Imperial celebrates inaugural Liberation & Community Week

The week involved a panel event and social media campaign

Monday 21st January saw the launch of Imperial College Union’s first Liberation & Community Week, with a panel discussion hosted by the Deputy President (Welfare), Becky Neil. The launch event, which was titled, “Inclusivity Starts Here” and took place in the Union Concert Hall, featured a panel of seven speakers discussing a range of topics surrounding equality, diversity and inclusion. The speakers also touched on personal experiences of microaggressions, which are unconscious expressions of racism or sexism. Attendees at the event heard more about why diversity is important and how every member of the Imperial community can be involved in making the university more inclusive. Although underrepresented students were encouraged to be active, rather than passive, about equality, diversity and inclusion - “If you notice you’re not being represented, go out and make those events and start those projects yourself” - the importance of remembering that “the burden of making sure we’re all represented shouldn’t be left on those of us that are unrepresented” was also emphasised.

Panel members, including Richard Carruthers (Deputy Director [Careers Service]), Dr. Rahma Elmahdi (Senior Teaching Fellow in Global Health at the School of Public Health) and Dr. Vahid Shahrezaei (Senior Lecturer in Biomathematics), spoke about how they have advocated for change and championed diversity. Final year Biochemistry student and Student Trustee, Hafiza Irshad, talked about her work with the outreach department, working to fully include Muslim students attending the summer camp by accommodating their prayer times, which had a positive impact on the students’ experience. Another one of the speakers, Professor Tom Welton (Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences), spoke on the importance of diversity in the workplace and the role of students in promoting it.

Inclusivity starts here // Imperial College Union

Cancer Awareness in Young People Week

Who should vote on what?

Imperial Green 2019 Calendar

Hyde Park Relays!

NEWS

Andy Djaba
Editor-in-Chief

Cont. pg 3
Ohhh we're halfway there (-ish)

New development in ongoing bursary saga

Changes in bursary funding available to students in the £35,000-£60,000 income brackets. Students in 2015 intake received significantly less than students of equivalent financial backgrounds in any year above or below it

Imperial celebrates Liberation and Community Week

Editorial
Cancer Awareness in Young People Week (CAYP)

29th January - 3rd February 2019

Filippa Furniss
Editor-in-Chief, Write
29th January - 3rd February 2019

"We’ve got to talk about getting pink. Get to know your body, get to know what’s healthy and what’s out of the ordinary" What’s this week all about?

Everyone knows somebody with cancer. The C-word seems to be a fact of life. What’s this week all about?

The increasing College population has led to evaluations of how the South Kensington Campus should be refined to accommodate this growth. In the autumn term of 2017, over 550 staff and students were involved in a consultation of the South Kensington Campus. Those who would like to be involved in this important discussion are encouraged to visit the website South Kensington Campus to participate in a consultation.

Friday, 25th January, 2019

The Masterplan developed to improve the shared spaces of the South Kensington Campus will include opening up the Sherfield Walvak and Queen’s Lawn.

"A masterplan of the future of the South Kensington Campus has been developed"

David and Elle Duncan, Imperial College Foundation Trustees, are alumni of Imperial College, and their Foundation will also be supporting the development of a cancer research center in the South Kensington Campus Redecill Hill Building and the Sherfield Building area, where Queen’s Lawn currently spans. The Dangoor Plazas on the White City Campus for Doctoral Research Out Makerspace and the Wohl Reach Out Lab. Though opening up space in public realms is clearly central to the Masterplan, other improvements to shared spaces are also included. Improved finishes are considered for the Dulcy Court and Sherfield Walkways that are arrival points for the public, such as Imperial College Road and the Main Entrance, will be designed to enhance the “sense of arrival into the campus with a feeling of welcome”. It considers the development of Imperial College Road into a pedestrian dominated area, as opposed to the vehicle dominated space that it currently is, which would allow it to be a potential space for the weekly Farmer’s Market and the Imperial Festival.

The long-term projects include developments to the Chemistry Building, the Sherfield Building, and expanding the Main Entrance. Neil Allford, Associate Provost (Academic Planning), states, “The Masterplan is an ambition. It’s a vision for the future of the campus we can imagine. We have shelves considerations of cost and other practicalities for a period of time, and just think about what we’d really want our campus to look like. This then provide a framework that helps us as we move forward with our development plans for the campus as investment becomes available.” Those who would like to submit feedback regarding campus plans may do so on the College website South Kensington Campus masterplan page.

"Consultations revealed that most people interact only with a small area of the campus"
Who should vote on what?

Comment editor Charles Titmuss argues that voters are not to blame for poor political outcomes

The Brexit vote has been in the zeitgeist for the past month as everything comes to a head. I humbly ask the reader to cast their minds back to that rosy day on the 23rd of June when the nation voted inconclusively for something to do with Europe. Although much attention has been paid to the way the nation voted and who voted for what, we are still questioning who exactly we should blame/ congratulate for this political outcome.

Winston Churchill once said “the best argument against democracy is a five-minute conversation with the average voter.” Although we shouldn’t necessarily listen to the words of a saviour-of-the-nation-cum-genocide-al-white-supremacist, these words feel particularly relevant today. In the present day we are bombarded by a constant stream of commercial and political propaganda, that we accept or reject based on our internal biases. The merging of truth and opinion into a horrific parody of reality is something that we encounter on a daily basis. This is particularly dangerous in a political system that relies on fact and truth as the fundamental political currency. One concept bandied around by Imperial’s most obnoxious is qualified voting. Qualified voting is the concept that people should only be granted the vote if they satisfy certain requirements. Previous forms of qualified voting have been used deny people suffrage on the grounds of racial, social or sexual inferiority or that those without property had no investment in the nation and therefore no right to run it. In the modern day, qualified voting exists solely in the form of an age and citizenship metric. One must be over 18 to exercise the right to vote in the UK. This is justified based on the claim that anyone below the age of 18 lacks the mental capacity to comprehend the complex issues of the day, despite the fact that the implications of political decisions taken may have far more ramifications for them than someone older.

This raises the question, if intellectual maturity is apparently of most concern, should we restrict the right to vote based on intellectual capability? Although I have heard this question answered in the affirmative by many of the particularly insufferable mouth-breathers around campus I do not believe that this is an appropriate answer. For one thing there is the challenge of where exactly to politically amputate the un-enlightened, and for the other, there is the question of morality. Discriminating based on intellectual achievement represents a frightening extreme of meritocracy. Just because someone lacks intelligence does not mean that they are not impacted by decisions taken on their behalf. They deserve the right to vote for that reason alone.

However, although I believe everyone has the right to express an opinion I do not necessarily believe that all opinions are created equal. Several disingenous politicians, such as David Davis, have been pedalling the idea that everyone is an expert. This appeals to the individualist cult that we all happen to belong to nowadays, but in reality most opinions matter about as much as a whelk in a supernova. With the media cycle being a few hours at best, different highly complex issues are birthed, discussed and then die so rapidly, there is simply not enough time for individual voters to formulate a meaningful overview of the entire system. Therefore, there must be a reasonable solution that prevents misinformation and the misinformed from unduly impacting democracy without restricting voting access.

I would argue that the best solution to the problem presented is to restrict what people vote for. Instead of the broad in/ out question that was posed to the electorate with Brexit, it makes far more sense to limit voter options similarly to the process of voting for a party in representative democracy. The options of mad, bad, sad, crazy, racist, commie, Scottie and Irish allow the voter to select a horse and bet on it. This is in direct opposition to a blind, undefined leap in the dark, as was allowed to occur in the EU in/out referendum. Ambiguity was built into the question as Remain assumed they would win, and therefore would never need to answer the question whilst Leave required the question to be as simple as possible to unite the different Brexit factions to stand a chance of winning. This has led us to the point where an unsatisfactory deal has been negotiated by an unpopular Prime Minister. Only time will tell if we crash out of the single market not wearing a safety harness.

To return to the point of this article, clearly defined objectives are a must in any life undertaking. Instead of debating an in/out question, it should have been carried out in a similar manner to a general election, with multiple campaigns proposing differing options for the future relationship with the EU. Defined objective referenda have been shown to provide a satisfactory outcome in many legal independance campaigns (sorry Catalonia) as well as for isolated issues, such as gay marriage in Australia and abortion rights in Ireland. Applying referenda to an obscure and complex issue such as the extent of our membership with the EU was inappropriate and has only served to provide a confirmation of our lack of certainty of what our relationship with the continent is supposed to be. No referendum at all would have been better.
Female Genital Mutilation: A Hidden Crisis

Millions of women still bear the consequences of this terrible, unjustified surgical operation. We can prevent that her daughters suffer the same fate.

What is Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)?

The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) as ‘procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons’ (WHO 2008). It encompasses practices that intentionally remove healthy normal female genital tissues.

There are four types of FGM. Types one to three correlate with increasing severity, with three being the most severe. Type 1 is termed clitoridectomy and involves partial or total removal of the clitoris as well as the labia minora (inner folds of the vulva) with or without the labia majora. Type 3 is called infibulation and is the most extreme form of all types. It involves the narrowing of the vaginal opening by cutting, repositioning and stitching the labia to create a covering seal.

Type 4 encompasses all other harmful procedures to the female genitalia for non-medical purposes such as pricking, piercing, incision, scraping and cauterisation of the genital area. Type 4 also includes labiaplasty, which is vulval surgery to reduce the size of the labia minora often done for cosmetic reasons. There are several social, cultural and religious justifications underpinning female genital mutilation (FGM) practice which allow its propagation. FGM is often regarded as the ‘right of passage’ to become a woman.

Why it’s an important issue?

FGM affects over 140 million women worldwide, and over 127,000 in the UK itself. FGM can have countless consequences to women, both physically and mentally. When FGM is done, anaesthetic is rarely used, causing severe pain to the woman or child. There is a risk of infection and the increased transmission of diseases such as HIV, as instruments are not sterilised between procedures. FGM is also associated with obstetric and gynaecological problems such as painful periods. Women are at greater risk of complications during childbirth such as excruciating pain and the risk of haemorrhaging. FGM can also cause lifelong psychological issues such as PTSD and trauma during intimacy.

If a girl is under 16 and FGM is performed on her, it is considered child abuse. If you help or encourage FGM it is also against the law in the UK and you are at risk of up to 14 years in prison.

Who are FORWARD and what do they do?

FORWARD (Foundation for Women’s Health Research and Development) is an African diaspora women’s charity that tackles gender equality issues such as domestic violence, child marriage and obstetric fistula. They have a particular focus on FGM and are the leading charity in the UK on the subject. FORWARD offers a range of services for women affected by FGM, such as one to one counselling, workshops and free legal advice. They also help signpost people to appropriate services such as social workers, police, health professionals etc.

What can I do to help?

There are many ways to get involved. You can help by raising awareness, speaking out and funding charities that work to end FGM.

If you’re interested in donating to FORWARD you can do so by website or text:

JustGiving Page: https://www.justgiving.com/forwarduk

Text Donation: Text “FWRD30 £” to 70070 with the donation amount after the £

Lastly, the government must see FGM as an important issue, and needs to increase funding and provide more resources for the fight against FGM.

What else can we do?

It is vital to prevent FGM before it even occurs and the best way to do this is to increase awareness about it. This can be done through education programs, community intervention schemes and showing people that it is okay to talk about it in the first place.

There also needs to be further research conducted to establish the actual prevalence of FGM in the UK as many believe it is currently significantly underreported.

Lastly, the government must see FGM as an important issue, and needs to increase funding and provide more resources for the fight against FGM.

What do we stop it?

It is clear what an awful act FGM now is and what a severe impact it can have on others. But how
Theresa May is in trouble. More than any other British prime minister, her whole country is in trouble. Last week the government lost its vote of confidence over the withdrawal agreement, a 500-page legal document taking the UK out of the EU in an unに入れうるようなtransition either to no-deal Brexit, or an extension of the timetable. The Prime Minister, who last week was furious at reports that it was being discussed, has always said she would neverenance ask to do this and described the question as ‘unconstitutional’. But last week’s result was a humiliation. The government only just scraped a majority of one, with the main opposition Labour Party’s157 votes not enough to secure a victory.

The opposition Labour Party, which has long been critical of the government’s Brexit strategy, has been able to capitalise on the uncertainty surrounding the next phase of Brexit negotiations. In particular, the party has been able to capitalise on the government’s failure to secure a deal with the EU, which has led to questions about the Prime Minister’s ability to lead the country.

The decision to hold a vote of confidence was a high-stakes gamble for the government, and the result was a significant blow to the Prime Minister’s authority. The government has now lost its majority in Parliament, and it is likely that the Prime Minister will be forced to resign or call a general election in order to maintain her position.

The Prime Minister was deeply disappointed by the result and has decided to seek the support of the other parties, including the Liberal Democrats and the SNP, in order to secure a majority. However, it is unclear whether she will be able to do this, as the other parties have been critical of the government’s Brexit strategy and have been reluctant to support it.

The government’s loss of its majority in Parliament is a significant blow to the Prime Minister, who has already been under pressure to resign. The result of the vote of confidence will likely add to the pressure on her to step down, and it is possible that she will be forced to resign in order to maintain her position.
Are we nearing the last stages of the Apple wave?

Apple sells fewer iPhones every year despite consistent revenue growth

Apple - the one phone brand everybody knows. Even if you haven’t owned an Apple product in the past decade, you have probably seen somebody in Hyde Park taking a selfie with their new iPhone XR or the person sitting next to you in the library on their MacBook Air. Ever since 2007, Apple has enjoyed a wonderful decade as the King of Smartphones after usurping Nokia for that title. Indeed, Apple was one of the driving forces behind the smartphone boom in the market, making it a household name. For the past couple of years, however, the smartphone market started to stagnate, which posed a problem for many phone companies. Apple, however, seemed to defy the trends by showing a steady growth in revenue. And yet, two weeks ago, the company “stunningly slashed its own revenue forecast for its first fiscal quarter that ended in December”, resulting in a stock plunge of 10% - the worst the company had ever seen in six years.

It was revealed that, despite the continual revenue growth over the years, Apple had actually been selling fewer and fewer iPhones. The reality is that Apple saw a peak in iPhone unit sales in 2015 and that Apple sold 14 million fewer phones than it did three years ago. One might ask - how was there revenue growth if fewer models were sold? The answer - hiked prices. Technology always gets cheaper over time. In 1984, Motorola sold the first mobile phone for $4000, whereas now the average price of a handset is $320, according to IDC, a research firm. Apple, however, bucked the trend. To hide its stagnating growth, they hiked up the prices for the newer iPhone models to continue generating revenue. Due to their loyal fan base, this stalling tactic was successful. However, it is clear that there is only so much they can hike up the prices. Realistically, would you be willing to pay $1,500 or $2,000 for an iPhone when you can already own old iPhone models and will upgrade by buying the latest one on the market.

The company blamed “a slow economy in China and the trade skirmish with the U.S. for worse-than-expected consumer transactions in the region that includes China, Taiwan and Hong Kong”. CEO Tim Cook also told stockholders in a letter that iPhone sales were on a decline due to changes in the smartphone market and consumer behaviour - information that should have been conveyed ahead of time to investors. He also mentioned that “upgrades also were not as strong as we thought they would be.” Upgrades, for those not in the loop, are people who already own old iPhone models and will upgrade by buying the latest one on the market. This was attributed to many factors, such as: economic weakness in some countries, people using their smartphones for longer periods of time due to the halt in subsidies from the mobile phone companies, the rising iPhone prices and the lower-cost battery swaps, slowed down economic conditions in China in the second-half of 2018 and the shopping traffic being hurt by the uncertainty surrounding the U.S.-China trade war, despite Apple claiming two months ago that Apple’s China business was “very strong”.

It is important to note that this doesn’t mean that Apple is currently crashing and burning, as it is obvious from growth charts that they are generating enough revenue and cash-flow to be envied by anyone in the corporate world. What it does mean, however, is that Apple broke the “No. 1 rule of being a public company” - honesty and openness with investors about the progress of the business - and so, in the coming year, will have to face the consequences.

Felix is recruiting!

We want you – yes, you! We’re looking for writers, photographers, editors, illustrators, reporters, computer experts and grammar nerds to join our team. No experience needed – we’ll teach you everything you need to know. If you’re interested, send us an email on felix@ic.ac.uk
The (Oscars’) Favourite

Film Writer Rowan Dixon reviews The Favourite, a serious awards contender. Are mainstream critics wrong about this seemingly subversive historical drama?

The Favourite

The Favourite is a mess-match of fish eye vidography, royal lesbian sex, aristocratic duck racing and some kickass wheelchairs. This film is quite simply all about who Queen Anne’s best friend is, battled out between Sarah Churchill, the queen’s longest and closest friend, and Abigail Masham, a servant from what was a rich and powerful family. Through a mix of gentle verbal manipulation, oral sex and good old-fashioned lying, Masham works her way up from being a simple servant to being a close friend of the Queen. This causes friction with Churchill, who is effectively running the country for Anne and has devoted her life to serving her. Anne, as we discover over the course of the film, is one hell of a good shot, whilst having a perfectly twisted sense of humour. Weisz’s performance is perfect, she dominates the screen and, dare I say, gives a better performance than Olivia Coleman. That’s not to say Colman’s portrayal of Queen Anne is poor, far from it: Coleman plays the part of the emotionally unstable and childish monarch in a very dramatic manner, which at times is so dramatic it’s almost amusing to watch. You may have noticed by now that there is a theme going on—no men. That’s not to say there aren’t any male roles (there are), but they have been delegated to the comical roles and always have an air of incompetence. They are always running around after the matriarchs of the film, wearing ‘silly’ wigs and covered in powder makeup, subverting the historical views of 18th century society.

Writing this review was hard. On one hand the acting is very good and the costumes are exceptional but I can’t get my head around how dull it is, and to make it even harder I can’t point my finger at any specific fault, which leads me to conclude that my 2 hours of boredom was due to the script. I know the script has already been partially dictated by history, but there are so many wonderful historically accurate films out there that are such a joy to watch that I really can’t understand why this made me want to leave the cinema and take the hit on my £7.99 ticket. That money could have been spent on something much better, like any other film I have seen in the past year, and I watched The Room…. If you have made it this far through the review then by now you shouldn’t need me to tell you to save your money and go to KFC instead, but just in case, don’t bother watching it! The only reason I would recommend this film to anyone is if you want to hear some swearing, and you get that for free and in much more abundance in the street. There is the fact that it is pretty historically accurate in the broad sense, but what exactly went on inside the walls of the palace and how long some guys last whilst being jacked off on their wedding night is anyone’s guess. If you want to watch a historical film then there are hundreds out there which are much more exciting and enjoyable to watch, but if you want to know more about the early 1700s save yourself 120 minutes and just google it.WW

At least the costumes deserve their awards recognition. // IMDb

...the acting is very good and the costumes are exceptional but I can’t get my head around how dull it is.

...she is running the country, has multiple politicians in her pocket and is one hell of a good shot all whilst having a perfectly twisted sense of humour.
Art Below Hyde Park
Or when tube stations turn into art galleries!

Where? Gallery Where
When? Sat and Sun

Nina Litman

by using advertising space in underground stations, Robert Howard, an independent art organisation, Art Below has transformed the everyday experience of commuting into London Underground's gaps to create an intimate and captivating space. The artworks, photographs, paintings, and sculptures are displayed in tube stations, creating a unique and immersive art experience for the city's residents and visitors.

In the Barbican Centre, with a mix of mid-century modern art and contemporary works, visitors can enjoy a diverse range of art pieces. The Barbican Centre is a cultural hub in London, hosting exhibitions, events, and performances. Art Below Hyde Park offers a unique opportunity to explore art in unexpected places, bringing the city to life with creative expression.
A Circus With Totemic Status Like No Other

Cirque du Soleil is back in London this winter with Totem, an elegant exploration of the evolution of mankind.

The costumes make you think of 2001: A Space Odyssey, while others will remind you of the UV rays of your youth. And yes, you will see people swaying in the ceiling in such risky configurations that you’ll almost be transported back in time. However, during the night you will get to see everything from the classic bar and bears to acrobats and clowns as well. Intercutting all together, the audience gets to see everything from pilots and space ships to flying humming birds in the air. Again, I think to myself: today air travel is one of the largest culprits of global warming, something the Wright brothers couldn’t have foreseen when they came up with the three axes control, or something Native American tribes almost dreamed of when they collected feathers from the sacred bald eagle in awe of its freedom. This speaks to me during the show, the juxtaposition between then and now. Does it have to mean something, though? can’t you just sit back and enjoy the show? Absolutely – Totem is a magnificent spectacle. The costumes inspired by real amphibian patterns and animal costumes of global warming, some- times much to unicycles and dancers. The costumes that we get to see throughout the rest of the show show influences from different American circles, Mayan culture, a fusion of Italian beach culture in the 90s and Bollywood. The costumes leave a little to be desired and can seem a bit cheap at times. Frequently involving the drinking of wine as some sort of rela- tive and laughable factor, it undermines the beauty of the rest of the show. The fact that there are clowns in a circus of this level seems strange, even. Overall, however, Totem is a magnificent spectacle.
Manon: A triumph of expressiveness in ballet

Alina Cojocaru and Joseph Caley in Manon // Laurent Liotardo

What a brilliant night. Being quite a novice to the ballet world, English National Ballet’s production of Manon was my first introduction to two of its stars — the choreographer Sir Kenneth Macmillan and the ballerina Alina Cojocaru. It was ballet like I’d never seen it before, and it was breathtaking.

Often a problem with ballet is that it’s actually a rather bad way to tell a story — you need to know the plot beforehand or you’ll often end up horribly confused. The dancing often exists more to show off the dancers’ abilities than to move the story along, and expressiveness is limited. The ENB’s recent staging of the classic Swan Lake, based on Petipa/Ivanov’s choreography from 1895, is an excellent example. Sublime the music and the dancers might have been, but by the time the fourth set of townspeople / courtiers came out to show off their dance to the prince, I — dare I say? — found myself slightly bored.

But the star of the show was, beyond a doubt, Alina Cojocaru. She’s 37 and has a daughter, but you wouldn’t believe it to look at her. With her bird-like movements and her weightless, fairy-like dancing, she looks about 18 — every inch the young ingénue that Manon is at the beginning of the ballet. Her effortless lines make for some of the finest ballet I’ve seen. And then there’s her expressiveness. Manon is a character who undergoes multiple transformations — from innocent girl to fallen woman. She discovers her own sensuality, but is gradually corrupted by money and the harsh world around her. Cojocaru brings this transformation to life before our eyes, with every look and gesture bringing out the nuances of Manon’s complex character.

The most beautiful parts of the ballet are the three pas de deux danced between Manon and her lover, des Grieux. At their first meeting, with the shy innocence of young love. Then their playful, sensual duet full of unbridled joy. And finally, desperation and passion in equal measure as Manon meets her doomed end. Cojocaru and Caley make each one a masterpiece. Their interpretation and technical skill intersect such that we no longer see them as just ‘ballet dancers’, dutifully fulfilling parts on stage; they embody Manon and des Grieux, their story playing out before our eyes in dance form.

Kenneth Macmillan’s innovative choreography is the key to this breathtaking realism. Classical themes and classical styles, and yet his choreography feels so fresh and exciting. Maybe because Macmillan didn’t come from the traditional ballet background. Coming from a working-class family and starting ballet relatively late, he reportedly always felt himself an outsider in the insular world of ballet. This was despite his considerable achievements — becoming the primary choreographer for the Royal Ballet and even being knighted for his services.

He was bit of a maverick for his time, a breath of fresh air in the decorous world of ballet. Describing the ballet scene of the 1940s, he said, “Ballet looked like window-dressing. I wanted to make ballets in which an audience would become caught up with the fate of the characters I showed them.” With Manon, he certainly succeeded. No prettified window-dressing to be seen here; raw emotions and feeling take centre stage. You can’t tear your eyes away.
Outlying Islands: A Dark Exploration of Isolation

The latest effort of King's Head Theatre is an intriguing and disturbing insight into human nature.

When? The Kings Head When? Until 2nd Feb
Where? The King's Head Theatre
How much? £10
Tesni Haddon-McMillan
Arts Writer

The King’s Head Theatre is a charming location in Islington, fronted by an eccentric-looking, cozy pub. Walking past the bar after collecting an essential beverage—takes you to the small and intimate theatre, already full of tipsy patrons; this jovial atmosphere was truly a highlight of the experience. It was, however, in stark contrast to the themes of the play itself.

Outlying Islands follows the story of two young ornithologists, Robert (Tom Machell) and John (Jack McMillan), who travel to the Outer Hebrides, at the wish of the Ministry, aiming to study the birds that populate a remote island. They spend a month in this lonely place with no company outside of the island’s leaseholder (Ken Drury) and his niece, Ellen (Rose Wardlaw). In such complete isolation, the play ruminates on the expectations of society, sexuality, patriotism and the raw power of nature.

Immediately, the audience feels the remoteness of the island and its inhabitants through the clever staging. Light is an important and effective tool to this end, illuminating only part of the stage at a time and oftentimes mimicking only the weak glow of the lamp that pervades the scene, draws the audience in to that same sense of unfamiliarity and coldness. Overall, the experience is nothing short of immersive.

In this intimate setting, the inhabitants find that ‘some force pulls’ and the island slowly claims their minds. The civilised manner of John is tested repeatedly by the tactless and carefree nature of Robert. There is tangible tension between the pair on more than one occasion, pitting societal norms directly against natural instinct. In this way, Robert’s character is particularly interesting and in little time, it becomes clear than he will do as he pleases based purely on animal desire. He voices his envy of the birds he studies, commenting that ‘they allow themselves to be taken’ and through this, his want of freedom is painfully clear. He also holds quite venomous opinions against humanity and stresses that nature should be protected from human destruction, obviously far more at home amongst the birds than with other people.

As the narrative progresses, both Robert and Ellen become increasingly reckless, throwing away all regard of what may be considered proper. Primal desire drives them both and John is openly afraid of these developments, as he is driven by genuine and honest feeling; again, opposition between expectations and fancy.

All four characters of the play repeatedly refer to the island as a ‘pagan place’ and perhaps this accounts for the apparent corruption of their minds. Outlying islands is a heavy performance, littered with dark tones and uncomfortable scenarios. Although this can be considered off-putting for an audience, the tale is a powerful one and it’s telling, powerful also. More generally, the theatre is a wonderful one and if this review hasn’t piqued your interest then I leave you with one more fact: The King’s Head has the largest selection of ice cream of any theatre in London.

Improbable fiction upon a stage

Southwark Playhouse turns Shakespeare’s comedy Twelfth Night into a colourful rave with more glitter than gold.

Singing her heart out! // Southwark Playhouse

How Much? £23; £16
Maria Portela
Arts Writer

The charming ambience of Southwark Playhouse greets us with a charismatic mixture of bar, flexible theatre space and creativity hub. It is clear that this venue wants to break convention. Getting access to the performance room means exchanging a ticket for a wristband, gliding past a rainbow of hanging cloth strips, finding a seat in a square arena to the sound of electronic drones and chatting to the cast while waiting for everyone to settle in. All set for a “music-festival-like” welcome to the party-hard land of Illyria, where, amidst some energetic dance moves, each actor introduces their (multiple) characters and the accompanying outfit changes. This was rather unnecessary: spelling out everything dumbs down the audience.

Often the background music or the shouting of other players is too loud to allow the words to be heard, and the clumsy attempts to introduce modern songs that contrast oddly with the archaic language create an overall sense of displacement and lack of direction. Some details in the plot are overlooked, making it hard to understand circumstances and to follow later developments. New as I am to the world of Shakespeare, I only understood the relationship between Olivia, the Duke and Sir Toby, or the reasons that led Viola to disguise herself as a man, upon arriving home and reading relevant Wikipedia pages. The unexplained change in one character’s gender, with resulting language and context quirks, makes a plot already full of cross-dressing and mistaken identities even more muddled. And some moments are purely distasteful, with professional entertainers waving along to their own bad singing like shy teenagers in a school-day production.

Credit must be given to a couple of features, though. Fighting scenes are remarkably comic (“I refuse to spoil!”), as are the built-in interactions with the public. Take a seat in the front row at your own risk! I was just one seat away from my shot at the stage and had to turn my neck a couple of times to face the actors. The way misbehaving props were dealt with was also graciously comical, so much so that I was left wondering if it was a real accident or if I had just been fooled. Special mention to the inclusivity element: one of the characters is mute, with others voicing over. Actress Caroline Parker worked with sign language interpreters to master this role. Quite a contrast, given her other character’s violent loquaciousness! Her all-around brilliant performance clearly stole the show at every chance.

The best of this production is really the light-heartedness, comical joy imbued in every scene. After all these years, and in the hands of competent actors, Shakespeare’s wit keeps making everyone laugh.

The cast of Outlying Islands // Timothy Kelly
Ronaldo’s

7th of February

Price: 9£
La Fiesta
+ one drink at the union

Visit the Union shop for tickets
Imperial Green
2019 Calendar

Use it to plan your exams
Use it to plan the holidays
Use it to plan your future
Hope you enjoy it,

Imperial College Environmental Society
Modern-day branding of masculinity is undermining our ability to man up to big problems

“Undermining a man’s masculinity could result in direct harm to the environment”

Real men care about the environment

2018: A big year for the vegan movement

Film screening of VEGAN 2018 by APES, ESoc and Vegsoc gives food for thought

In my own lifestyle, and partly regretting that I hadn’t attended more movie screenings like these. VEGAN 2018 introduced various aspects of the explosive growth in veganism last year. An increasing percentage of people have begun to cut out meat from their diets and gradually incorporate more environmentally friendly ways of eating. In fact, especially around this time of the year, people may be participating in Veganuary - an event launched to encourage eating a plant-based diet just for one month. The January of 2018 broke new records with an estimated 167,000 people taking part, grabbing a lot of attention from the media. In the US, a company called ‘Beyond Meat’ carried out extensive research on product development of plant-based meat patties - in some regions of Southern California their products were outselling actual meat patties. London is also a growing hub for vegetarian/vegan diets, with vegetarian options available in most restaurants, and entire sections of major stores such as Tesco and Sainsbury’s dedicated to vegan/vegetarian meals. There is expanding research and development in producing meat-free, ‘mock meat’ products which could help society transition more easily into a plant-based lifestyle. The global trend towards increasing awareness of veganism, combined with influencers (including athletes and celebrities) promoting a plant-based diet meant many businesses began to view this as an opportunity to incorporate it as part of their products. 2018 saw a significant improvement in the way mainstream industries began to take up veganism. However, the film is perhaps overzealous when talking about the imminent rise in veganism. Coming from an Asian background, I am also aware that the spread of veganism in the UK and US is certainly not representative of the entire world. Countries such as China, Japan and many parts of South East Asia still eat meat as a predominant proportion of their meals. Vegetarian/vegan options are definitely not as readily available as it is in London. Therefore, it is important to acknowledge that there is still a long way to go in terms of a global shift towards plant-based eating, that will take many more years. Nonetheless, getting the opportunity to watch this film undoubtedly made me more aware that every time we have a meal, we are making a choice - and for people to make a choice, they must be properly informed. Film screenings like these are an extremely approachable way to gain new knowledge so that we can make informed decisions that have the potential to help the environment. If you’re interested in attending future screenings, make sure to keep up with the Environmental society on Facebook/Instagram, so as not to miss out on other free events.

Felix Sustainability is looking for articles. If you would like to write email artur.donaldson15@imperial.ac.uk
birthday party

What a time to be alive...

PT SOC
How science got women wrong

Angela Saini shared her views on the new research that is rewriting the story of gender in her new book Inferior: How Science Got Women Wrong and the New Research That's Rewriting the Story.

The first time I noticed this book was when it was nominated for the Reading Women Award for Nonfiction in 2017. It opens the discussion on how society affects scientific writing in a smooth, coherent, and story-telling way. Throughout her book, Angela Saini emphasises on how little we know about the behavior and biology of men and women.

Angela Saini has a degree in engineering and is currently a science journalist. Her first book was published in 2011: Good Natured: How Indian Science is Taking Over the World. She began writing her new book when her editor asked her to write about the menopause. What is the evolutionary function of the menopause and why is it that only a few species, such as killer whales and humans, experience it? What interested her was how the gender of the scientific community would make them lean towards different interpretations of this question. In her research, she noticed that male scientists were more supportive of the male sexual selection: females have menopause because aged females are not sexually attractive in the eyes of the males. Female scientists were more supportive of the explanation that menopausal females have strong societal roles and were needed to help with the survival of family members. Similar bias in the study of sexual behaviors were described in the book: Saini explored whether such behaviors in different animals could be extended to humans. Some male scientists believe that in many species, males are promiscuous while females are monogamous by nature. One of their explanations is that females need to spend more effort and time for their offspring than males, so they need to be picky about their mates. However, such views were challenged by data from other species. Angela Saini interviewed the anthropologist Sarah B. Hardy, who observed that female Hanuman langurs mate with many males to trick them into thinking they are the father of her offspring, and thus stopping the male langurs from killing the offspring they did not father.

In October last year, Saini gave a talk at the Natural History Museum on the ‘Missing Half of Science’ as part of the NHM Lates programme. She shared her views on why fewer women are in science than men. She mentioned that women have been working in science for a very long time, but they were not given proper credit for their work. During the 19th century, most of them had to work with family members and their publications were not credited to them. Some were not paid for their work. She also mentioned that there are more women in certain fields of science such as life sciences and anthropology because male scientists of those fields encouraged women to enter years before other fields. To encourage young female scientists, she suggested that the education system should lead students to think about the causes of the imbalance of female role models in history and why women were excluded. One of these causes was described in her book - societal perspectives have a huge impact on science. Angela Saini looked through the letters and publications in the 19th century, including ones written by Charles Darwin on women being intellectually inferior to men. Members of the scientific communities of the time believed women could not achieve as much as men because this was in their biology. Interestingly, the late 19th century was also when the first feminist movement began. Feminists argued that women could not achieve as much as men because they did not have the opportunities to be educated and were restricted by patriarchal societal structures and culture. Gender is not the only bias in science. Saini will further explore how other societal factors such as racism, colonialism, and short-sighted practices shape science in her next book Superior: The Return of Race Science, which will be published in May this year.
Kobala Revisited: Afriquoi storm XOYO

Artist: Afriquoi. Label: Werrwolf. Tour Dates: September 19th – December 12th, 2020. From this show it is clear that impact only if you make a decent effort to appreciate, and those who do appreciate it will be rewarded with a huge experience.

The Wicked Wizard of Sauce


The title track immediately grabs your attention—there is a self-awareness that it is a track that is fighting against something bigger. It is a battle of words against the world. The production is fanciful, the beat is catchy, and the lyrics are thought-provoking. It sets the tone for the rest of the album, which is a journey through different musical styles and emotions.

Future has always been a hit-maker and his work ethic is evident in his career. He has a unique ability to take his listeners on a journey through the sounds of the world. His music is a reflection of his personal experience and his ability to see beyond the surface.

The album features several guests, including Travis Scott, Drake, Young Thug, Gunna, Young Jeezy, and Gunna. Each guest brings their own style and energy to the track, making it even more dynamic.

The album is a testament to Future’s creativity and his ability to evolve his sound. It is a journey through different musical styles and emotions, and it is sure to keep you engaged from start to finish.
If you like delicious flavours and something different to fill your belly (and your Instagram feed) take a trip to the UK’s only soufflé pancake café!

Having first tasted these fluffy pieces of heaven in Hoshino Coffee, a chain with over 150 outlets across Japan, I was immediately hooked! London I thought, renowned foodie destination, was sure to have somewhere for me to get my pancakes fix. Sure enough, there was one place specializing in these soufflé pancakes: Fuwa Fuwa.

The café first set up shop as a pop-up in Westfield Stratford, but as I hadn’t gotten my jabs to explore so far outside of central London, I waited a few months for its expansion. Sure enough they have now moved to a more central location, still in a pop-up style, located at the Brunswick Centre just outside Russell Square station. The setup is very simple with minimal decor. Although cute, it does look a little barren.

However, being a pop-up type setting, this is forgivable, especially since the quality and aesthetic of the food plated up more than compensates. The menu consists of sweet soufflé pancakes, so if you come here with anyone who dislikes pancakes, you should probably reconsider your friendship. It takes around 20-30 minutes to make them (unfortunately longer than most places), so I recommend you take some light entertainment (maybe that lecture you missed because you were trekking across London for pancakes?)

The menu is reasonably priced, slightly more expensive than a hipster milkshake but slightly less than your average avocado toast, with the pancakes costing between £7.90 and £8.90. The flavours include a honeycomb butter with whipped cream and syrupy goodness, Banana and Nutella (need I say more?) and summer fruit (fruit = new year new me?). With so much effort put into the pancakes themselves, the toppings are surprisingly good. The whipped cream I tried was out of this world, and the yuzu cream cheese and blueberry compote were a flavour match made in heaven. The pancake itself, after 20 minutes spent photographing it for Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook and of course LinkedIn, was finally cut into.

It’s hard to explain its light and fluffy texture, but let’s just say that the NASA scientists who used the ultra-low-density Aerogel material to catch space dust should probably reconsider their choice. Despite their ultra-low-density, they are surprisingly filling! You will still probably want another for the amazing taste.. but let’s be honest, you can’t afford that on a student budget.

All in all, highly recommended - visit Fuwa Fuwa soon to get your pancake fix!
Smash Corner - Mario, Barely Qualified Plumber

Michael Cognet
Games Writer

Welcome to the Felix Games section's brand new addition: Smash Corner! Where we will give you weekly guides on characters from Nintendo's Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, to give you an overview and new insights on the main character of course fighting games. Mario.

Nintendo's iconic character and playstyle has remained consistent throughout. He is a powerful close range brawler of medium weight and average speed which has plenty of perks. Mario really excels in hand to hand combat and relies mostly on his fast and reliable normal, tilt and smash attacks to dish out the damage and eventually secure the kill. Living up to his former name of 'Jumpman', it is in the air that he truly shines with an almost instant neutral, which you will be using a lot, and a great up-air to juggle opponents with. And of course, Mario’s bread and butter is his forward aerial, which will spike down the poor player hit by it. Another strong move of his kit is his back-throw, which is a powerful kill-throw at higher percentages. In addition, this move will make Mario spin around hitting any nearby opponents, handy if you’re getting attacked from multiple angles!

His special moves are however not to be underestimated as they give him a huge amount of versatility. Mario’s neutral special is his trusty fireball, that will interrupt the opponent, providing the opportunity to chain in attacks or combos, if followed upon quickly. His side special is his cape, very useful if timed right to reflect any projectiles. His down special is the F.L.U.D.D., a charged attack that can blast opponents with water, it’s purpose not to do any damage but simply to push them away as they are trying to recover. And last but definitely not least, Mario’s up special is his Super Jump Punch, which can of course be used as a recovery but also as a kill-move for any opponent overhead. With all this in mind, a common combo for Mario goes as follows: throw your enemy in the air with an up-throw, -tilt or -smash, jump and hit them with an up-air, repeat the process with a mid-air jump and finish off with an up-special. Depending on the weight and percentage of your opponent, it can lead to a kill. If not, all is not lost; you can always go for the hefty FORWARD AERIAL while they are off stage to send their poor soul down into oblivion. Be sure to shout it when doing so for ultimate disrespect.

All in all, Mario is a mid-high tier character which has a lot of potential. A fighter that is easy to learn, but hard to master, hence a good first character to pick if you are new to Smash and want to try it out.

Smash Corner - Link, Mute Discount Legolas

Freddie Ugo
Games Writer

Originating in 1986 as the not so eponymous main character of ‘The Legend of Zelda’, Link has grown to be one of Nintendo’s most beloved and well-known characters. Long-time fans of Link finally get their justice in Ultimate as this is truly the best iteration of Link we have had yet! Link is one of the slower characters in the game, but his high weight and kill power more than make up for this. The key with Link is to use his variety of projectiles to force your opponent into a vulnerable position and then blast them with your strong, multi-hit up and forward smash attacks. These moves have high damage and large hitboxes, meaning they are very good at catching out the enemy as they try to avoid your plethora of traps.

Link’s neutral special is his Bow and Arrow. It is a great zoning tool with moderate damage, scaling up the longer you charge it. A good trick is to fire one at the ground and then pick it up, this lets your next shot fire 2 arrows simultaneously! Use the arrows to force your opponent to jump and punish them with an anti-air.

His side special, Boomerang, can be thrown in a variety of angles and distances, filling a similar role to the arrows. However, the boomerang also has a hitbox on the way back, providing additional pressure as Link moves around the battlefield. It can also be bounced off the ground, providing many mix up options to your playstyle.

Link’s up special and main recovery option is Spin Attack. It can be charged whilst on the ground to deal a large amount of damage on both sides of Link, but where it really shines is the large vertical distance that can be covered with this. Along with a jump, Link can now recover from almost anywhere off stage!

The bread and butter of Link’s move set is his down special, the Remote Bomb. Using it creates a remote bomb which can be detonated again with the same input (as long as no one is holding the bomb). The possibilities with this move are endless; you can use it to hit and kill the enemy off stage or place it on a platform to limit your opponent’s movement options. Alternatively, the bomb can be placed near the ledge, forcing your opponent to jump from the ledge which can then quickly be countered with a forward or up aerial. If you’re feeling particularly fancy you can also use the bomb to hit yourself off stage to add further distance to your recovery.

Other important things worth knowing are that when standing still, Link blocks projectiles with his Hylian shield and when his health is at 0% his forward smash also has its own projectile; a neat call back to his original games.

I would place The Hero of Time securely in high tier, held away from top tier only by his unfavourable matchups against the game’s best such as Palutena and Pikachu. If you want to learn more about Link there are great videos by pro player ‘ZeRo’ and long-time Link main ‘Izaw’ on YouTube. Happy Smashing!
A look at the stunning and ongoing failures of Fallout 76 and how Bethesda successfully destroyed their own reputation with lies, deceit and incompetence.

Fallout 76: How Bethesda alienated their fans and

Talking points and insights:

- The game they were no longer entitled to, one that
  ruined their playtime. The conspiracy theorists in the
  says it wasn’t released
  due to the negative reviews it would have gotten and the
  inescapable torrent of refund policy which would have
  decimated their profits. A
  fanbase in ruins and their
  vulnerabilities on the line.
  It was just a joker to drive profits and
  that’s a classic red flag.

- Those unaware of just
  Bethesda’s reputation, 
  those who bought the
  game, stripped of much of
  its design, and I still feel like I went
  straight to the emergency room.
  A gaming; made all the
  things bigger than the game itself
  and I still feel like I went
  straight to the emergency room.
  A gaming; made all the
  things bigger than the game itself
  and I still feel like I went
  straight to the emergency room.
  A gaming; made all the
  things bigger than the game itself
  and I still feel like I went
  straight to the emergency room.

- “Bethesda made an active
decision to deceive its
fanbase”

- “In a show
  of brilliance they
  brighten the
developer
room in the
Fallout 76
map, and
finally
people are getting in
there”

- “They have
  shown that
when the chips are
down they are
willing to treat their fans
with contempt”

- monsterous with ease due to the
  flood of these items into the
currency (as compensation)

- It doesn’t even end there. Long time Bethesda
  fans know their maps

- “Yeah, it’s time for a big
  quote. We love these
  things, but don’t forget to
  make them!”

- “Not a good
deal. Best of all,
  people started contacting
  Bethesda support they
  didn’t have a download
  to be re-downloaded.

- “The broken nukes were
  fixed relatively fast, but it
  shows how poorly thought
  out the game was. It was
  released in November,
  and they hadn’t properly
  planned it even months
  earlier.”

- They have asked for the
  content they were promised
  and they have been
  delivered.

- “It doesn’t even end there.
  Long time Bethesda fans
  know their maps

- “They have shown that
when the chips are
down they are
willing to treat their fans
with contempt”

- people have lost faith in
  Bethesda. This whole ordeal
  has shown how little effort
  actually went into Fallout 76,
  and has shown that
  Bethesda is now more than willing
  to stoop to new lows to
  follow trends in the pursuit of
greater profits. Their reputation is
  irreparably tarnished,
and in a short time they’ve
  gone from a fan favorite
  company to one regarded
  with suspicion. Fallout 76
  was not just a bad game,
  it made people realize the
  way they saw Bethesda
  and their previous games.
  I find it harder to overlook
  these flaws in Fallout 4
  after this, and am
  nowhere near as excited
  for The Elder Scrolls 6,
  because they have shown
  that when the chips are
down they are willing to
  treat their fans with contempt.

- “They have
  shown that
when the chips are
down they are
willing to treat their fans
with contempt”

- And finally we end up
  at the present day and
  it should be clear why

- “In a show
  of brilliance they
  brighten the
developer
room in the
Fallout 76
map, and
finally
people are getting in
there”

- “They have
  shown that
when the chips are
down they are
willing to treat their fans
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  has shown how little effort
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  I find it harder to overlook
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  nowhere near as excited
  for The Elder Scrolls 6,
With the final chapter of the Xehanort Saga of the Kingdom Hearts series almost upon our doorstep, Felix Games is here to offer a retrospective look at the love child of Square Enix and Disney.

**With the House of Mouse involved, it was surprising that Square were not given any retrictions**

Using Disney’s assets. For Nomura, he believed that they wouldn’t change the worlds, but instead that it was Square’s prerogative to bring out a prequel in a franchise they had already done work for. Speaking of prequels, various adaptations of the Kingdom Hearts name have appeared throughout the series, from cartoonish versions of beloved characters to darker, more mysterious adaptations of others. This feeds into the excitement surrounding each new title in the series, with fans wondering which Disney worlds and what final Fantasy characters and his weapon will be featured in the story.

Releases

So in the past 17 years, the following games have been released: Kingdom Hearts Chain of Memories, Kingdom Hearts II, Kingdom Hearts 3, Kingdom Hearts: Birth by Sleep, Kingdom Hearts: 358/2 Days, Birth by Sleep Final Mix, Kingdom Hearts: 358/2 Days Deluxe Edition, Kingdom Hearts Birth by Sleep, Kingdom Hearts Birth by Sleep Final Mix, Kingdom Hearts: Chain of Memories, coded, 358/2 Days, Birth by Sleep, The Story of Cid, Kingdom Hearts: Chain of Memories, 2.8 Final Chapter Prologue, Kingdom Hearts Re:mind, and Kingdom Hearts 3.

If you asked me to tell what the Kingdom Hearts series is about, then I’d probably come up with something like ‘it’s about the adventures of a young boy called Sora who traverses many different Disney Worlds and meets many different Final Fantasy characters and his weapon is a Keyblade.’

This sentence both sums up the series while simultaneously leading you on a wild goose chase. Any fan to try and pin down the exact details of the story is going to be at a lost for words. With a legend as epic as Kingdom Hearts, no single game is able to capture it all.

First of all, yes, the mobile game is purely canon to the series. Essentially, this game depicts the events which led up to Kingdom Hearts 3. While there were five different universes to plow through, the story was told primarily through the eyes of the Foretellers and the purpose of these three exes were to gather Lux (a form of light) for the world.

A Heartless, ironclad enough, is the manifested heart of a person who has succumbed to darkness, while a Nobody is the body and soul of a person who has lost their heart. These names have been given ironclad because Xehanort’s Heartless calls himself Ansem and his Nobody calls himself Xemnas. Xemnas goes on to lead an organization of nobody called Organization XIII.

**With Kingdom Hearts 2.5 and 3.5 releases, the events of Kingdom Hearts 2.5 Remix, Unchained χ, and Kingdom Hearts χ Back Cover are viewable with the 1.5 + 2.5 ReMIX bundle.**

**With Kingdom Hearts 3, nearly every world and character in the franchise is majorly convoluted** and nearly every world and character in the franchise is majorly convoluted. The Final Fantasy characters that have appeared in Kingdom Hearts, from the most minor to the most major, are repeated endlessly (and trust me on this, there are a lot of them). This feeds into the convoluted road to Kingdom Hearts 3.

For the Final Fantasy characters that have appeared in Kingdom Hearts, from the most minor to the most major, are repeated endlessly (and trust me on this, there are a lot of them). This feeds into the convoluted road to Kingdom Hearts 3.

As a long-time series fan, I’ve played all of the Kingdom Hearts games. Of them, Kingdom Hearts 3 is one of my favorite games. I’ve played it numerous times and have thoroughly enjoyed the journey. I find the world-building and the story to be compelling and engaging. The game is visually stunning and the gameplay is entertaining. I would recommend this game to anyone who enjoys RPGs and enjoys a good story.

In terms of gameplay, Kingdom Hearts 3 is a mix of action and puzzle-solving. The game is primarily action-based, with puzzle-solving elements integrated throughout. The combat system is fast-paced and exciting, with a variety of abilities and weapons available to the player. The puzzles are challenging but rewarding, and require players to think creatively and strategically.

Overall, Kingdom Hearts 3 is a game that combines the best of both worlds. It is a visually stunning RPG that is also engaging and entertaining. I would highly recommend this game to anyone who enjoys RPGs and enjoys a good story.
Nominate someone great

The Student Academic Choice Awards (SACAs) nominations are now open! The annual SACAs give Imperial College students the opportunity to recognise excellence among the academic and support staff. You can nominate as many deserving staff members as you'd like in each category, and every nominee will receive a sought-after SACAs mug!

We have 3 brand new categories this year:

- Diversity & Inclusion Champion
- Communities Champion
- Student Wellbeing Champion

Deadline is 10 February. Nominate at imperialcollegeunion.org/sacas

What's on the social calendar?

Do you have your eyes set on being as big as Imperial alumnus and lead guitarist of Queen, Brian May? Compete in this year’s Battle of the Bands! Enter by Sunday 27 January for the chance of winning a cash prize of £500 and the chance to perform at the Summer Ball.

Sign up at imperialcollegeunion.org/battleofthebands.

Or are you more in the mood for an evening filled with laughter? Come along to Comedy Night on Monday 4 February, 20:00-23:00 in Union Bar. Our award-winning line-up will have you stitches. We also have a special guest TV star set to make an appearance. He has an estimated net worth of £10m and has been part of the cast of a very popular TV series filmed not too far from the South Kensington Campus - you don’t want to miss out!

Purchase your tickets at imperialcollegeunion.org/comedynight

Sign up for ICXP

Has your Club, Society, or Project signed up for ICXP yet? Gain special rewards such as priority placement at Freshers’ Fair, promotion on Union social media channels, exclusive workshops and much more.

ICXP - Imperial Club Experience Project - is a way for Clubs, Societies & Projects to be recognised and rewarded for their successes. CSPs will receive points for the completion of a series of goals, unlocking rewards along the way. It’s a great way for clubs to develop for the benefit of their members.

Deadline is 20 March. Sign up at imperialcollegeunion.org/icxp

Make great memories

ACC

CSP

WEDNESDAY

30 JANUARY

25 January, Friday
IPOP
Beit Bars | 20:00 - 02:00

Wolf Rocks
h-bar | 18:00 - 23:00

Replay Friday
Reynolds | 18:00 - 22:00

29 January, Tuesday
Super Quiz
FiveSixEight | 20:00 - 22:00

Jazz & Cocktails
Metro | 19:00 - 22:00

31 January, Thursday
Pub Quiz
h-bar | 19:30 - 21:30

30 January, Wednesday
ACC: CSP Wednesday
Beit Bars | 19:00 - 01:00

Club Reynolds
Reynolds | 18:00 - 01:00

1 February, Friday
Common People
Beit Bars | 20:00 - 02:00

POI Friday
h-bar | 19:00 - 23:00

#beitbars #hbarpub #reynoldsbarcx
Hangman

Union financial societies investigated for dodgy dealings

PanamaSoc, so named after the infamous Panama Papers, was apparently confused for a new cultural society catering to Panamanian students by the New Activities Committee, and given full status within the Union. “We couldn’t call it tax evasion,” said Jordan Bellend, Chair of the Union’s tax evasion committee. “It’s an essential life skill that simply isn’t covered in any course meant to teach you this.”

The society’s proposed event calendar includes a lecture series, “How I Spun This,” featuring a notorious tax cheat, and an annual “Trafiathon,” where individuals are put into teams to hide as much money in offshore accounts as possible for their clients.

The decision comes as two of the Union’s biggest financial societies have been placed on probation, after their annual budgets revoked suspicious cash flows to Southern American companies.

Union officials are investigating the books of Finance and Investment Societies, which were both noted to be late in submitting their budgets by the deadline this Monday. It is suspected both CSFs were funnelling money out of the Union to avoid the 20% VAT being taken from their accounts.

“We were hoping to get a trip to Bahamas next year,” said Ronald Horu-ness, president of Finance Society, “we’ve heard they have a thriving, business community...”

President Zara Shimmern outside of the meeting premises, after a brief spat in the chamber over a proposed cut of the Business School. Eyewitnesses to the scuffle claim that Zara incited the violence, saying, “well it’s not my fault you’re in a non-exempt faculty - next time do a relevant degree!”

Following this, Flunky Gent, non-faculty Student Representative, attempted to jump GSU tuition fee increase for the next academic term.

The next Mroscak Fonseca could be an Imperial startup // Imperial College
On 3rd October 2018, the iconic British marque synonymous with James Bond debuted on the London Stock Exchange, a milestone for the historically troubled carmaker, with a past marred by several bankruptcies. The shares were priced at £19, valuing the company at £4.3bn. While most IPOs are traditionally capital raising operations, this IPO was a profit-taking exercise for its 2 largest shareholders, Italian private-equity group Investindustrial and Kuwaiti investment fund Investment Dar, who sold off a quarter of the company.

Slipping as much as 8 percent on the first day of trading, the price has dropped to a current low of £12.60. Peer-to-peer lender Funding Circle, which listed 2 days after Aston Martin, is down 28% from its listing price. The poor post-IPO performance of its share price, Aston Martin reported stellar third quarter earnings, with revenues rising 89% from £156mn to £282mn. Profit before tax rose a staggering 933.3% to £3.1mn from £0.3mn. This growth was underpinned by strong sales in the Americas and Asia Pacific, including China, where demand for the DB11 derivatives and the new Vantage doubled sales amidst a slower Chinese market. Shifting of production volume to the cheaper Vantage and V8-engined DB11 derivative have dropped the average selling price per vehicle. The production of the brand’s first SUV (Sports-Utility-Vehicle), the DBX is on track for completion in the first half of 2019, which will strengthen the product range.

With Aston Martin on-track to double its production volume to 14,000 units within the decade, it has had to re-evaluate relationships with local component suppliers who cannot keep pace, prompting Aston Martin to look overseas for new partners. With the current German-made gearboxes and engines (V8 from Daimler and V12 from Ford), three-fifths of components are imported from Europe. This move signals a further reduction in the “British-ness” of the brand. Fans of the automaker, who take pride in hand-crafting each car in England, will be getting a lot less British for their buck.

CEO Andy Palmer, who breathed a “sigh of relief” when briefed in a late-night call on the Brexit deal, may be having a few more sleepless nights. Prime Minister Theresa May’s deal was rejected by the House of Commons on 15th January 2018. While Minister May returns to the drawing board, this setback leaves Aston Martin on tenderhooks as the possibility of a no-deal exit from the EU looms closer. An outcome that does not protect the UK’s access to the single market will introduce red tape and drive up cost by disrupting the complex integrated supply chains that feed the UK’s automotive industry. With 10% of people employed in the UK’s automotive manufacturing originating from somewhere else in the EU, such a blow will hamper the industry’s acquisition and retention of foreign talent.

Carmakers have cautioned about these consequences. Jaguar Land Rover estimates job losses in the tens of thousands and intends to close one of its three UK plants. Toyota and BMW have also expressed intentions to shut their plants in the aftermath of the exit. In anticipation of messy customs, carmakers have stockpiled raw materials, with Aston Martin stockpiling engines since September 2018. The global market Aston Martin commands may insulate the company from weakness in the EU and UK, including the added cost of import and export tariffs on its vehicles. However, the disruption to its European supply chains could derail the company’s expansion plans. It seems Aston Martin and its UK-based peers, will just like Bond’s favourite drink, be in for quite a shaking.

“Aston Martin reported third quarter earnings, with revenues rising 89% ... Profit before tax rose a staggering 933.3% to £3.1mn from £0.3mn.”
PUZZLES

CROSSWORD
How well do you know your cocktails?

Across
1. A zesty Tom (7)
5. Artificial human (5)
8. Stir (3)
9. Shields vital organs (7)
11. Rum and Coke (4,5)
12. Demand firmly (6)
14. Proposals (6)
18. Whiskey, Vermouth, and bitters (9)
20. Goes well with Tonic (3)
21. Vermouth and Gin (7)
22. Half of an exotic fruity cocktail (3)
23. Lots of Simba’s uncles (5)
24. Eye movement (7)

Down
1. The main ingredient in a Negroni (7)
2. Uber-approved luxury hybrid (5)
3. Six-legged beings (7)
4. Writes things down (6)
5. Insurgent (5)
6. Gin, lemon, and blackberry (7)
7. Topic (5)
13. Fruity wine mix (7)
15. Way too keen (7)
16. Tequila, orange, and grenadine (7)
17. Dictates right or wrong (6)
18. People who miss them get left out (5)
19. Low on the pH scale (5)
20. Third Greek letter (5)

SUDOKU
Fill all the boxes with a number between 1 and 9. A number can only appear once in a row/colum, and only once in each sub-box.

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SHIKAKU
Divide the square into rectangles, such that each rectangle contains exactly one number. The numbers given represent the area of the containing rectangle.

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SPOT THE DIFFERENCE
There are five differences between the two images.

Send your solutions to fsudoku@imperial.ac.uk before Wednesday midday to take part in the leaderboard!

Points available
Crossword 6
Spot the difference 3
Sudoku 3
Shikaku 2
Nonogram 2
Total 16

Last week’s solutions

NONOGRAM
Colour in some of the squares to make a picture. Each number represents a block of consecutive black squares within that row/column. Each block needs to be separated by at least one white square.
Get your running shoes on, it’s the Hyde Park Relays!

The Hyde Park Relays are the largest annual student relays in the UK and have seen over 500 competitors take to the paths of the iconic Hyde Park in Central London every year since 1949 to complete 5km laps in men’s or mixed teams of 6 and women’s teams of 4. This year’s edition is set to be even greater than previous years!

Runners of all abilities are welcome, from experienced racers to complete beginners. This could also be your chance of meeting some running legends as the Hyde Park Relays has frequently attracted world-renowned athletes such as David Moorcroft, the former 5000m World Record holder, and Sebastian Coe who won the Relay’s fastest leg in 1978 then went on, two years later, to win the 1500m gold and 800m silver at the Moscow Olympics.

This is also a chance for university teams to battle it out against each other only a week after the BUCS Cross-Country Championships in Exeter.

Usual suspects for winning the relays this year include hosts Imperial College Cross Country and Athletics Club, local rivals such as UCL, King’s, LSE and St. George’s Hospital, as well traditional rivals Oxford and Cambridge, Portsmouth, Southampton, and many more from throughout the UK and Europe.

Following the race, all the teams are invited to join us in the College for (included!) food and a presentation ceremony before the infamous after-party in H-Bar!

The 2019 edition of the race will feature Baton-integrated chip-timing; officially measured 5km course, course map is on the website (great for a PB!); inclusive post-race food; and the return of the notorious after-party! Entries have opened and are organised by Imperial College Cross Country and Athletics Club!

The race will be held on Saturday 9th February 2019 and will start at 13:00. Registration will take place in the Union building between 10:00-12:00.

You will be competing for the traditional engraved relay baton trophies for fastest men’s and women’s teams and legs. However, in addition to the relay batons, this year we’ve recovered the Hyde Park Relays trophy! It’s a massive cup, and will be awarded to the fastest team whose name will be engraved on the cup. Needless to say, this comes with eternal glory...

Entries close on the 7th of February, so get thinking of those witty team names! Please go to Cross-Country and Athletics Club page on the union website for more information, and to buy tickets.

On your marks, get set, go! // ICXCAC