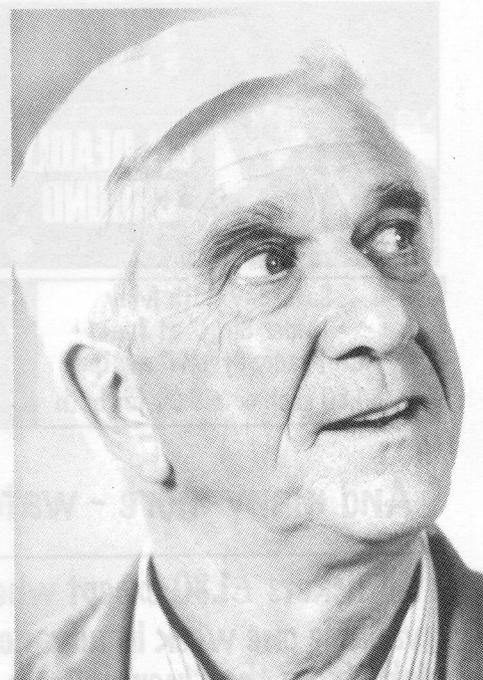
Potemkin. The movie differs from the first two, in that there are far fewer background gags than usual and the jokes are really spread too thin, even with a running time of only 83 minutes.

Some of the more regular humour, meanwhile, falls a tad flat. The most obvious is Drebin's attempt to get into an infertility clinic by pretending to have a broken arm. This leads to predictable gags about 'bending' and 'pulling', although the flashback 70s disco scene is quite funny.

Although it's worth watching, I wouldn't rush out to see it and certainly wouldn't pay large sums of money. Recommended on video or, even better still, as a FilmSoc showing.

jk

Opens today. MGM Trocadero £7, (£4 Mon, £4 Tue-Fri before 6pm). UCI Whiteleys £5.75 (£3.50 before 3pm).



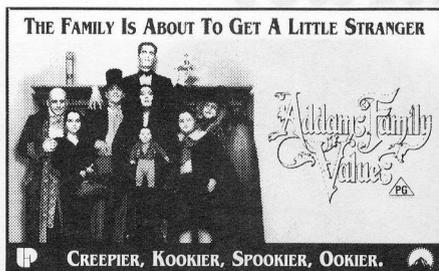
'Haven't I been here before?' says Lt Drebin

Look out for *The Piano* and *Schindler's List* at the ICU Cinema

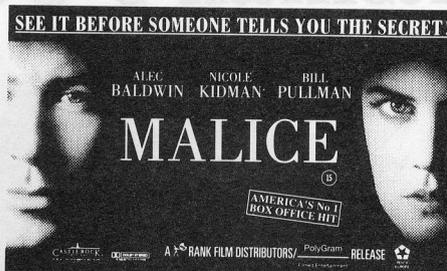
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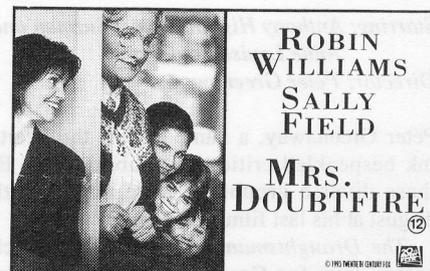
Open to all students and staff of Imperial College and the University of London



★ Wednesday 25th May at 8pm ★
★ Thursday 26th May at 6pm ★



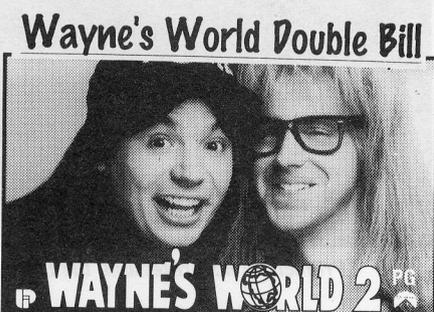
★ Sunday 29th May at 8pm ★



★ Sunday 5th June at 8pm ★



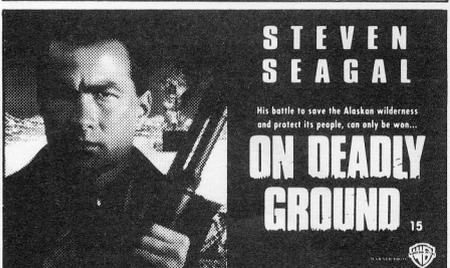
★ Thursday 26th May at 8pm ★



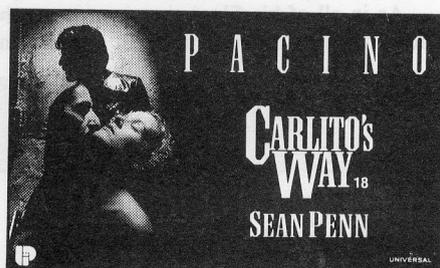
★ Wednesday 1st June ★
★ "Wayne's World" at 7pm ★
★ "Wayne's World 2" at 9pm ★
★ £1.80 each or £3.00 for both ★



★ Wed 8th June at 6pm and 8:30 ★



★ Saturday 28th May ★
★ "Under Siege" at 8pm ★
★ "On Deadly Ground" at 11pm ★
★ £1.80 each or £3.00 for both ★



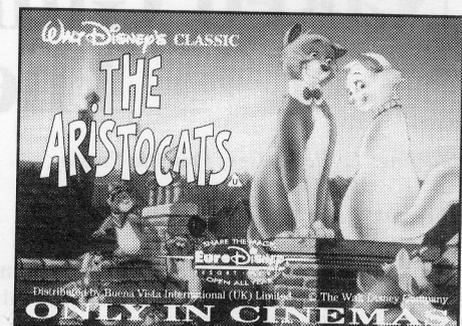
★ Thursday 2nd June at 8pm ★



★ Saturday 4th June at 8pm ★
★ Plus Late Show at 11pm ★



★ Thurs 9th June at 6pm and 8:30 ★



★ Saturday 11th June at 6pm ★

And many more - watch out for further ads/posters and Felix What's On page

All tickets £1.80 except where otherwise stated. Tickets are available one week in advance from Union Reception or on the night from the Cinema. Doors open 15mins before programme start time. Drinks and food from Da Vinci's welcome. Smoking in back five rows only. ICU Cinema is on the second floor of the Union Building.

5 SPECIAL OFFER!
for the price of **4**
Buy any 5 different tickets in advance at ICU Cinema and only pay £7.20!
Offer not available at Union Reception.

diary

20th - 26th May

Friday 20th

Fencing Club Meeting12.00pm
Union Gym. All standards welcome.

Chess Club.....12.30pm
Table Tennis Room, top floor of the Union Building.

Friday Prayers1.00pm
Southside Gym. Organised by Islamic Society.

Rag Meeting1.10pm
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 Fu4.30pm
Union Gym. Beginners welcome.

IC Fitness Club5.30pm
Step aerobics in Southside Gym.

Atmosphere8.00pm
Union Lounge. Happy hour 8pm-9pm in Da Vinci's. 20% off all drinks.

IC Symphony Orchestra...8.00pm
Includes R. Strauss - Horn Concerto no. 2 (Soloist: Paul Gowling); John Williams - Symphonic Suite from Star Wars. Great Hall. Tickets £2, £3, £5 from Mech Eng room 440.

Sunday 22nd

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

IC Fitness Club2.00pm
Southside Gym. Intermediate and step aerobics.

Monday 23rd

Fencing Club Meeting12.00pm
Union Gym. All standards welcome.

ArtSoc Meeting12.30pm
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 Club5.30pm
Southside Gym. Beginners aerobics.

Dance Club5.30pm
Union Dining Hall, Union Building.

Leonardo (Fine Arts) Society6.00pm
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 24th

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

Yoga Society12.15pm
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, Sheffield (317a/317b/318). Run by the Chaplaincy.

Ski Club Meeting12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.

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

Yacht Club12.30pm
Meeting in room 101, Civ Eng.

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

Ents Meeting1.00pm
Ents/Rag Office above the Traditional Union Bar.

Boardsailing Meeting1.00pm
Southside Upper Lounge. More information from J. Mayhew, through Mech Eng pigeonholes.

Circus Skills5.00pm
Union Lounge.

IC Fitness Club5.30pm
Advanced aerobics. Southside Gym.

St Mary's Netball5.30pm
Wilson House Recreation Centre, Sussex Gardens, Paddington

Dance Club6.00pm
Beginners class in the JCR.

Caving Club Meeting8.00pm
Southside Upper Lounge.

Mountaineering Meeting9.00pm
In Southside.

Wednesday 25th

Parachute Club12.00pm
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.

Hoverclub1.00pm
Build a hovercraft. Southside Garage near Southside Shop or E-Mail j.bell@ee.

IC Fitness Club1.15pm
Southside Gym. Intermediate/Beginners aerobics.

Wing Chun Kung Fu1.30pm
Union Gym, second floor, Union Building. Beginners welcome.

Tenpin Bowling Club.....2.15pm
Aero Eng foyer for a trip to Charington 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 Dancing6.00pm
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 Hour7.00pm
Da Vinci's Bar, Union Building. 20% off all drinks.

FilmSoc Presents: Addams Family Values8.00pm
ICU Cinema, 2nd Floor, Union Building. £1.80.

Club Libido9.00pm
Union Lounge, Union Building.

Thursday 26th

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

Spanish Society1.00pm
Southside Lounge.

STOIC Lunchtime News Training.....1.00pm
STOIC Studio, 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 Union6.00pm
Room 308, Huxley Building.

FilmSoc Presents: Addams Family Values6.00pm
ICU Cinema, 2nd Floor, Union Building. £1.80.

IC Choir Rehearsals6.15pm
Room 342, Mech Eng.

Tenpin Bowling Club6.15pm
Meet in Hollywood Bowl, Tottenham Hale (Victoria line).

IC Jazz Big Band Meeting7.00pm
Rehearsals in Table Tennis Room, top floor of the Union Building.

Dance Club7.00pm
Beginners Class in the Junior Common Room, Sheffield Building.

STOIC: 'Into the Night' Training7.00pm
STOIC Studio, top floor of the Union Building. Members free, non-members £2.50.

Cocktail Night8.00pm
Da Vinci's Bar, Union Building. Happy Hour 7pm-8pm, 20% off all drinks.

FilmSoc Presents: A Bronx Tale.....8.00pm
ICU Cinema, 2nd Floor, Union Building. £1.80.

ICCAG Soup Run8.30pm
Meet in the basement of Weeks Hall to distribute food and drink to the homeless. Contact Polly Griffiths, ext 98 212 for more info.

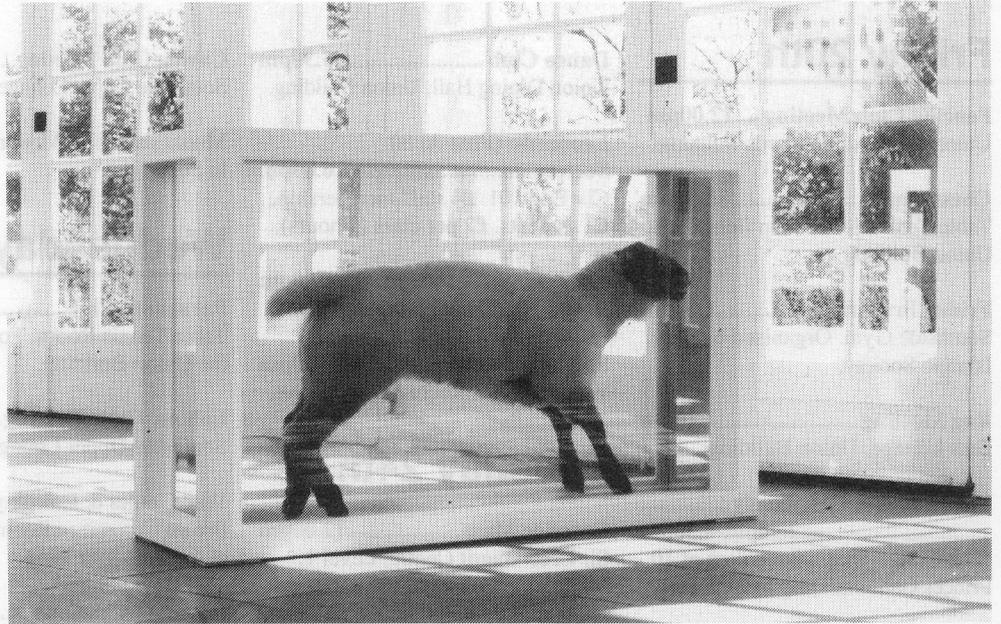
Some Went Mad, Some Ran Away...

...Some stayed and ate the Häagen-Dazs. Rubber shark, rubber balls, readers' wives, Damien Hirst, sheep in a tank, your confessions won't be heard. "Isn't it the age of Aquarius?", an astrologer enquired.

It's more like the age of Banality, one would like to reply. Nobody cares about the Art any more, they just want to eat the free ice cream. Would you blame them? We've passed the point when 'Is It Art?' is a question, for art is no more. The fine line between Artist and Charlatan has finally been erased and your two minutes of questions are over. We are in a world where there is so little to worry about that people need counsellors to create problems for them, a world where life is but a string of equally irrelevant episodes in a bland pastiche environment. Sleep, watch TV, eat frozen Lasagne with your dysfunctional two-up two-point-four down family in a plastic box. Maybe Fred West had the right idea – kill them all, wake them up, make their lives *real* for one momentary break in the clingfilm wrapped monotony of their emotions.

Am I making myself clear? Do I need to? Artists don't, they just shove a dead animal in a tank of formaldehyde and sell it to an Advertising magnate. In a museum it would be an exhibit but in a gallery it's Art; in a gallery you can sell it for £25,000.

The only artistic thing about the new exhibition in the Serpentine Gallery is the very absurdity of it existing at all. According to the words, these people try to 'uncover intimate details of an individual's private world' – they question existence and 20th century life. They



'Away From The Flock' by Damien Hirst, 1994

forgot how dull it really is. People live this every day, they watch it on TV, they *know* what's going on. They don't need some over trendy pornophile shoving it back in their face in the most obscure manner possible. OK, make a statement, say something, but make it a worthwhile point and say it properly. Don't expect people to reel in amazement at the profundity of a rubber shark, don't expect people to congratulate you on your skill at smearing paint over old pornographic magazines. It's not

big and it's not clever and worse still it's not even very well executed. So my viewers, for once in your life don't bother. Go home, watch EastEnders, don't go near the Serpentine. You won't even be given any free ice cream.

MA

Work on the themes of fear, loss, hope, death and fantasy by 15 international artists curated by Damien Hirst. Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, W2. 071 402 6075. Open daily 10am to 6pm. Until 5th June. Free entry.

U G M

Union General Meeting

TODAY, 1pm

Ents Lounge, Union Building

Theatre

Mill On The Floss

It is the early nineteenth century. A woman is a witch if she swims, but if she drowns she dies. Maggie cries out in disbelief at what she reads. In the background, screams can be heard of an innocent woman drowning.

The dramatic start of the play grips you by the neck and forces you to watch and listen. The play is a successful attempt to adapt the book by George Eliot and is about the life of a strong, intelligent, and imaginative woman. She has to hide her emotions and beliefs during the course of her life and, unfortunately, in an environment which is totally male dominated. She learns the lesson in harsh circumstances, severing her relationship with her brother and also those around her. The play took us on a ride of emotions leaving us totally drained at the end of the play.

The production team includes a small but very impressive cast who led totally convincing roles (unfortunately they had a lack of actresses in one scene and had to use a stuffed doll instead: don't worry, the human does appear later). I must mention Shirley Henderson's delightful portrayal of the young and playful Maggie, who had a part which could have been disastrous if not acted as well as she did and also Michael Matus who did a very good job as Philip Wakeham: a crippled scholar.

Although I did find various parts of the play very amusing, I found that sometimes the humour was in the middle of vital moments, which required absolute attention and no wit. Using three Maggie's to show her different characters as she grew was very effective, but I believed that it was inevitable to compare the performances of the actresses: the first Maggie's youthfulness and the third Maggie's forbidden sensuous affair with her best friend's lover



Playing by the river: Shirley Henderson as Maggie and Ian Puleston-Davies as Tom.

seemed to overpower the role of the second Maggie. The play was very dramatic and passed before our eyes at a very fast pace, this meant that the issues, which I thought would be dealt with very deeply were, I believe, only just hinted at. However, these are petty criticisms compared to the full effect of the play which combines an unusual set, music, lighting and wondrous acting.

This is a heart-wrenching play and one to see if not just for the capturing performances by most of the cast. Intriguing and unmissable. Go and see it.

Jack and Lianna

Tricycle Theatre, 269 Kilburn High Road. 071 328 1000. Tube: Kilburn Station. Tickets: £7-£11.50. Runs until 11th June.

Theatre

Rough Justice

James Highwood (played by Martin Shaw of *The Professionals* and *The Chief*) finds himself in the dock for his supposed act of mercy in killing his nine-month old brain-damaged son. Rejecting the help from a defence lawyer, he stands alone against a catholic, pro-life Q.C. Margaret Casely. As the plot unfolds *Rough Justice* becomes a trial of moral issues touching subjects such as euthanasia and human rights.

Throughout the performance the only actor with any presence on stage was Shaw, the other characters seemed very unnatural in comparison. The only exception being Highwood's lawyer, who added a touch of humour to what was a

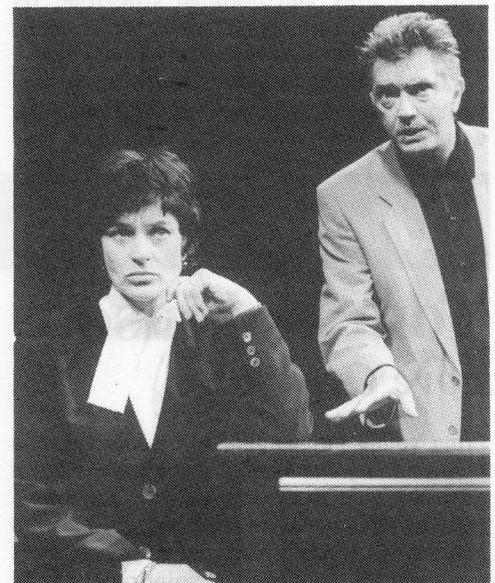
very serious play.

The first half of the play, lasting one and a half hours, needed a large consumption of Pro-Plus tablets to keep your interest. However, the plot finally came together in the second half, where the audience was bombarded with what seemed like too much new evidence, which was not properly introduced earlier on in the play.

At the end, the whole play left you questioning the British justice system.

Top Cat & Petal

Appollo Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Ave. 071 494 5070. Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Runs until 2nd July. Tickets: £6.50-£18.50 (concs £8.50).



Martin Shaw and Diana Quick in *Rough Justice*

Coming Soon: *Falling Over England* at the Greenwich Theatre

Gig

Mutha's Day Out, Terrorvision

Arkansaw, USA may be best known for giving us (allegedly) over-sexed Presidents but that's all about to change coz *Mutha's Day Out* are the next big thing (apparently!). Well, they've certainly got the energy and enthusiasm, but considering half of them aren't even old enough to vote for the aforementioned President, you'd be worried if they didn't. Still, with some fine tuning to their brand of grunge/grind/rap/metal' (sic), who knows? When their mummy next lets them out the results could be explosive.

Explosive is probably not a very apt description of Terrorvision's set, but then to call it merely entertaining would be to do it a gross

disservice. They've got something for everyone, whether it be in the semi rap-metal blast of 'My House', the kitsch Showaddywaddy-isms of 'Oblivion', or the all-out dance floor attack of 'Discotheque Wreck'. Heck, they even had a mini-orchestra come out in the encore, a move that led singer Tony Wright to warn: "Beware of dodgy rock bands, coz let's face it, you won't see anything much dodgier than this!"

With songs that keep reaching new levels of pop-stasy and such self-effacing humour, do you have any choice but to love 'em? I think the 1,500 odd grinning faces that left the Astoria probably answers that one. **Vik**

Singles

Blessed Ethel - '2 Minute Mind/Horsefly': On '2 Minute Mind', the singer's voice recalls Debbie (rather than Deborah) Harry but the guitar sound is far more '90s than '80s. Single of the week. **Ridley Dash**

Fun-da-mental - 'Dog-Tribe': The new line-up deals out more hard hip-hop with bhangra-style samples underlying the fiercely anti-racist lyrics. The "we know where you live" phone message that starts the 'Collusion Dub Dog' mix, left on the Youth Against Racism ansaphone, justifies everything this band stand for. **Ridley Dash**

Lemonheads - 'Big Gay Heart': A timely release with its usual interesting compliment of songs from the archives. **The Pear**

three walls down - 'Steps': Hmmm...jangly. Byrdsy, summery, folky, happy. And why not? The two other songs here are very reminiscent of REM circa 'Life's Rich Pagent', which is of course the best LP ever made, so this is OK by me. **Guy**

World of Leather - 'Silver': According to vocalist Mark Chase: "Silver is the colour of my true love's ears". Funny that, considering it's actually about his lost alsatian. The song itself is a strange breed as it scampers through sleazoid guitar riffs into a warped disturbed and thoroughly mongrel-like chorus. **Vik**

Heliopolis - 'Kintamani': Heliopolis were original members of Transglobal Underground, but contrary to TGU they don't use live musicians. Instead they rely purely on electronic beats to create their hypnotic soundscapes. Excellent stuff. **Mr Happy**

Kindred Spirit - 'Ask Me No Questions': Catch the return of a solitary Bangle with a River City Person; Debbi Peterson and Siobhan Maher team up and unsurprisingly sound like jiggly jaggly acoustic pop music. **Tintin**

Urban South - 'Whatever's Clever': This is a debut release from a Birmingham based rap crew. The ep itself is full of clever lyrics on top of a mixture of cool hip hop beats and heavy bass. **Mr Happy**

The Family Cat - 'Wonderful Excuse': This is the kind of single you'd be quite happy to bring home to meet your parents but, for those of you who want music, you can elope to the Bahamas with, seek elsewhere. **Joe**

Saint Etienne - 'Like a Motorway': A nifty hook (no doubt taking the fast lane to BBC sports montage city), is done no favours by 'girlie' vocals that are as pointless as they are breathless. **Rahul**

Spinanes - 'Noel, Jonah and Me': Cleverly selecting the least adventurous song from last year's patchy but interesting 'Manos' LP, the Spinanes surge back in a rock-remix style which is at best inoffensive and at worst incredibly dull. Even Rebecca's once gorgeous voice is rendered flat and ordinary by the pedestrian production. **Guy**

Machinery Hall - 'Herd': A slow downwards stair chord progression takes 'Herd' into action. There's some minor melodic action but this ends up a whinging moan. **Tintin**

Album



Walkabouts

Setting the Woods on Fire

Just looking through the liner notes, you get the tone of this album. Black and white broken windows, rusting wheels and cold desolate hills mirror a grey and doomed storyline. Its characters seem to inhabit, however transiently, the rural twilight zone marooned by dying forests.

'Bordertown' is deep within that empty territory. The tale of an accident occurring in the white of your eyes and redness of her dress. And

the way it's phrased and played, the outcome is closer to a metallic edge of a runaway hay bailer than a pair of warm lips.

There's more strangeness involved. Stuff about lighting fires under yourself, letting blood flow clear and an old man buried in his wedding clothes. It isn't nice or reality. This wouldn't matter except that the *Walkabouts* don't play nice either. Somewhere on the folkside underbelly of rock, this one has a raw streak. Only the bar room crawl of 'Old Crow Lied' and the horn inspired 'Hole in the Mountain' escape from the pallid atmosphere. If there's burning to be done, best get some dry tinder. **(5) Tintin**

Album

Tom Robinson
Love Over Rage

From young gay to glad to be a dad. Pop's revolutionary fist is now manicured hand in glove as Tom Robinson undergoes his own personal turnaround. So what and good luck to him. He is still one of our finest lyricists and I can't see this album disappointing anybody except maybe the old Danny Kustow school of

air guitarists. Mark Amble's back on keyboards but with Chris 'smooth smooth' Rea guesting on guitar, the listener senses some kind of musical split going on here. Come back Danny.

Closest to the old spirit has to be 'Green'. A good pole at the advertising moguls. "Even Ronald MacDonald's got a brand new bag, and if he gives a sh*t about the ozone layer, I'll eat 50 veggie burgers medium rare." No dilution there but as far as protest songs go, it's the nearest we get. I miss the old stuff but this is alright. I give it 2...4...OK, 6 out of 10. **T.Bat**

"...been laying low my get up and go..."

President

Training and Development. Currently, the Union does not train its student officers to an adequate level. This training should include providing sufficient background information about the Union, the College, the University of London and issues and problems the Officer may face in the course of their post.

We are working towards providing training for all Union Officers. This includes a manual of background information, general training, a networking event and specific job-related training. Most of this will be provided in the form of a two-day residential training event. Funding for this has been secured.

Currently, potential trainers are being contacted and the brief for the event is being prepared. It is intended that this will be the start of an ongoing scheme of development that will help Union Officers work more effectively.

Next year's office sabbaticals are currently meeting their counterparts this year on regular weekly basis. This helps to fill them in on developments in College and further afield, all part of preparing them for their year in office.

We have begun a series of meetings to discuss how we can effectively plan from year to year. At present, there is an insufficient level of continuity. The meetings are looking into the strengths and weaknesses of the Union and how we can lay down strategic plans for the future.

E-Mail. At IC, we are lucky to have e-mail. This is being used more and more by students, departments and College. I am arranging for the Union to be connected to the e-mail system with accounts to be set up. Once completed, you would be able to mail any part of the Union, be it a club, sabbatical, member of staff or Union outlet. This could mean lower administration costs, a shorter response time on enquiries and an increased awareness of student activities.

Constitution. Following on from last term, I met with College officials who are now satisfied with the draft. This will be brought to today's meeting, (Friday 20th May) for its first approval.

Handbook and Alternative Prospectus. The Handbook Editor has resigned after being offered a better summer job. At the time of writing, a new candidate should have been found. Advertising is being covered by Sam Michel (Events and Marketing Manager) with the other tasks being done by sabbaticals. We are examining new formats and ways of distributing the Handbooks. Anyone who is interested in the project or feels they would like to contribute to our most important publication, please get in contact through the Union Office.

We are running the election for Alternative Prospectus Editor a term ahead of schedule due to the demand for copies. If we do not produce a new Alternative Prospectus, we would run out of copies shortly into the start of next term.

A fair amount of time has been spent publicising and finding candidates to take over other Union posts for next year. As a result, most posts should be filled at today's meeting.

Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)

Clubs and Societies. In readiness for the next academic year, I am collecting the necessary information and application forms. These relate to the Handbook, Freshers' Fair, Noticeboards and an end of year report on clubs and societies.

Sport. I have been involved with the interview panel for the post of Sports Centre Manager and I am pleased to announce that Colin Wilson has been appointed. Colin has been the acting manager for the past six months.

I have completed a survey of sports teams and clubs at Imperial. This information was requested by both the Athletics Committee and the Governing Body. It attempts to establish the level of involvement in each of the student clubs and societies.

The working party on sport will commence meeting shortly and all the information I have gathered will form the basis of any arguments I put forward at this forum. The working party on sport has been formed to plan the sports

provision at Imperial for the next decade.

Jazz & Rock Club Move. Due to the noise problem of the Jazz and Rock practice room being beneath Beit Hall, it has finally closed. The room is due to move back where it came from five years ago. This is the room currently occupied by Rag. Having found an acceptable alternative room for Rag, it was possible for permission to be given to Jazz & Rock to move into this room. The room is the best suited in the building for the noise upsetting the least people.

Storage for Clubs and Societies. The problem of where to store equipment is a big one for clubs without a room of their own. The room freed by Jazz and Rock will make ideal storage for these clubs. The idea is still being developed, but I hope by the start of the next academic year to have a new storage facility for our clubs and societies.

Deputy President (Finance & Services)

Budgets. I have now received a probable figure from College for next year's subvention. The good news is that it is larger than this year's figure, but the bad news is that it would still leave us heading for a deficit next year of £26,000 on the budget reached at the end of the last UFC. Hopefully we will be able to sort this out at the next UFC.

Minibus. By this UGM (I'm writing this a week in advance), the new minibus should have been delivered, and will soon be available for clubs use. Please don't damage it too much – it costs a fortune.

Trading. There is little new news to bring up about the trading outlets, although we are currently working on a number of plans for the future, which will need College approval. Hopefully I will be in a position to bring you

more information by the next UGM. By the time this UGM happens, the new Rector will have been shown around the Bookstore as well as the rest of the Union.

Other stuff. A number of items have been approved for spending from the old House fund by Executive, including air conditioning for the STOIC technical room, to prevent all of the equipment from overheating. A project that I would like to see carried out is the refurbishment of the lift in the Union building, which is really grotty. This would cost several thousand and I'm currently trying to work out where to get the money from. We are also looking to improve the standard of a number of other areas of the building, which would make it more pleasant for the students and more attractive to external bookings.

Women – Have Your Say!

This Friday morning, a questionnaire, aimed at the female members of the college, will be laying out some strategic points. Please have a look them, as you might find there is something you would like to say. Filled-out questionnaires should be sent to: Kristine Vaaler, Women's Officer, Union Office. Thanks to all who participate.

The questionnaires can be picked up from:

- Union Office
- Mech Eng Main Entrance
- RSM Main Entrance
- Maths Walkway
- Elec Eng Main Entrance
- Sherfield Security
- Physics Blackett Entrance
- Biology Common Room
- Silwood
- Aero & Chem Eng Main Entrance
- Chem & BioChem Main Entrance

Don't forget the UGM today in the Ents Lounge at 1pm

Editorial

Regarding Simon Baker's letter entitled 'Destructive Criticism', I must explain that the other names listed at the bottom of the letter when it was submitted could not be printed, as they did not verify their authorship, as is *Felix* policy. But onto the content of the letter itself.

I don't really understand where you get the Beccy Land Self-Promotion Society newsletter idea from. I do absolutely nothing to promote myself in *Felix*. I am doing my job which is editing the magazine. I do not gratuitously fill the pages with articles that I have written, nor do I put my name in the credits. The only place my name gets mentioned is under the imprint on the back page. How this promotes myself I really don't know.

The letter goes on to question the place of 'silly attacks on Andy Wensley'. The news stories are justified by the news editor on the opposite page. As for the front cover, the intention was a light-hearted joke which would make people smile and, from what I saw, it did. Is there really any harm in this? Andy Wensley

is the most public figure in the Union and should expect to be in the spotlight. If he isn't doing his job (and there are a fair number of people who'd say he hasn't), he should expect criticism.

At the start of the year I deliberately did not want a great deal of emphasis on what the President was doing wrong as I thought it would be detrimental to the Union, putting it in a bad light. I wanted to give Andy time to settle in and sort himself out, but the mistakes persisted and if anything, they got worse. Remember the problems with the sabbatical elections? The non-secret secret ballot, the lack of publicity for new election, not conducting the hustings properly. He knew he'd screwed it up; why else would he insist on turning off the tape recorder when being interviewed about it.

As to whether there should be more news, *Felix* is a newspaper only in name. I decided at the start of the year that I wanted *Felix* to have more of a magazine format. This would mean less emphasis on the news and more on features and articles. I was elected by the student body to

edit *Felix* as I saw fit and that is what I am doing. The numerous complaints about the plunging quality of *Felix* do not seem to have reached me. Admittedly there have been some but, as I have explained before, I can only put in *Felix* what students write. I also have to try to cater for all the students in the College. As for the presentation, I hope this is an improvement on the past, as it is something that I place a great deal of importance on this.

Finally, I can only assume that the policy of '5,000 copies and a box of pritt sticks' mentioned at the bottom of the letter is a comment on my request that articles and letters be submitted on disk. Let me explain the reason: With many people having exams, they cannot spend as much time in *Felix*. It makes life a lot easier for everyone if time is saved by articles coming in already typed. We will still accept articles if they are not typed in, so I don't really see the significance of the comment.

Next Week: 1000th Edition Special

Rag Fête Thanks

Dear Beccy,

We would just like to say a big thank you to everybody who helped at Rag Fête '94, especially those who were good enough sports to sit in the stocks. Special thanks go to I.C. Radio, Jazz & Rock, Jan (without an h) Bradshaw, Sam (not as good as Huddersfield Town) Scotcher, Ian (gullible) Robertson, Matt (I prefer Leyton Orient myself) Szyndel, Chris (table manners) Bragg, Chris (hair) Berry, Alaric (Queen's Tower) Turner, John (sorry don't know your surname) Something, Tim (Herbie) Atkinson, Mark (what happened to the other 20 grand) Bunyan, Peter (road runner) Bird, Paul ("Oh dear") Thomas, Becky ("It's not the sort of

thing you think to ask.") Clark and Paul (Gallant Gentleman) Griffith.

We would also like to thank 'The Nancy Reverb' for being so understanding when they unfortunately had to be cut short. If anyone would like to see them again they are playing the Powerhaus on Monday (23rd) at 11pm, cost £3.

Thanks also to every one who came to Rag Fête and those who also were at the dinner.

Next years slogan is Muff Dive '95 and the nominated charities are Imperial Cancer Research Fund, The Rainforest Foundation, Sense and Cystic Fibrosis.

Lots of love,

Jane & Helen, Rag Exec 93 - 94

Listen Carefully

Dear Beccy,

I write to you as I am concerned about the people of this land. Some look, but they do not see, they listen but they do not hear and they read and yet do not comprehend.

In the last two issues of *Felix* (997 and 998), Robert Munro and Anthony France fail to understand what Yasser Hatami (996) is trying to say. He does not suggest that anyone should be murdered or that terrorism should be justified, but merely that other religions and beliefs should be honoured and respected. Mr France, if you have not yet noticed, we exist in a multi-cultural community where everyone lives in harmony; to abuse and provoke others is not welcome here, not from you, Salman Rushdie or anyone else. If it is within our powers we must endeavour to prevent religious, racial or criminal upheaval. I am sure you agree and I just hope

that the Satanic Verses will be an example of this for years to come.

And as for you, Mr Munro, let me just say that in this country we also have the freedom of speech; if we do not abuse this right we may express our feelings and opinions. It is clearly apparent that you have not read Mr Hatami's letter properly for it does not coincide with your accusations. I suggest you learn to swim before jumping head-first into the deep end.

Oh, and Mr France, nothing would give me greater pleasure than to insult your mother, but forgive me if I do not because of the reasons I have outlined above.

Yours faithfully,

Arash Jamali, Elec Eng 1.

P.S. *Felix* is great. Keep up the good work guys. I know I speak on behalf of all of IC, as not many universities have their own paper.

Credits

Printer:	Simon Shaw
Andy Thompson	Puzzles:
Business Managers:	Sphinx
Steven Newhouse	Catfish
Simon Govier	News:
Typing:	Mike Ingram
Stephen Se	Lynn Bravery
Proofing:	Wei Lee
Wei Lee	Photography:
Tim St Clair	Diana Harrison
Simon Shaw	Collators Last Week:
Reviews:	Mike Ingram
Wei Lee (Cinema)	Joe McFadden
Jon Jordan (Music)	Juliette Decock
Patrick Wood (Opera)	Tim St Clair
Fai Fung (Theatre)	Simon Shaw
Features:	Patrick Wood

Answers To Last Week's Crossword

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The deadline for articles is 5pm, Friday

Freedom & Equality

Dear Beccy,

I was surprised at the replies to my letter concerning the Satanic Verses. The points raised about condoning murder clearly had no relevance to the substance of my letter and I therefore feel obliged to reiterate my remarks in a more easily comprehensible form.

There is no doubt that freedom is an extremely valuable and worthy thing, but it has bounds. The freedom to insult and abuse is not a legitimate freedom. This is recognised in the British legal system, which prohibits scorn and slander against holy doctrines of Christianity and its respected figures. What is distressing is the fact that such legal protection is not available for any other religion. A person insulting Jesus can be charged with 'blasphemy' and subsequently spend several years behind bars or face a heavy fine, but he would be free to utter the most indecent and most provocative remarks about Muhammad and his family, and make a fortune out of it.

This represents a fundamental flaw in the judicial system of this country and needs to be eradicated. It was not too long ago when discriminations on race and sex were common practice. Many years of struggle and campaigning by activists helped to bring an end to these unfair laws. It is now time that 'religious' discrimination was also eliminated from society. And if we, as the young intellectual elite of the country, do not strive for equality and justice, who will?

Yours faithfully,
Yasser Hatami, EE2

CAREERS INFORMATION

Vacancies. Don't worry if you were too late to apply for the Milk Round, we have written 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, visit the Careers Service and try PROSPECT, our computer careers guidance system.

Careers Talk For Penultimate Years. Two talks this week, 1pm to 1.50 pm. No booking is necessary, just turn up. Tuesday 24th May: *The Law* by Mrs Clare Maurice, Recruitment Partner of Allen & Overy, CR 317A Sheffield. Thursday 26th May: *Teaching as a Career* by Mr Walter Eyles of TASC, CR 317B Sheffield. **For Further Information** come to the Careers Service, Rm 310 Sheffield, 10am to 5.15 pm Monday to Friday. You can 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 will restart in the Autumn Term.

Destructive Criticism

Dear Beccy,

I really thought that after the last but one issue of the Beccy Land Self-Promotion Society newsletter (oops, I mean *Felix* - an easy mistake to make), we would be spared the silly attacks on Andy Wensley for at least a couple of weeks. It was a lot to hope for, and lo and behold, there it was on the front cover. This was by far the most childish attack in a long line and is a clear abuse of the position of Editor. As you yourself said, 'very responsible behaviour'.

For one who made more out of the seemingly obscure procedural ranglings over the new Constitution than the Sun makes out the Royal Family, I suppose the alleged incident in issue 997 ('Reckless Behaviour By ICU President') was a gift. I can vividly recall the shock experienced by myself and others as we read that the President of ICU drinks. Who would believe it? Today a few whiskies, tomorrow sacrificing animals and virgins in Beit Quad. The issue here, of course, is not whether or not the event occurred. It clearly did, although the details are open to debate. The point is whether *Felix* should waste half a page on its coverage when only one and a half pages out of twenty cover news in what is supposed to be a student newspaper. You get more news in the Exchange

& Mart than this. To be quite honest, who gives a toss if the Union President has a drink or two. As far as I can gather, IC Radio was not 'trashed' and no-one got hurt. This is not to condemn or condone, but to read between the lines and find the real motives behind the story.

The Editorial is even worse. As well as being vacuous and quite possibly actionable, it is sanctimonious in the extreme. Since when was it the job of *Felix* to set the moral standards of IC? It is about time this sniping stopped and you returned to the job of running *Felix* for the good of the students who elected you to the position. Nothing has been done over the course of the year to address the numerous complaints about the plunging quality of *Felix*. Can you really justify spending so much time and effort on your obvious dislike of the President and the way he does his job at a time when large sections of College are constantly questioning your own ability? A case of Dear Pot, Yours Kettle, I think you'll agree.

Yours sincerely,
Simon Baker, Chem 1

P.S. In keeping with new *Felix* policy, my next letter will be submitted with 5000 copies and a box full of Pritt Sticks.

Reply from the News Editor:

First of all, I would like to set the record straight about *Felix*'s coverage of the "obscure procedural ranglings" (sic) concerning the Constitution.

The Union's constitution provides a legal framework for Union officers to work within. For it to operate, the College Governing Body must approve it. The fact is that Mr Wensley misled the whole student body by declaring that the new constitution had been approved by the Governing Body as a working document. The document had not even been put to a Governing Body meeting. In comparison to the Government, most MPs who have lied to the House of Commons have been forced to resign.

Secondly, *Felix* would have reported on the incident at IC Radio regardless of who was involved. Despite the fact that the Radio Station was not damaged, the way in which Mr Wensley was behaving (witnessed by several people) could have led to a very serious incident. The fact that it was the Union President who was involved only served to make the story more newsworthy. Since the President is the figurehead of the Union and is the primary link between students and College, it can do his relations with the students and College no good if he publicly behaves in an irresponsible way.

Students have a right to know what is going on in the Union and the College, and it is *Felix* policy to try and keep them informed.

Silence Please

Dear Beccy,

Concerning the IC Rag Fête. On behalf of the Jazz and Rock Society, I would like to apologise to the visiting rock band 'Nancy Reverb' from the Cystic Fibrosis trust. Unfortunately, due to the selfish arrogance of certain high ranking college officials, the band travelled 80 miles to play for five minutes on the Queen's Lawn. They were then ordered to stop because of "intolerable noise levels". I find it appalling that the hard work (and money) put in by the C.F. Trust went to waste because some faceless bureaucrat needs absolute silence to shuffle papers around his desk.

Yours bitterly,
Derek Hummerston, Jazz and Rock Society.

SMALL ADS

Playgroups and Holiday Playschemes.

The Imperial College Day Nursery (8/9 Princes Gardens) has started a playgroup for 3-5 years old on Wed and Thu, 9.15am-12.30pm. Cost per session: £5.50 students; £6.50 staff.

We are also running a holiday playscheme for 5-9 years old for half term (31st May to 3rd June). Summer holiday playscheme 18th July to 9th Sept. £8 per session 9.30am-1pm, 2pm-5.30pm or all day. Bring packed lunch and/or tea. For more info, call Sue Thornett on 3356.

Make Friends in Eastern Europe!

Are you interested in contacting students in Poland, for example? If so, write your name, address, date of birth, studies, interests and future plans and hand into the Union Office, 1st floor, Union Building.

The deadline for letters is 5pm, Monday

Elimination *by Sphinx*

Eliminate two words from the right hand columns for each clue on the left. Which word is left over?

- | | | | | | |
|---|--|----|-------|----|--------------|
| a | Two words going with chain | 1 | Fly | 22 | Creed |
| b | Aphrodisiac | 2 | Jet | 23 | Cross |
| c | Two words with black | 3 | Out | 24 | Death |
| d | Was stressed before? | 4 | Tit | 25 | Piggy |
| e | Two going with blue | 5 | Bank | 26 | Plate |
| f | ☞☞ | 6 | Dead | 27 | Races |
| g | Two with green | 7 | Down | 28 | Short |
| h | Trinity in the near future? | 8 | Drop | 29 | Synod |
| i | Two joining with number | 9 | Five | 30 | Tense |
| j | ☞☞ | 10 | Flag | 31 | Whale |
| k | Two synonyms | 11 | Food | 32 | Where |
| l | ♠♠ | 12 | High | 33 | Smoker |
| m | Two homophones | 13 | Navy | 34 | Fingers |
| n | Algebraic exercise? | 14 | Past | 35 | Spanish |
| o | Two anagrams | 15 | Peep | 36 | Suicide |
| p | Swine that hoards money? | 16 | Term | 37 | Village |
| q | Two palindromes | 17 | Wear | 38 | Assembly |
| r | "Science commits _____ when it adopts a _____" (TH Huxley) | 18 | Work | 39 | Cardinal |
| s | ✕✓ | 19 | Break | 40 | Messages |
| t | Two suggesting General | 20 | Cares | 41 | Intermission |
| | | 21 | Check | | |



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volunteers

especially

Union minibus drivers

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8.30pm - 11.30pm

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pigeonholes

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