

FELIX



The Student Newspaper of Imperial College

No1014 02DEC94

Beit Brawl

BY ANDREW SMITH

Following allegations that one of Imperial College's Security Officers was drinking on the job, four Imperial College Union (ICU) stewards are recovering after hospital treatment. Their wounds range from whiplash to head injuries requiring stitches.

The incident originated in the theft of a jacket and wallet belonging to Neil Stewart, a postdoctoral researcher, following which both the police and college security were informed. Three males, suspected by onlookers of being involved in the offense, were seen in the Beit Quad, after the Union building had been cleared.

Following their drunken behaviour being noticed by the stewards, it has been claimed that a college technician accused the three males of the theft. It appears that they subsequently attacked him.

This resulted in the Union stewards, all six of whom were in the Quad at the time, attempting to break up the fight and it was then that they received their injuries. Following the attack on Fiona Grandison, from which she suffered whiplash, one steward suffered a broken bone in his hand while attempting to subdue the assailants.

(Continued on page 2)

Ashdown a Technophile



Archive Photo: Simon Govier

BY MICHAEL LUDLAM

Paddy Ashdown, Leader of the Liberal Democrats, gave the annual Save British Science lecture last Thursday. To the meeting in Imperial College's Great Hall, Mr Ashdown reaffirmed his commitment to the funding of education and research. In his speech he said

that financing education was the Liberal Democrat's first priority; but when questioned later he admitted that the party's main emphasis is still constitutional change.

Paddy Ashdown mainly spoke of the need to link industry and education so that Britain could compete in world markets. However, he also felt

that Universities should not, "spend their time doing 'useful' short-term applied research for industry". He said this ought to be industry's responsibility, so that academic institutions could concentrate on what he described as, "'blue-sky' research, which provides new ideas for tomorrow". He spoke of copying the German system where the Government contributes to the salaries of scientists in small firms for up to five years.

He was also asked his views on student finance, and in particular on graduate tax. Proposals being considered by the Liberal Democrats could mean that graduates would pay a higher rate of income tax after their degrees were completed. Mr Ashdown said that it was impractical to give grants to all students at 1979 levels as this would cost over £7 billion.

In what seemed an attempt to impress his audience with his science credentials the leader of the Liberal Democrats described himself as a 'complete technology freak!' who enjoyed playing around on the Internet. "The wonderful quality of the Internet is that it is completely out of control," he continued.

Recognising the need to prepare students for college and University, he noted that scientists often find themselves "locked into a narrow career path" by doing only one type of subject. To counterbalance this, he said that the Liberal Democrats would like to broaden A-levels into something more like the International Baccalaureate. This would compel those who concentrate on the arts to broaden their horizons as it would have a compulsory maths and science element.

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Fracas In Library

BY DAVE COHEN

Violence erupted in the Department of Mathematics Library, last Thursday after two students became involved in a brawl.

Just after 12:30pm, on Thursday 24th November, Bilal Al-ali, a Mathematics Postgraduate, was sitting in the library working when he was approached by Seye Ontiri, an ex-Imperial student now studying at Southbank University. After a short scuffle a fight broke out between the two men, during which Mr Al-ali suffered a cut to the brow. Ayse Santliturk, Assistant Librarian, called College security who soon broke up the fight. "I didn't know [Mr Al-ali] until that day, he was just a quiet, normal student," said Mrs Santliturk. Witnesses said that despite an attempt by Mr Al-ali to move the fight outside the library, Mr

Ontiri seemed resolute in settling the matter immediately. Adrian Clark, Librarian, said: "Obviously [Ontiri] didn't care that it could be in a public place."

Although the motives behind the fight are unclear at present, College security have informed FELIX that the matter has been referred to the Southbank University authorities and investigations are in progress. Staff in the Mathematics Department said that the matter was being taken very seriously in light of the letter by Mr Ontiri, published in last week's FELIX. The letter was written, in defense of the Wing Chun Kung Fu club, as a reply to a previous anonymous letter (FELIX 1010) which criticised the claims and motives of the club, as had been outlined in recent advertisements in FELIX.



Photo: Matt Parkes

Today sees the culmination of Imperial College's Welfare Week, writes Paul Dias, which was chosen to coincide with yesterday's World Aids Day. The week featured a host of exciting events and informative stalls, including the IC Day Nursery stall pictured above.

(Beit Brawl continues from page one)

Following a review of Friday nights proceedings, Showsec International, the company whose employees were used at the beginning of the term, will once again be in evidence at Union events. Lucy Chothia, ICU President, has defended these measures, saying that they are necessary since three of the injured stewards will not be available to work for some time.

Criticism of college security centres on questions over one officer's state at the time of the incident, and continuing uncertainty over how many officers were in the Quad at the time. Terry Briley, Deputy Head of Security, insisted that two officers were on duty that evening. However, this has confused many of those present, who claim that only one officer was seen. Mr Briley appeared shocked upon hearing allegations of drinking by one of his officers, and emphasised that he had not received any complaints of this nature.

With confusion also surrounding whether college security called the police when requested by the Union stewards, the lack of involvement by security officers during the melee has been criticised. Whilst Mr Briley insists that his officers attended the injured, the reasons why they were not further involved at the time of the assault has not yet been fully

explained.

If the police were contacted, as Mr Briley insists, soon after the violence started, then it is the police whose actions warrant questioning. They did not appear until around 3am, after the three assailants had finally left Prince Consort Road. If the lack of police presence was due to their slow reaction, then college security cannot face any criticism in this respect.

As part of the ongoing security review, the one camera which is directed at the entrance to the Union building is being deemed inadequate for security purposes. College Security has agreed with ICU that this will be recorded, unlike at present, and that further cameras, possibly infra red, will be erected in the Quad. When these alterations will take place has not been decided, though Lucy Chothia hopes that it will be fitted in the near future.

Following strong suspicion that one of the three persons involved is a first year Civil Engineer, two of the Union stewards have been studying student photographs. This has not yielded any results so far, and Mr Briley, obviously committed to finding the culprits, has appealed to students with any information to come forward. He emphasised that full confidentiality would be preserved.

Fees Freeze

BY RACHEL WALTERS

Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, disclosed in her budget statement on Tuesday that the level of tuition fees will be frozen this year.

In a statement that confirmed the Government's commitment to replacing student grants with loans, Mrs Shephard also announced that there will be a freeze on university places for at least the next three years. The planned student numbers have been reduced by 2,000 for 1995-96 and by 7,000 for 1996-97 compared with the figures announced in last year's budget. Grants will be reduced by 8% next year, further to this year's 10% cut. The maximum student loan will rise accordingly.

Other measures being introduced by the Department of Education include reductions in grants for mature students who have no dependants. In addition, students who study in London

and live away from home, but who could conveniently live with their parents while at college will be faced with smaller loans. The exact figures for these measures have yet to be announced.

Overall funding for the Department of Education rose by 1% in real terms. "In a unified budget which has demonstrated the Government's determination to maintain strict control over public expenditure, we have once again given priority to education," said Mrs Shephard.

In reply, David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, said that the budget had "failed schools and colleges and is bad news for pupils and students". He described the operation of the Student Loan Company as 'completely shambolic' and called for a review of the whole system of student support. "In the meantime," he said. "Students face increasing hardship with inadequate and ineffective arrangements for maintenance."

Gates To Close

BY ANDY SINHARAY

Following continued complaints from 169 Queen's Gate, pedestrian gates on Imperial College Road could close at night.

Although the road was closed in 1962 it has been a public right of way between Queen's Gate and Exhibition Road. Speaking to **FELIX**, Nicholas Black, the Estates Manager, said that residents of the block of flats directly opposite the Rector's residence on Imperial College Road have reported disturbances and damage to cars late at night: "I had a very strong letter of complaint of the Chair of the Residents Association about 'badge damage' to cars ...and general horsing around."

In response, there has been a suggestion that the gates should be locked, between 11pm and 6am nightly, for a trial period. Mr Black added that he had told the Association that such a closure would inconvenience certain students returning from College and the Union late at night. For students in Evelyn Gardens in particular, IC road is a popular short cut. This, says Mr Black, has led to allegations from residents that Imperial

students were almost certainly causing the damage. He believes that certain other members of the public are as likely to be responsible as students.

Mr Black admitted that he sympathised with the residents, and felt that other solutions, such as cameras or guards, would be too expensive. 'This is a trade-off; I've got disgruntled students versus disgruntled neighbours!' he said in a statement to Lucy Chothia, ICU President. 'I know where my priorities are, but it is very difficult to make a case with an irate, damaged car owner'. However, he does not think that it would inconvenience many students, and has said that he welcomes alternative suggestions. Also proposed has been the closure of the Prince Consort Road gates.

Ms Chothia said that she had received details of the suggested closures and had since replied to the Estates Division. "This is going to be a big inconvenience for all students...[the Estates Division] don't agree with that," she said. "There's very little reason for doing it other than complaints from the local residents...I'd be very interested to hear from any students with stronger views so I can represent them in college."

News In Brief

BY PAUL DIAS

More Rag Mag Bans

This year's Imperial College Rag Mag has been banned in a further four London colleges since ULU outlawed it last week (see News, **FELIX 1013**). The magazine, which features bizarrely modified male genitalia, has now also been shunned by Goldsmiths Union, Royal Holloway College Union, London School of Economics Union and King's College Union. In a further Rag Mag-related development, the London medical schools St Guy's and St Thomas's, and St George's have requested as many copies as they can get their hands on.

Expeditions Calendar

The first ever calendar produced by the Imperial College Explorations Board will go on sale on Monday. The calendar features spectacular colour photographs of a selection of IC expeditions from around the globe. The pictures range from dramatic snow-lined peaks and slippery pot-holes to a transparent-winged butterfly and an 'unidentified fungus'. The Imperial College Expeditions

Calendar 1995 costs £3.95 and can be picked up in the Union Bookstore on the walkway.

No Hockey Fine

The Imperial College Hockey Club will not be charged £115 for the tampon-related damage caused to ceiling tiles in Da Vinci's bar (see News, **FELIX 1013**). The Hockey Club themselves painted over the brown marks on the tiles, and it was decided that these repairs were sufficient, precluding the need to buy new ones.

Jordan Fanzine Launched

This week saw the launch of a new American-music fanzine, produced by Jon Jordan, who is a virtually permanent fixture in **FELIX TOWERS**. The fanzine, called 'And The Living Is Easy', features interviews with Pavement, Yo La Tengo and Lotion, along with reviews of gigs and albums. Jon says he has plans to produce four issues a year, and material for the late January edition is already pouring in. Jordan claims his fanzine is a "bargain at only a pound!!!", and is available now in the Union Newsagent on the walkway.

editorial

Funding of Science

Should Mr Ashdown be committed to funding science and 'blue sky' research? The obvious answer would be 'yes' - this is Imperial after all and besides everyone always answers yes when asked (inverted Oliver's) if they want some more.

But wouldn't it be fair to say that science is, in fact, one of the most financially backed of all fields of endeavour? Try getting extra money for a new art gallery, music or for the rebuilding of the British Film industry. It has become impossible for these institutions to walk about town with anything other than a begging bowl. I suppose that it could be argued that the National

Lottery has been set up to get the money to plough back into them, but doesn't this highlight even more clearly the arts precarious and irrelevant position?

Imagine if an MP from the Department of Trade and Industry were seriously to address the House of Commons as follows: "My honourable friend in the Treasury has informed me that purse strings must be pulled yet tighter this year. Therefore we have decided to cut heavily on our commitment to research and development work. Instead, we shall be introducing an annual horse-racing event, widely advertised and hosted by a top celebrity has-been. The proceeds will go to the funding of heart, lung and nuclear weapons research as well as our top scientific institutions. Therefore,

I cannot confirm our fiscal commitment to science this year, but my good friend Peter Snow has rigged up an excellent predictive forecast graph which you will notice dropping down from the screen behind Madame Speaker..."

The truth is that science is now in the same position as health, unemployment and law

and order. No party will admit to it being anything other than a top priority and yet none of them are prepared to expend the massive amount of resources needed to really change the arena at all. Whether we have seized Wilson's 'white heat of technology' or simply stumbled again into the realm of Market Forces I leave for another day...

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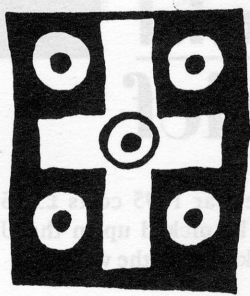
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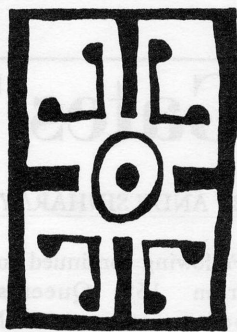
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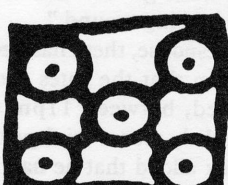
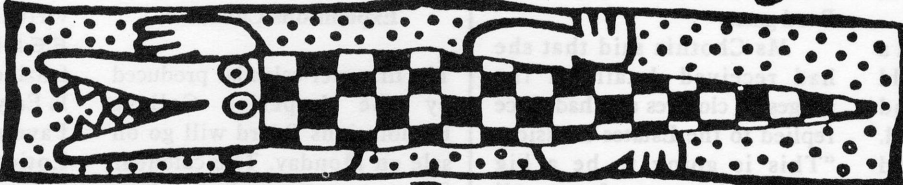
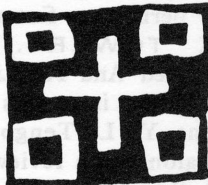
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Demo's: The debate rages...OSC address...Tripod Repeats again...

Edited this week by Owain Bennallack (The Editor)

OSC Errata

Dear Owain,
FELIX No 1013 pp.9 article on
Welfare Week:

Two mistakes have been made
in the OSC entry.

1. My name is Andreas Mershin
NOT Merishim

2. My e-mail is:
'Mershin@Labvax.ph.ic.ac.uk' not
habvax

Could you please write a
correction in next FELIX as people
might want to contact me and it
will be impossible if they have the
wrong name and address.

Just to make it totally clear:
ANDREAS MERSHIN
A.MERSHIN@LABVAX.PH.IC.AC.UK

A. Mershin
OSC Chairman

Over to STOIC for the latest...

Dear Sir,
I write to update Lynn's report
(Felix 1013) concerning our
accident at last Friday's UGM. Sam
has received our sincerest
apologies and, we are happy to
hear, has almost recovered. I'd
like to point out that the tripod fell
from the permanent lighting tower
in the union lounge, and not
something we'd rigged for the
occasion.

Hopefully this particular STOIC
drama will not be repeated.

Piers Williams, STOIC chair

Proper Protest

Dear Felix,
I felt that I must respond to Phil
Ramsden's letter (25th Nov). I too
was unsure about the sincerity of
Marcus Alexander's comments (18th
Nov). My first thoughts were that
he did have his "tongue placed
firmly in his cheek". However after
reading the letter and comments
through a few times I decided that
he was sincere, although I was not
quite sure about the "round of
applause for special Branch" part.

Please put the record straight Mr
Alexander.

The point about the
criminalisation of "Peaceful
Demonstration" is interesting. If Mr
Ramsden had any grip on reality he
would know that a member of
demonstrations are far from
peaceful. Is it any wonder that the
government seem to criminalise
demonstration after the anti
Criminal Justice Bill demonstration
fiasco some weeks ago? (of which
the editor was a part) The fact is
that most people in Britain are law
abiding citizens who do have
respect for authority and I reject
the idea that my previous letter
was a 'piece of self abasing
authority worship' - I have always
made up my own mind on such
matters and I do not blindly follow
authority. Has it not occurred to
either Mr Ramsden or the editor
that as people grow increasingly
tired of these demonstrations, then
the causes for which they stand
become more and more opposed
by the population and those who
govern. A demonstration is no way
to gain public support. There are
ways and means of protesting
about problem in a proper manner
and I believe that they are far more
likely to have an effect than
marching through the streets of
London. Marcus Alexander is
correct when he says that we must
work with the system if things are
to change. I would be the first to
admit that Britain is far from
perfect, but I wonder how many
times the protesters have written to
M.P.s or have been to lobby them
at Parliament. You do not have to
buy a suit.

It may also be worth considering
that not all people in Britain are
long haired middle class students.

Richard M. Phillips
Geol. III

Firstly, thanks for carrying the torch
Richard - we'll make the letters
page a place of debate yet! Luckily,
to this end I still disagree with the
thrust of your argument...

I think discussion about whether
it is useful to one's cause demon-
strate in a public place is a red
herring. A personal decision, it
should have been left as such. The
question is should a mass statement

in the form of a protest be made
illegal? Again, the argument about
the perceived violent inclinations of
protest members is irrelevant. We
have adequate laws dealing with
violence, public disorder, theft and
vandalism and those laws should be
applied to each particular case
rather than something be banned
for the supposed reason that such
activities may stem from it. A wide
variety of activities may lead to
these crimes - football matches,
carnivals and bank transactions for
example, but for the sake of society
and common sense they are not
banned outright.

The real strength in protest is
that it solidifies one's feeling of
involvement. To our generation, the
disenfranchised nature of politics is
acute. Since early childhood one
party has governed and this lack of
change has, I would argue, been to
the detriment of those of all political
persuasions. A democracy includes
election to sidestep revolution - a
strongly politicised public is equally
important to avoid radicals gaining

power. I would argue that the
audacity of moves like the CJB
directly highlights a dangerous
apathy amongst the populace.

Perhaps I have misread your
letter but your comment concerning
my membership of the recent CJB
'fiasco', coming as it does after a
disparaging remark about the
nature of those who attend such
demonstrations seemed an attempt
to highlight the undeniable and all
too clear flaws in my character...
For the record I obviously feel that
your opinion of those who attend
demonstrations is misguided and I
am happy to reiterate that I have
attended several. I will continue to
do so, as far as the law permits me,
for (I am trying not to be
patronising) your sake as much as
my own...

**Letters may be commented
on by a guest editor, whose
opinions are not necessarily
those of the editor, and cut
due to space restrictions.
Deadline: Monday 6.00pm.**

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Quite Contrary



Now correct me if I'm mistaken, but I think Pink Floyd were taking the mick out of those poor disenfranchised seventies kids in *Another Brick in the Wall*. "WE DON'T NEED NO EDUCATION." sneered the rebel-stoked brats. Call me a pedant (I'd prefer 'Big-boy of my wildest dreams'...) but that is a double negative. What was it they were saying about education?

Sitting on the bus, I was troubled for a second or two by the state of schooling and the Ministry of Education's knee-jerk solutions. League tables are great if all you're comparing is boys kicking leather. Trying to quantify the quality of education though, does make me shudder. Just think back to *Dead Poets Society* and the plotting of a poem's merits on x and y axes.

My muses were interrupted by the exuberant conversation of some schoolboys. Oh, alright, theirs was the only chat my straining ears could pick up. "There ain't no point", began one (and in a distant stadium, some grey haired old men smiled knowingly), "in buying just the one lottery ticket."

What?! Had these children of the microchip era cracked the system and was I going to eavesdrop the secret?

"Cos the odds of winning are 14,000,000 to one aren't they?" Well, 13,983,816 to one to be precise; no, I said I'd prefer 'Big Boy...'

"So you may as well spend an extra pound and get 'em down to 7,000,000 to one."

Oh dear. I didn't have the heart to shatter their illusions but has anyone got the number for HM inspectors?

Rahul

THE DOCKER'S FIST

People moan a lot. I cannot exempt myself from this by any means, in fact I would say that complaint and bitterness are two things at twenty one that I have actually got to grips with. My flat-mate was moaning about the fact that we have no dishwasher or microwave in our kitchen, an argument which while essentially flawless, is totally meaningless as we are about as likely to go out and buy mobile phones as go out and buy a dishwasher.

This however set me thinking about my position in life, an approach often termed as the half empty glass theory. I look at people with the view that they want something, but they haven't asked for it yet. This, I know, is probably all paranoid dysfunction, but I actually do look at things that way. So when I came to think about the

things that I like, off the top of my head I couldn't think of any.

There is a Robert Altman film called *Bill Durham*, in which Kevin Costner delivers an insipid little soliloquy about what he believes in. "I believe that one man shot Kennedy", etc. A banal diatribe indeed, and one which Altman wrote on a whim when his original scene was all wrong; he has subsequently tried to have it removed from the film, but of course, the studio loved it and americans the world over have been quoting it to their unnecessary friends and womenfolk ever since it hit a cinema screen. My point is that people find it difficult to enthuse about anything without sounding crass and ironic.

I have attempted to list my top twenty things, which at great risk to my own credibility, are by no

means ironic, and an honest attempt at not being such a miserable bastard.

Glyph

1. Arguments
2. Loud music
3. Bewley's tea
4. Kissing not sex
5. Other peoples' girlfriends
6. Sycophants
7. Anti-heroes
8. Sarcasm
9. Singing the wrong words
10. Match of the day
11. Aggravation
12. Tattoos
13. Navel rings
14. Schoolboy crushes
15. Weak coaches
16. Elvis stuff
17. In-jokes
18. Girls in your shirt
19. Cigarettes
20. Starsky and Hutch haircuts

"This is a true story but I can't believe it's really happening." Martin Amis

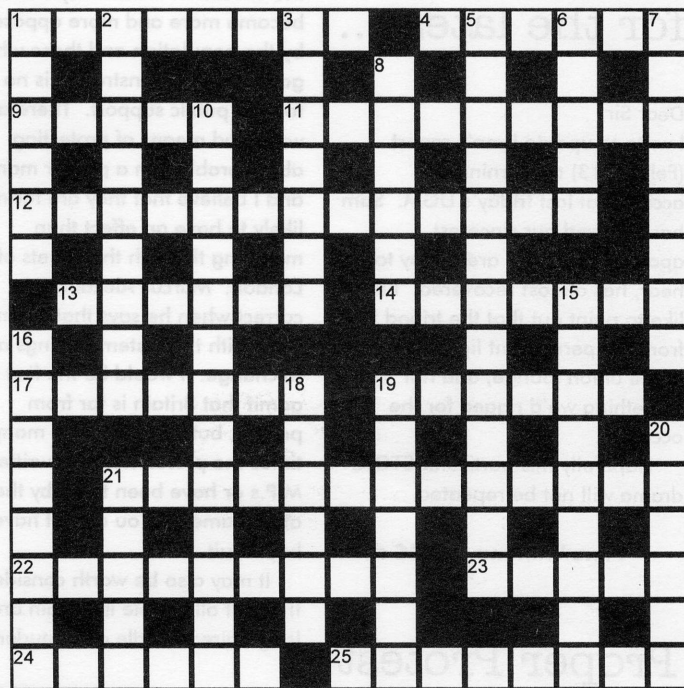
Crossword by Catfish

Across:

1. Frost sounds bad, north of the plant (8)
4. A dispatch heard during the climb (6)
9. Smooth return to point about seepage (5)
11. In fact, to sum product requires assistants (9)
12. This high flyer will make a good catch, we hope! (7, 6)
13. Gets rid of about a quarter of the roads (6)
14. Boat moored beyond city is ready for washing (7)
17. A result for myself, after not being in the company (7)
19. Friend has article about the Spanish food (6)
21. Wrongs did bar a reshuffle – must go back to them... (7, 6)
22. Tumbled in a stream, which soaks (9)
23. Hint: putting everything in helps a little bit (5)
24. State and cite new point of manners (6)
25. One thermos broke – this was temperature-related (8)

Down:

1. Owns external part of robes (6)
2. Travelling like the Queen does (9)
3. Planks used by sailors (7)
5. Unusual vaccination site inflicts crippling damage (4, 2, 3, 4)
6. Clean-up time after the breakout (5)
7. Follow path of French writer (7)
8. Mark up graduate in entomology? (6)
10. Choose memory of silver lace – it's attractive (13)
15. Resistance to loss, we hear, of



- time with a northern church (9)
16. Personal fear will take a hold of mind, and upset (8)
 18. Pole is buried in leaves, but it's there! (6)
 19. Coin a guess about the mythical beast (7)
 20. Respect for points made by crowd (6)
 21. The same king is in charge of architecture (5)

Thanks to the anonymous person who last week delivered to the FELIX office a shorter alternative solution to the conversion FAST-LANE. Do you want a job?!

Answers to last week's Elimination:

- a. Show, ground
- b. Flying saucers
- c. Life, continental
- d. Jolly Roger
- e. Gun, room
- f. White-wash
- g. Brews, bruise
- h. Royal jelly
- i. Swiss roll
- j. Fall out
- k. Intones, tension
- l. Hard wood
- m. Sharp, sewing
- n. Stage-coach
- o. High, low
- p. Split hair
- q. Tat, madam
- r. Dinner jacket
- s. Push, person
- t. Hates, children

The word left over was *home*.

• The Artifacts

IT'S LIFE JIM...

• A-Life

INFORMATION INFECTIONS

• Genghis Can

THE NEW HORDES



We live in a world of artificial colouring, artificial flavouring and artificial preservatives. Now humankind is contemplating and experimenting at the final frontier of creation, the invention of life itself. At the moment, artificial creatures are only as smart as bacteria and insects, but on the artificial horizon is something far more wondrous and far more sinister. This week, the S-files takes you on a journey of A-lifetime into the thinking and tinkering of artificial life research. Find out what nature can teach us about computation and how the simulation of insects has outperformed attempts to simulate Einstein. So sit up and pay attention, because you can be replaced...

Genghis is a robot-cockroach with six legs and whiskers. He climbs telephone books – not an immediately arresting pursuit, but the fact is that no one ever told Genghis how to walk nor how to climb telephone books, simply that he must move. One of A-life's most important discoveries is that simple rules give rise to complex, lifelike behaviour.

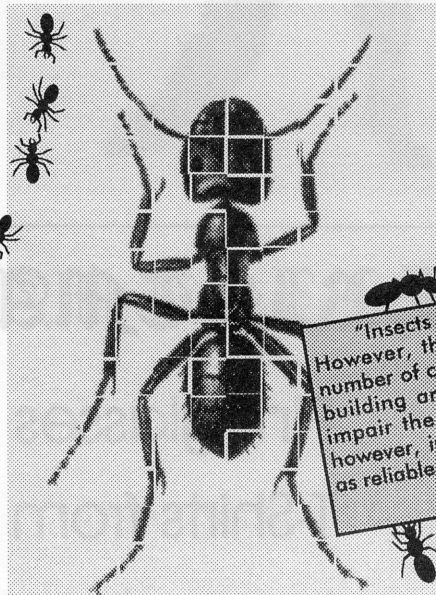
The phenomenon of useful unprogrammed actions arising from a small set of programmed rules is known as emergent behaviour. Rodney Brooks, Genghis' creator, is convinced that there are no foreseeable obstacles to the development of robots of human level intelligence through the action of emergent behaviour.

On November 3rd 1983, an American computing student called Fred Cohen envisaged and wrote the world's first self-replicating computer program. The program gained him the highest level of access to the university computer within minutes and earned itself the notoriety of being the original computer virus.



Since then, viruses have swept the Wired world like a plague. In 1986 two software salesmen wrote the data-destroying Brain virus, believed to have infected over 100,000 machines. In 1988 a 21-year-old student released a self-replicating program onto the Internet. As it copied itself wildly, it shut down thousands of machines and sent the network thrashing. The program passed into hacker folklore as The Internet Worm.

Fred Cohen believed that the program he wrote was alive. Stephen Hawking, along with many A-life scientists, agrees that computer viruses fulfil all the criteria of biological life.



"Insects like ants are not usually thought of as intelligent. However, they... operate in a dynamic world, carrying out a number of complex tasks, including hunting, eating, mating, nest-building and rearing of young. Many environmental factors impair the insects' ability to achieve their goals. Statistically, however, insects succeed. No human built systems are remotely as reliable."

Rodney Brooks, Genghis' creator, 1986.

Genghis' progeny have been proposed as an alternative to traditional monolithic machines for use in space: in construction work on the moon and terraforming Mars.

And the military applications of a robot like Genghis have not escaped notice by the US defence department, which funds much A-life research. It's easy to see the military advantage of self-reproducing war machines. But would a battle robot controlled by its own desire to survive know when to stop? The first rule of robotics enshrined by Asimov - not to harm human beings - would sooner or later be evolved out of existence.

Credits
Artificial Guest Editor: Finch
Co-Editor: Hilary & Pix Credit: Tash

"the basic hypothesis of the artificial life approach is that by simulating and understanding complete animal-like systems at a simple level, we can build up gradually to the human... We hope to reach human intelligence from below instead of piecemeal through high-level competences as in Standard AI"

Stewart Wilson, artificial creature creator speaking on how A-life's bottom-up approach challenges traditional top-down Artificial Intelligence.

A-Life of your own

I, Robot by Isaac Asimov

One of the earliest works considering A-life

Artificial Life: The Quest for a New Creation by Steven Levy

Seminal work on the development of A-life

Artificial Life Playhouse by The Waite Group

Hands-on A-life for beginners plus software

SimCity2000

Start your own city and make it thrive

SimLife

Animal construction kit for beginners

SimEarth

Have Bass, Will Travel

FELIX talks to comedian Jim Tavaré, who heads the bill at 'the Bust-a-Gut Club' next Friday.

This is the touching and totally untrue story of one man and his double bass. The parents pleaded with him to reconsider ("...look son, it'll never work; you're from a good home and she's...well, she's just a lump of wood, not even an evergreen, for god's sake..."); society looked on in disapproval – but they didn't care. They had each other, and that was enough. They eloped to the mythical land of America, and had many adventures, including jamming with Nirvana, but eventually grew home-sick. So Auntie Beeb waved her magic commissioning rod and gave them a series on BBC2, with royalties, spin-offs and maybe even a spot on the Danny Baker Show.

The double bass is 'Bassie'; the man's name is Tavaré. As in the late Jim Tavaré. As in: Jim 'how much later can he be for this bloody interview?' Tavaré. When I finally track him down, he gives me a cheery "hello mate, where y'been?", which I interpret as an apology (like I have a choice, right?).

We're off and running. Jim wants to talk about his TV show: 'Jim Tavaré's Picture Postcards' (on BBC2 this January, kiddies).

So is this another 'alternative comedian makes it big, re-hashes his stand-up act for



TV' thing? Perish the thought. Jim's written new material especially for TV, and the programmes – 10 minute shorts shot on film, and almost completely without words – will be very different from most comedy on the box. Sounds interesting...

When Jim and Bassie grace the Union's Ents Lounge on the 9th, expect a more traditional night's comedy. (Well, as traditional as a comic in full classical musician's gear and carrying a double-bass can get). Why a double-bass? Simple really: Tavaré used to be the bass-player in a rock abilly band, and when he got into comedy, he used the bass as a prop – it's since become his trademark. Unfortunately, the original 'Bassie' is long gone, while a recent incarnation was stolen after a gig at Derby. Posters appeared all over town ('Have You Seen This Double-Bass?') and thankfully, the culprit was caught. Tavaré has been asked to attend an identity parade of musical instruments to see if he can recognise his 'Bassie'.

But you shouldn't have too much trouble recognising Jim next Friday. He'll be the one making you laugh. **F**

RAG CHRISTMAS SALE

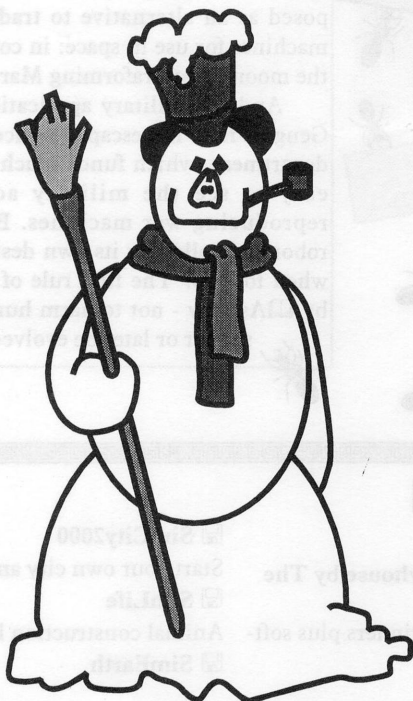
Pint glasses from 50p

T-Shirts from £1

Long-sleeved T-Shirts £5

Rag Mags 50p

Find out what all the fuss is about!



In the JCR 12-2pm

Tuesday 6th, Thursday 8th

& Friday 9th December

In the Palm of his Hand

David Potter talks to Jon Jordan

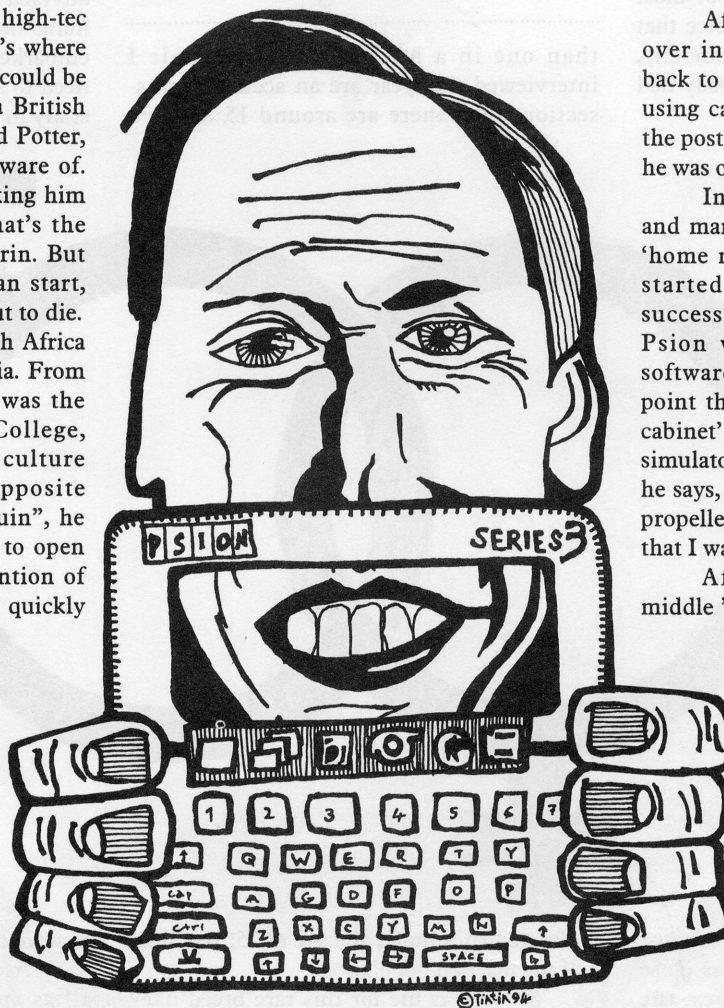
After Trinity College, Cambridge, David Potter came to Imperial to do his Ph.d. He started up his own company, Psion, which wrote most of Sinclair's software before turning to the electronic organiser and the palmtop computer markets. He also does a good line in humour.

The wilds of Edgware Road could be considered a strange place to find a high-tec British computer company, but that's where you'll find Psion. Actually anywhere could be considered a strange place to find a British computer company, a fact that David Potter, the chairman of Psion, is all too aware of. The City, he explains, are always asking him 'when are you going to die?' – "that's the company not me" he adds with a grin. But twenty years on from their one-man start, Psion show no sign that they are about to die.

David Potter was born in South Africa but moved to what was then Rhodesia. From there his first taste of British life was the rarefied atmosphere of Trinity College, Cambridge. Did he experience a culture shock? "I kind of suffered the opposite experience of Van Gogh and Gauguin", he starts. Maybe he sees my eyes start to open wide with disbelief at this easy mention of two postimpressionist painters as he quickly adds, "coming from sun and bright colours and light to October ... where the sky was real low, like it is today and black and murky." It doesn't take you long to realise that David is well educated. Indeed during our interview he also mentions Mozart, the classical physicists of the nineteenth century and a broad chunk of western political history.

After Cambridge, David came to Imperial to do a Ph.d in plasma physics. It was then that he began to use computers to study complex non-linear problems. "At that time", he says, "they were big mainframes which cost millions of pounds ... and they were treated like oracles with priesthoods around them". In contrast, Psion, with their Series 3, are now producing some of the smallest computers around. It's a measure both of technical change and the drive to portable, personal technology, the latter being something which is obviously close to David's heart.

During his time at IC, David didn't waste time but got involved in what has been the springboard to many brilliant careers. Well actually, if the truth be told David was a bit of a FELIX hack and he even rose to the grand position of editor in 1967. So after his



experience at two of Britain's premier universities what did he think about the 'Imperial apathy problem'?

"Well I think that undergraduates talk like that" he starts, "but I don't think that graduate students do and I don't think that the staff does. But the undergraduates do, but they also talk like that at Cambridge and at Oxford and at Birmingham and everywhere." It's the start of a long and passionate speech on the narrowness of the British education system and how that produces "a tendency to hide any kind of intellectualism with the pretence to be gross; the hooray henrys of this world. IC had beer drinking and all the rest of it, which is fun, there's nothing wrong with that but when it becomes an anti-intellectualism and a cynicism this is

unhealthy".

After Imperial David spent some time over in America at UCLA before coming back to Britain in 1975. He started up Psion using capital he had gained by investing in the post '74 crash stock market. Within a year he was operating at a profit.

In those early days Psion distributed and marketed other people's software in the 'home microcomputer market'. They then started writing their own software, so successfully that by the start of the 1983 Psion was "probably the largest home software producer in Britain". It's at this point that David goes over to his 'historical cabinet' and gets out a cassette. "This flight simulator sold about million and a half units" he says, and I recognise the small tape which propelled my teenage imagination to believe that I was a hero of the skies.

After the crash of Sinclair in the middle '80s Psion turned their attention first to the electronic organiser and then the palmtop computer market. So what does David think about the increasing drive for personal connectiveness, whether by mobile phone or portable computer?

He has a radical proposal. "I actually want to start a new business" he begins "which is hospitals for young infants. We offer ten days after birth they can come in and we'll implant a cellular phone in their head." I finally realise that he is gently winding me up and David laughs at my interruption, "it's what God missed out on" he protests.

We end up talking about the impact of technology on society and the man-machine relationship. David's view is that "the relationship of the human individual to the machine can not be socially destructive", but I'm not so sure. Of course the pragmatic view is that whatever your view no-one can control the broad progress of technology anyway.

David ends by saying, "I think the future's fun. I do find the changing world interesting and fun and I think it's a much better world than when I was a kid". He's probably right too. **F**

(or the final row about the baby)
Till death do us part

For richer, for poorer. For better or for worse, in sickness and in health. Till death do us part..." These are the words which usually accompany one of the biggest decisions in a person's life. For most undergraduates at Imperial, it's a choice that still seems a long way off. But look carefully, and you may find a few who have already tied the knot for potentially a lifetime.

So who are these brave, and quite possibly foolish, souls? And just why did they do it? Well, it seems for all the right and proper reasons. Girl meets boy, girl and boy fall in love, girl marries boy. But do boy and girl live happily ever after?

Perhaps. But this is the real world, and there's no fairy godmother who, with the wave of a wand, can sort out all people's ills. University life, contrary to popular belief, and especially at this college, can be a slog. Imagine, in addition to this, the extra stress of a commitment, not just to someone you may happen to be going out with, but a promise of exclusivity enshrined in law, and perhaps religion also.

Some of you may be thinking, "It's just a piece of paper; we would be just as close were we single or married". And yes, the difference can be seen as mainly psychological. But then what is the difference between a killing in war and an act of murder?

On top of that, what would your peers think of you? People are people, and tend to treat the unusual unusually. But not, it seems, in this case. After the initial shock of finding out that their fellow student is married, the sheer fact that they come across as *normal* seems to shock others into treating them just like one of the lads/girls. Although I do know from both research and personal experience that their peers still perceive them to be as ordinary as a nuclear-powered toothbrush.

Of the 4700-odd undergraduates at Imperial last December, only 38 were married; a tiny figure that works out as less

Ambrose Poon
romances about student marriages

than one in a hundred. If the people I interviewed this year are an accurate cross-section, then there are around 15 married

desk, stationary and books to study. A balance must be struck and maintained.

Such a state of affairs can lead to tension between the partners. One student advised that this point should be rammed home between the couple before one or both embarked on a course; that the student will need to spend time out of college, continuing study in a quiet atmosphere at home; and that

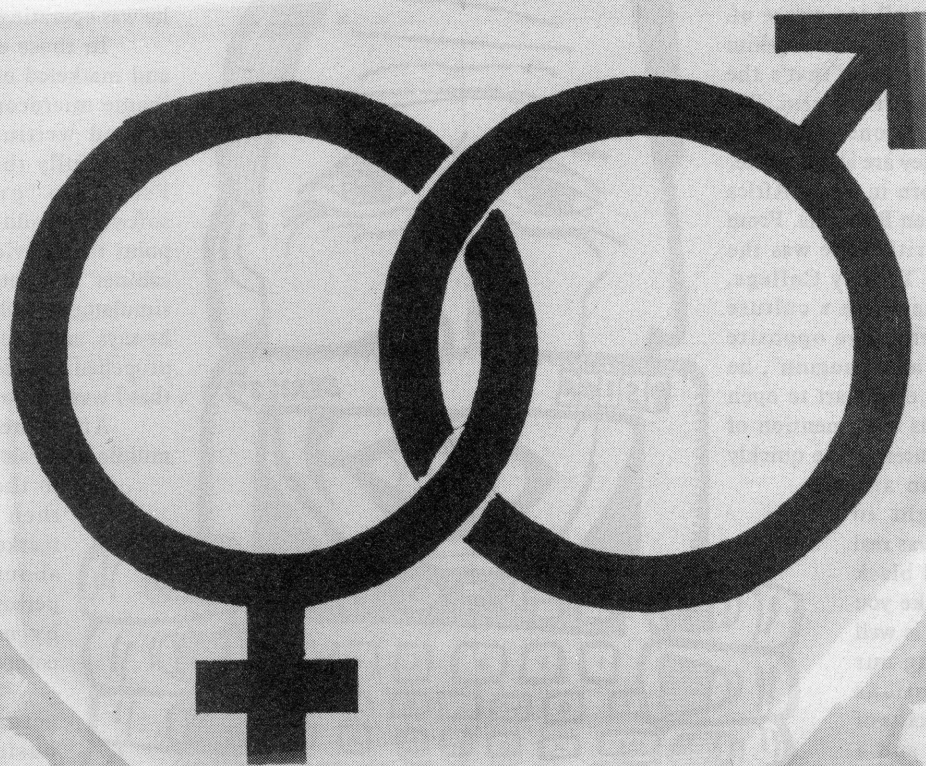
there will often be times when they cannot help wash the dog, the baby, or each other.

More advice was forthcoming. For a start, young children are only bundles of joy when they're not crying their heads off for no reason at all, food, or the latest GI Barbie doll (like Action Man, but PC). Forget about a child while studying unless you like being woken up at 4am regularly, and don't mind occasionally handing in coursework that's been chewed by baby teeth. College facilities for children were also found lacking by one mother, with only the

daycare centre available.

As to whether you should get married at all as an undergrad in your twenties, the advice was mixed. In fact, it was yes, maybe and no, which tells us that love is a confusing animal if nothing else. The yes camp seemed to be the romantics. The cautious maybes said that it was fine as long as both parties knew exactly what they were letting themselves in for. The no camp were the realists, who argued that you should wait: people are still growing and developing, quite possibly in different directions. By the time you graduate, your partner may have become someone you just can't get on with.

Is there an answer? It's not my place to say; I have no experience in the matter. But pushed for an opinion, I would say something that puts me in both the romantic and the realist camps: true love knows no boundaries, not even time. **F**



undergraduates under the age of 25; less than half the married population.

So what is life for this rare breed like? For a start, you now have a home and a wife/husband to take care of, possibly children as well. Gone is the carefree attitude that most students feel when they leave home, when for the first time their day-to-day actions are answerable to no-one. The married student has to tell their partner of changes in routine - spontaneous trips to the Queen's Arms after lectures on Friday may need to be accompanied by a message home. Time is now at a premium - including normal student activities, such as clubs and societies, pubbing, gigs, or, in unusual cases, study - a married student has made an absolute commitment to their partner. Quality time must be spent with the spouse and perhaps family - but students must also be able to lock themselves in a quiet room with nothing but a

Every Girl's Dream

Trapped in a room, surrounded by metal furniture, accompanied by three other doomed souls. The chatter, the shouts, the jeers filter through the walls of this, my prison, and taunt me as I await my doom.

Days seem to pass, but I can't tell because this stark room has no windows. Then, The Moment arrives... "Der de, der de, der de dedede..." The strains of the Blind Date theme tune waft through the air. Everyone freezes. This is It. The metal-furnished prison was Linstead Kitchen, the noise was from the waiting audience, the endless days were actually about one and a half hours – apparently due to STOIC having sound problems, but probably a deliberate, malicious attempt to prolong the agony – and the doom was what would threaten to be the most embarrassing experience of my entire life: appearing on *Blind Date*.

As if being kept waiting wasn't enough, out of the four people "lucky" enough to be choosing from three unknown entities behind a curtain, I was on third. So there I sat, legs nervously swinging, folding and unfolding the piece of paper on which my make-or-break questions were inscribed. I read them again for the 72nd time. This by now was quite difficult because the sweat from my

Samantha Nagaitis wins a blind date with a witty, sexy IC man

drunken, heckling students, bright lights and a lone stool where I will have to sit, fully exposed to the audience and STOIC's scrutiny. Despite her extraordinary predictions all seems to go smoothly for the red-haired girl.

One of the boys was on next. All I could think about was me next, me next. I think back to how I got myself in this mess. It was thanks to an eager re-app in my hall who begged and begged until I relented and said I would do it to help him out. I knew I shouldn't have trusted him. A blond-haired Italian who listens to Abba – what more need I say? But then it was my turn.

I venture out on the stage, disorientated by the bright lights. I search for Cilla, my only source of comfort. Through the glare, I spot a black dress. I conclude it must be Cilla. But wait, Cilla seems strange. Not like she seems on TV. Oh no! It dawns on me that "Cilla" isn't the well-loved TV celeb but some bloke in drag. My dreams are shattered (I even had my autograph book in my back pocket...). And so the nightmare begins.

I decide he isn't as bad as his first answer suggests – but then he pipes up "but I'd rather play hide the sausage...". Need I write another word? Number Two's pathetic offering is "Frankfurter, but it still comes in the packet". Please, hold me back. This hunky beast is talking dirtier than I can handle. Number Three decides to be original: "Mine's a Whopper, but tastes just like a Big Mac!". Sorry boys. I'm vegetarian – just decided. My dreams of strawberries, cream and Häagen Dazs shattered, I decide it's time for the next question:

If we were travelling on the Channel Tunnel and it suddenly sprung a leak, what would you do?

I wonder what they'll answer. I mean, it's not obvious – they'll have to use their imagination. So I was surprised to hear "If it was a small leak I'd plug it with my finger...". You could use your head for a big leak, Number One. Number Two is pathetic again: "Leak or not, my train still gets to the end of the tunnel". Forget the leak, just drown, boys. Number Three tops the lot with the shocking "I'd get my tool kit and find my biggest instrument. And I'd stuff that crack!". I immediately resolve that if I end up on a date



trembling palms had smudged the ink. How did I get into this? Would I ever live it down? Could I get out of it? But escape attempts were futile.

I scan my three fellow victims. A girl with a mane of flowing red hair paces up and down, listing every describable (and indescribable) eventuality of disastrous consequences, working herself and us into a nervous frenzy. A quiet boy complete with ponytail and bottle of Bud seems so cool and calm: has he done this before? The other boy keeps his mind off his nerves by describing to me sexual acts quite beyond my understanding. His blind date will quite possibly be in for an interesting evening!

Then It commences. The red-haired girl is on first. The colour drains from her face as she takes a deep breath and walks on stage. I feel for her, I really do. I seize the opportunity to take a peek at what lies ahead and it is not good. An audience full of

After the usual greetings, I prepare to read my questions. First:

If you had only ten pounds to take me out for a really astounding evening, where would we go?

Number One begins to speak, but the crowd drowns his reply. Something about scrapping the night out and buying ten pounds' worth of condoms. He seems to finish with the impressively original line "I feel some good lovin' comin' on tonight". Number Two apparently would give me the tenner; Number Three suggests I watch him soak it away in a sauna. I am not impressed. Second question:

I'm useless at cooking and I eat out of a packet every night. If I invited you to cook for me, what would you cook and why?

"Cheese souffle", answers Number One.

in the Channel Tunnel with any of these people, I'll take a bag of cement with me. I wouldn't trust any of them to save anything but their "instruments".

On Cilla's command, "Graham" booms out his reminder. Now totally confused, my mind races as Cilla asks who I will choose. The audience goes into overdrive shouting One, Two and Three at me simultaneously. The only fragment of brain not in dazed disorder tells me I should go for Number Two, since he is the middle one. A kind of compromise. So I say it. "Number Two". The others come out and I greet them absent-mindedly because I'm focused on the figure lurking behind the curtain.

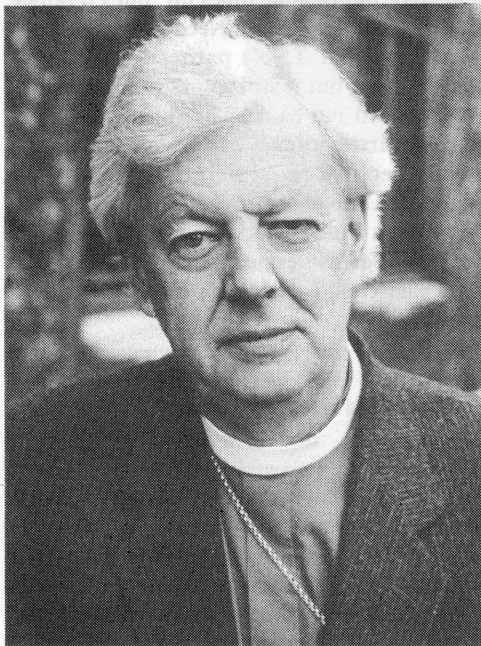
"And now...", says Cilla, "the one you chose... Number Two!" Slowly, I turn my head towards the curtain. It twitches a few times before revealing, in one full swing, my romantic partner...

To come: that sexy date in full detail... F

Who: Chaplaincy

What: Virgin on the Unbelievable

Keys: Multi-Media, Graphics



The Former Bishop of Durham in Question

Photo: Church of England Communications Unit

You can have your question put to him live on stage with video link. David Jenkins (Former Bishop of Durham), who retired earlier this year, has agreed to attend the college Christmas Carol Multi-Media Video show. In recognition of his notoriety, this year's event is entitled "Virgin on the Unbelievable".

College Chaplain Paul Brice said "People can find traditional carol services everywhere. You'd be hard put to find anything like this". The event includes video, computer graphics, audio visual and computer-sequenced carols but the main feature will be the questioning of the Rt. Revd. David Jenkins, whose statements caused such stir in the media when he was Bishop of Durham. His lively mind and continued reading make him an academic who gets noticed.

The event combines the best of old and new, with traditional carols, mulled wine, minced pies and an elderly clergyman, in conjunction with dance music, video clips and various computer-generated offerings. Building on last year's "Virgin on the Spectacular", it would never happen without the cooperation of students, clubs and departments from IC & RCA, the generosity of various media companies and church officials who allow us to turn the place upside-down.

"Virgin on the Unbelievable" is at 6pm on Tuesday 13th December in Holy Trinity Church next to the Union Building, Beit Quad. If you would like your question put to the bishop, please send it to the chaplain c/o FELIX Office.

Who: DramSoc

What: Total Tragedy

Keys: Transvestite, Melodrama

For this term's plays DramSoc offers you Shakespeare and Stoppard. The classic tale of 'Hamlet' with Tom Stoppard's 'Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead.' Some of you will have seen these plays already but just to give you a taste of what's in store...

Hamlet

So you think you've got problems with your life? Well how about these:

Your father has been dead only two months and already your mum has got married again, this time to your uncle! You're in love with a girl but can't get beyond writing her REALLY terrible poetry. Her father thinks you're only after a bit on the side where-as the girl in question believes it's true love. That would be fine if only you could make up your mind between her, your mother or your best friend!

On top off this your father's ghost is wandering around his house, claiming that he was murdered by his brother, your uncle/stepfather. He wants you to kill your uncle to avenge his death. And to cap it all everyone believes you're mad! Which has absolutely nothing to do with you talking to yourself (and skulls of course).

Now you discover the truth. You're character in a play set in a draughty castle in Denmark in Elizabethan times.

You'd probably be a bit pissed off!

Enter "Hamlet."

Hamlet: 5th, 7th, 9th December 7.30pm. Students £2.50, Full £3.50.

"Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are dead"

Tom Stoppard's classic play is set in the wings of Hamlet. A performance of comedy... and tragedy. Deaths and disclosures, universal and particular or transvestite melodrama on all levels including the suggestive. We will transport you into a world of intrigue and illusion... Clowns, if you like or murderers - we can do you battles on the skirmish level, heroes, villains, tormented lovers. Set pieces in the poetic vein. We can give you rapiers or rape or both by all means. Faithless wives and ravished virgins - flagrante delicto, at a price, but that comes under realism and for that there are special terms.

Getting warm am I?

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are dead: 6th, 8th, 10th December 7.30pm. Students £2.50, Full £3.50.

Both shows: Students £4.00, Full £5.00.

If you want to buy tickets for either of these shows they can be brought from the Union office, from our stall in the Sherfield building or on the door.

Who: Xmas Extra

What: Christmas Extravaganza

Keys: Science, Lapland, Bo

Where can you get lost in a box, experiment with paint and tinsel, design Christmas cards on an Apple Mac and watch Father Christmas float in a jar of snow? How do you give your silhouette to a friend, write your name in Chinese and capture your handprint in plaster? When can you meet Father Christmas, answer a police quiz and build some scientific games? What is the date for the best children's Christmas Party in town?

The Christmas Caper is on Sunday, 4th December from 2.30pm to 5.30pm in the Sherfield Building - the children's party with a distinctly scientific flavour. Craft stalls and games for children of all ages to experiment, model, paint, design and play. The Banyan Theatre Company will entertain younger children with their imaginative performance of "The Emperor's New Clothes", the Explainers from the Science Museum will bring the best of the Launch Pad Exhibits and Father Christmas will arrive from Lapland on 'Bo' before entertaining in his festive cabin. Fascinating 'hands on' science and engineering stalls will intrigue older children, and everyone will be treated to a delicious tea.

This is the ideal opportunity to introduce a child to the wonders of science, technology and medicine through an event that will be high calibre, exciting and enormous fun for you and your young guests. Do come as it will be a wondrous day. If you don't know a child, borrow one! Don't you wish you'd had the chance to go to a party like this when you were under 12?!

For further information and tickets please contact HUB Rm 355 Sherfield, ext. 48741/0.

We need more volunteers to run craft and science stalls, please contact HUB if you can help.

Who: Rag

What: Rag Goes on Tour

Keys: Banned, Signs, Mags

After seeing the success of our Rag Mag on this campus, Rag have decided to sell it around the various colleges in London that haven't banned it yet.

This event will take place on Saturday 3rd December (i.e. tomorrow) and we will be travelling around by tube. Following our exemplary behaviour on previous Rag Raids we will be maintaining this tradition and will definitely **not** be stealing signs from other colleges. This especially applies to nice signs saying 'Rag Office', for our door. Nor is this

just an attempt to annoy any establishments that have banned us by sneaking in and selling Rag Mags anyway.

Also coming up, we have an end of term Christmas carol-singing Pub Crawl, so watch this space for more details. If you would like to join this mini tour then sign up at the Rag meeting today at 1pm in the Union Lounge, or see one of us in the Rag Office.

As a final note Rag would like to thank all the people who helped to make Rag Week such a huge success including those who came along and took part. The people involved are too numerous to name but we would especially like to thank Karen for the Beer Festival, Lewis for the Rag Bash, the IC Dance Club, the Bands, the CCUs for their events, all the Union Staff and the Sabbaticals.

Who: Welsh Soc

What: is the Welsh Society?

Keys: Soirées, Folk, Football

As they say in Cardiganshire - Shwmae byti, shwt mae'n ceibo? (Aw'right mate, how's it going?) The Welsh Society is for anyone who has an interest in learning more about Wales and in meeting Welsh people.

So far this year we have had several social events including a cheese and wine, pub crawls, soirées with The London Welsh Club and a reporter at the Wales vs Italy rugby match. (Wales beat Italy by the way, for all those Italians who thought that Wales was just a great footballing nation!). We also went to see Dafydd Iwan and his band play in Gray's Inn Road - probably the most famous Welsh singer of all time. It was a chance to practice our vocal chords (no stereotyping please!) and to have a couple of Felinfoel Double Dragons. The party then moved on to The Mean Fiddler until the early hours.

Our next event will be a cultural visit to Cardiff. Choose between the Welsh Folk Museum (if the weather's fine), the Welsh National Museum, Cardiff Castle or if that doesn't grab you, the shops and pubs aren't bad either. We will leave early on the morning of Saturday 10th November and come back in the late evening. Interested? - contact Nefyn Jones (x46612, n.jones@ic) or Rhodri Moseley (x45042, r.moseley@ic) soon. Likely cost - about 12 pounds (transport only). We occasionally go and see the world famous London Welsh Rugby Club play at home in Richmond and are planning a weekend in Aberystwyth and Devil's Bridge next term. We also meet on the last Friday of every month at 6.30 in Southside before going on... Get in touch to get on the mailing list.

Who: Bunac

What: Summer Abroad

Keys: Work, Travel, Sun

We are the only student organisation in Britain that allows you to obtain any job you want anywhere in the USA and then be able to explore North America at your will with the money that you've earned.

So why spend a predictable summer at home when you have the chance to experience a whole new culture and see so many new things. You won't be alone either as thousands of students from all over Britain annually go though Bunac to the USA for summer and come back having had the time of their lives. It proves to be a valuable experience - something that you can always recall fondly. You can choose to work in Manhattan, New York, Florida, on a ranch in Texas, at a children's camp - in fact whatever takes your fancy. We also have working and travelling adventures in Canada, Australia and Jamaica for those interested.

So come and see us at our stand in the JCR, every Thursday lunch time from 12pm to 2pm and find out more. Membership is £4 and is definitely worth it.

10/10

Nothing less than a great deal more

We are the world's largest business and technology consultancy. To build on our success we must continue to set the standards that others must follow - in the quality of our thinking, the quality of our service and the quality of our people. That is why, when we recruit graduates, we recruit only those who can deliver a great deal more than most in terms of performance and potential.

In return, individuals who match our high standards can expect nothing less than the very best: exceptional training; outstanding rewards and benefits; exciting prospects for career development to Partner level within a demanding and meritocratic organisation.

We would like to remind you that applications should be submitted to the Careers Service by Friday, 16 December 1994 in order to be considered for an interview when we visit Imperial on Tuesday, 24 January 1995.

For more information please contact the Careers Service or call our Recruiting Helpline free on 0500 100 189.

**ANDERSEN
CONSULTING**
ARTHUR ANDERSEN & CO., S.C.

THE MENU



Roll out the carpets, ladies and gents for **rotation**. This week proudly presented by Ewok.



Once more to the breach dear friends. Follow *Patrick Wood* and his amazing reproductive style down to the Science Museum and the exhibition **Centuryscape**.



There are strange goings on at the Courtyard Theatre. Reports of the **Nosferatu** abound. George got the low down.



More scary events occur in **Tim Burton's the Nightmare before Christmas** – *tintin* sees the action. C. A. Berry, J. Ho and K. Hopkins grind their collective teeth over the remake of **Miracle on 34th Street** and *tintin* gets in on the acts with **Trial by Jury**.



For the second time this year the **Paper Tiger** gets a visit from the IC lunching critics. This time there's no falling down steps but AC has to chew hard.



Patrick Wood gets all laudatory over the ENO's production of **Khovanshchina**.



Woodstock or Woodenstock? is the question posed by *Vik*, whilst *Helen-Louise* does (the Best of) **New Order** and *James* gets to give **Sarah McLachlan** a good panning.



rotation



Our purveyor of stylistic singles this week is *Ewok* (don't ask me why). When she's not killing *Stormtroopers* *Ewok* does *Geology*. Two shakes of a cat's tail and away she goes...

honky - sign of the times
Crap Rap. Not my scene, if in fact it's anyone's scene anymore. Repetitive, loud and undanceable.

acupuncture - gangsta
Under this impressive looking, brown vinyl record lies the worst heavy metal song you have ever heard. Even metal heads would hate this song.

in dub - the fried funk food ep
First reactions to this were that it was an excellent dub/dance ep with 6 tunes in all. Then I realised I was playing it too fast. At proper speed it's too slow and boring. Buy it and play it fast!

spearhead - of course you can
Sounds like Bill Cosby singing to a dub beat. Not too good.

dig - unlucky friend
Slow, depressing guitars sounding a lot like *Creep* by *Radiohead*, apart from the singing's worse.

sea - cold
A strange mix between a rock band, an indie band and dance. It's not bad.

motorhead - born to raise hell
(with ice-t and whitfield crane)
Filled with great (not) lyrics such as "make it clear, I'm gonna stick this boggy in your ear". Hopefully it won't get anywhere, even if the film 'Airheads' (which it's from) does.

ac acoustics -
hand passes plenty
Sounds o.k. but it's a bit boring in that there's no beginning, middle or end – it just keeps going. The extra tracks on the cd are much better.

saw doctors - small bit of love
This is bloomin' excellent! O.K., so I'm being biased because they're Irish, but this is such a happy song it sent me jigging around my bedroom. It's full of real instruments, real lyrics and happiness. And not just the first track: this is a set of 4 excellent songs, including one dedicated to partying at University. Buy it but beware – you'll want to leave college & bum around Ireland for a year or two.



greasing the muse

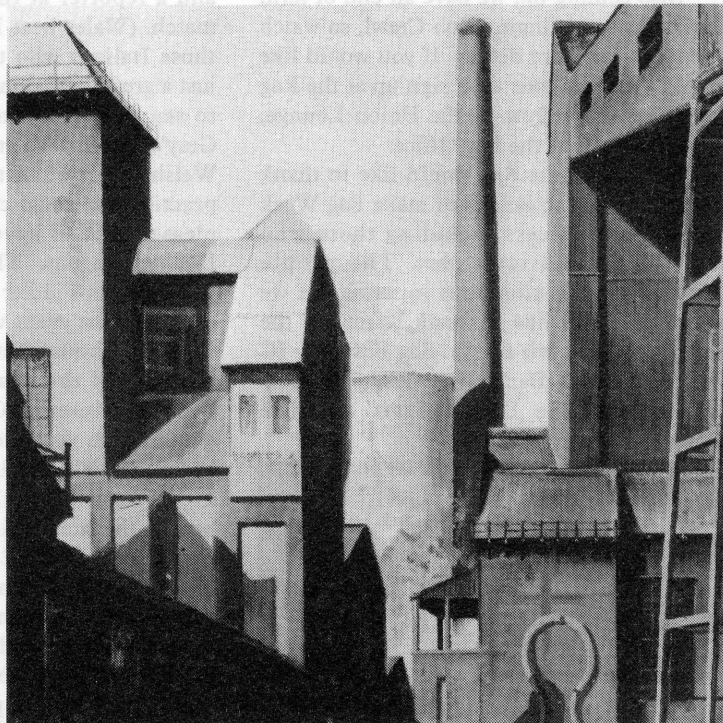


photo credit: the science museum/science & society picture library

To get to the Science Museum's **Centuryscape** exhibition you first have to tear yourself away from the pinball machine in the foyer fertility display (thudoiinggg... 'Congratulations, you are pregnant'). In a small room up on the second floor a collection of paintings and drawings on the theme of 'art, science and industrial landscape' seems to jostle for wall space. The works span a century, from a painting of the Manchester Ship Canal dated 1894, to a view of Albertopolis from the Queen's Tower executed earlier this year. The tone of the exhibition is fairly optimistic, although a couple of grim pictures stand out; a large, nightmarish charcoal drawing of a railway bridge by Hans Baluschek, 'Ways of the Machine'; and George Clausen's excellent 'Coal' from 1924.

There are several paintings commissioned for adverts by the regional railways, and a busy picture of Clapham Junction by Terence Cuneo. "Since 1953, Cuneo has hidden a mouse in most of his paintings," announces the label provocatively.

The exhibition finishes with several rather bland pictures by official Channel Tunnel artist Tabitha Salmon, and a very heavy-handed allegory by Sir Roy Calne FRS. Calne is a surgeon, and his semi-abstract watercolour studies, made as a guide for a recent multivisceral transplant, are more interesting. Runs until 29th Jan.

NB: To avoid alarming any of our readers, the editor has asked me to point out that, despite the fact that *Lorenza Pelegrini* sh*gs one in 'Foucault's Pendulum', you cannot get pregnant from a pinball machine. ☺



return of the suckers

This play, **Nosferatu** – a symphony of terror, is based on J. W. Murnan's classic 1922 film, which was one of the first adaptations of 'Dracula' by Bram Stoker.

Although it refers to well known and much used material this version is different from what you've seen up to now on the subject of vampires and everything that comes with them.

It is an expressionistic production that blends light humour with endlessly exciting inventiveness and

melodrama. The actors are transformed from people to a stage coach and also a haunted ship, all within the atmospheric stage of the Courtyard Theatre.

And what's more the play doesn't end with a stake through the vampire's heart. It seems that *Nosferatu*'s bite turns the heroes of the play into sensual 'human' beings that enjoy their life afterwards more than the sweet, cute existence they had before their adventure. ☺



real eve

Tim Burton's the nightmare before christmas is a film which you get the feeling has been a long time coming. Indeed Burton's original concept for a stop-motion animation has grown from the status of a part-time labour of love to something approaching a full length obsession. But thanks to the success that he has crafted with the *Batman* series, *Beetlejuice* and *Edward Scissorhands*, Burton has been humoured and in return he has once again proved that his version of gothic quirkiness can make money.

The fact that his name has as much prominence in the title as the nominal subject seems to suggest that this film is the closest we have got to the Burton psyche thus far. (Of course it could just be a cash-in opportunity.) To use the Branaghism of the moment; this is Burton's won personal monster, and maybe that's why it's such a peculiar film in both word and deed.

The action starts in Halloweentown on the night of Halloween. Yep, the ghouls are in full throttle and leading the fiery charge is their King, Jack Skellington. It's in these first five or so minutes that the full glory of the stop-motion method of animation is displayed. In a similar way to the opening swooping camera shots on *'Batman returns'*, Burton sells his vision for all it's worth.

However the longer the film goes on, the more the mode of animation becomes a burden especially when stretched to seventy minutes. Equally the plot, relying as it does on the stagehall mode of imparting information through songs and the limitations inherent in the use of puppets rather than people, doesn't emote. Yes the concept is very clever and the animation is excellent but I got the impression that Burton was doing exactly what he wanted to do. To that degree this is a film designed to cater for b-movie cultists and technophreaks. The rest of us will find it interesting, funny in parts, technically superb but then we'll go back and cry over *Edward Scissorhands*.

In **miracle on 34th street**, one of the first of this season's festive films, Kriss Kringle (*Richard Attenborough*) tries to prove to a group of non-believers in New York City that he is the real Santa Claus.

The story revolves around two rival department stores of which one employs Kriss as their in-store Santa. He proves to be so ridiculously successful that the rival



store attempts to 'blacken the good name' of Santa. By now the film has already run on for far too long and we have yet to even reach the climatic and farcical court scene.

What needs to be clearly indicated is that this is a film that is solely aimed at children and is likely to be only enjoyed by those under the age of 10. Anyone above this age ought to have acquired enough taste to know when something is far too nauseatingly sentimental and melodramatic for its own good. In particular the child (*Mara Wilson*, the brat in *'Mrs. Doubtfire'*) is too cynical and irritatingly knowledgeable, and played in such a sickeningly cute manner with such a complete lack of ability that even Santa wouldn't touch her with a barge-pole (metaphorically speaking).

As with all films of this kind it is completely predictable and given the film's length, it soon gets boring. In fact the film is exactly the sort of slush you expect John Hughes to churn out ie. high on cuteness and kids, low on plot development, scripting and appalling stereotypical adult characterisations. In fact it's hard to find anything positive to say about the film, except maybe that it will teach Attenborough to stay behind the camera considering the disaster which was his accent in *'Jurassic Park'*.

In short, this is just another standardised Hollywood 'feel-good' movie for the Christmas period which is just as dull, predictable and unfunny as the rest. The blurb says "discover the miracle" but the only miracle you'll discover is the strange and sudden reduction of cash from your pocket.

For once there'll be no beating around this one, **trial by jury** is a rank film which by the end has become plain nasty in tone.

Joanne Whalley-Kilmer takes the millstone of playing Valerie, a single mother who does jury service on a godfather murder trial because she believes in duty, paying taxes, the american way and apple pie for dinner. Of course the mobster decides to put pressure on her by threatening her young son, and her dear ol' dad. Too frightened to go to the police Valerie decides to hang the jury so the mobster, hilariously called Rusty, goes free, even though in the meantime he has managed to rape her.

What more could happen scream a frantically spelled bound audience? Now that Valerie has endured all this she can easily avoid being killed by the mobster's doublecross before wandering out to his secret hide out, where she shows him some leg and sticks an ice pick in his neck. It's a film bad enough to make you wish for 'Natural born killers'. Well almost. **C**



no roar

Quantity is a poor substitute for quality in food. At £4.50 for lunch, the **Paper Tiger** provides superb quantity for money, with a ten-course Chinese buffet allowing you to eat as much as you want. But how much will you want to eat?

The clear vegetable broth is probably the best dish on offer. It is hot and digestible but lacks flavour, with only a few vegetables swimming in the tureen.

Grease came next, served with spring rolls and chicken wings. The spring rolls were hot and crispy but totally lacking in filling and saturated in cooking oil. The chicken wings would have been more at home in Kentucky Fried Chicken, having a strange oriental/american coating.

With soup and starter over and a gallon of water to clean our palates, the stainless steel containers holding the main courses beckoned. Rice and noodles sat overcooked and stodgy waiting to meet their accompaniments. With a choice of four main dishes, three containing meat, the options for vegetarians were limited – an uninspiring combination of stir-fried vegetables, which had turned into stir-stewed vegetables as they sat in the container. The beef in black bean sauce, sweet and sour pork and chicken curry fared no better under the pressures of the buffet table.

Stir-fried dishes are meant to be cooked quickly, served quickly and eaten quickly, not left in a pot to survive a whole lunchtime. The courses were brimming with the flavouring enhancer MSG, but there was very little flavour to enhance. The meat and vegetables were overcooked; the sauces were glutinous, clinging to the mouth because of heavy-handed cornflour use. The latter a desperate attempt to add body to the emaciated flavours.

And that was the end of the ten courses as advertised on the board outside. With rice, noodles and wanton considered courses in their own right, the evidence of value for money suddenly became less convincing.

The food at the Paper Tiger is at best comparable to a dodgy Chinese takeaway. If you are in that kind of mood and are very hungry, then it's worth a visit. But as value for money goes, there are far better offers available. **C**

The Paper Tiger, 14 Exhibition Road, SW7



The English Nation Opera's production of *Khovanshchina* is the hit the new management have been looking for since their appointment more than a year ago. Mussorgsky's epic 'The Khovansky Affair' is a loose translation set in the turbulent reign of Peter the Great. The Tsar himself never appears, due to a law in force at the time of writing which forbade the depiction on stage of members of the Romanov dynasty. The characters are a mixture of reactionary religious



a motherland's stature

zealots, Westernised reformers and megalomaniac aristocrats. There's a lot of lamenting the fate of Mother Russia and at the end everyone is worse off.

Prince Ivan Khovansky (Willard White) towers head and shoulders above a fine cast. Act III, the strongest both musically and in Francesca Zambello's imaginative production, begins with him

stripped to his jockstrap in a swimming pool. This might not have worked with an artist of lesser stature, but here it completes a portrait of a noble leader undone by his own vanity. Earlier, Khovansky's Act I entry provides the first memorable moment of the evening when Alison Chitty's stage set of movable gantries splits open to

reveal White surrounded by rearing metal horses and swirling black flags.

The dark colours of Shostakovich's orchestration (Mussorgsky's score was left unfinished) don't always captivate the ear as they do on Abbado's awesome DG recording. But this is probably more a tribute to what is happening on stage than a criticism of music director Sian Edwards. The final scene is in all respects the stunning culmination that it should be. **S**



woodenstock '94

So Woodstock II was a celebration of music and an attempt to recreate a supposedly loving and peaceful atmosphere within the confines of the money-obsessed '90s, eh? Yeah, right. If you believe that then you should stop reading right now because your winning lottery number has just come through...

No, Woodstock II was about money, from its well-publicised mythical intentions through to **Woodstock '94**, "the single most extensive and technologically advanced live event of all time". In other words it was as decadent as they come.

Maybe there could be some kind of exoneration if the music was any good but if this is the past and the future together then I'm glad I live in the now.

So what do you get for your twenty quid (which of course will be going straight into the anthropological, peace-lovin' claws of the record company executives)? Well, there's the very

good (Live with the aptly-titled, 'Selling the Drama'), the extremely bad (Nine Inch Nails, Candlebox, Salt-N-Pepa), and the downright ugly (The Neville Brothers murdering 'Come Together', Metallica, Joe Cocker).

Interspersed between these 'highlights' we are 'treated' to some competent but ultimately uninspiring numbers courtesy of Green Day, the Cranberries, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Rollins Band and the like.

And don't forget those token gestures – Bob Dylan, Traffic and Peter Gabriel – supposedly trying to bring some old-timers' nostalgic credibility to the proceedings and instead just sound as flaccid and limp as many of their physical parts undoubtedly are.

And there you have it. (Or if you're sensible you don't have it.) In answer to the question, Woodstock or Woodenstock? I think Crud-Stock would be much more appropriate. Roll on 2019... I don't think. **(3)**

Most readers of this page know what **New Order** sound like – synthesised stuff sung by a bloke with a melancholic voice. However I would imagine most of you couldn't name any of their songs except 'Blue monday' or 'True faith'. This is therefore a greatest hits album full of songs which weren't hits – or were too long ago for baby first years like me to remember. Obviously the album is long overdue.

I found this very hard to review. The vinyl copy I was given (thanks to Charles for letting me borrow his record player) was a double album. You could say I'd be happy with just one of the discs. Half the songs (the hits) are brilliant and would get a (10) from me, an example being 'World in motion'. The other half, the more moody, low tempo stuff I just found boring and rated it only (5).

New Order are the sort of band who have been around long enough to be an institution, but at the end of the day all they'll be remembered for is the *n* different remixes of 'Blue monday'. **(7)**

Following in the footsteps of several other singer-songwriters

comes **Sarah McLachlan** with her new album, *fumbling towards ecstasy*. The work consists of thirteen all-too-similar ballads, all centred around Sarah and her piano.

The style is similar to the likes of Tori Amos and Annie Lennox, and in some cases reminiscent of the Cranberries. Unfortunately though the music lacks the conviction of these contemporaries and you end up feeling cheated having been tempted with hints of what might have been.

The lyrics are introspective, and mostly examine relationships and self-worth. They are dull, and sink to all time low in the abysmal "your love is better than ice cream".

I was unable to listen to this album all the way through, despite several attempts. It really is quite terrible. All the emotion becomes lost in a sea of banality, and it ended up just boring me sh*tless. Go buy something decent instead like the new Manic Street Preachers' album. **(1)** **S**

THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

9th December 1994

Presenting

Carmina Burana

by Carl Orff

My Heart Is Inditing

by Purcell

Hierusalem

by Dyson

On Friday 9th December 1994 at 8.00pm
Great Hall, Sherfield Building, Imperial College

Tickets £5.00 and £2.50 (students) available
from Choir members, on the door or from 12 - 2pm
on 8, 9th December outside the Sherfield Building, walkway level.

Islamic Society 1pm
Friday Prayers, SG (R)
ICU Rag 1.10pm
Rag Meeting EL (R)
Aerobics Classes 5.30pm
Advanced Step level IV, SG (R)
Jap Soc 6.30pm
Bounenkai (end of term party), Union Lounge
ICSO concert 8pm
Berlioz, Gershwin & Rachmaninov, Great Hall

Free minibus service
home from union
building, 11.30 to 2am

IC Roller Blade Soc 10.45am
Ramp skating at Brixton. Skate Park, meet at SL (R)
IC Roller Blade Soc 2pm
Skating and Hockey in Hyde Park/Kensington Gdns. Meet at SL (R)
Gliding Club 8.15pm
Lastam Airfield. Come to Thursday meeting if it is your first time. (R)

Aerobics Class 12.30pm
Intermediate level III, SG (R)
IC Wargames Club 1pm
Table Tennis Rm (R)
Roller Blade Soc 2pm
Skating and Hockey in Hyde Park/Kensington Gdns. Meet at SL (R)
Op soc 2pm
Rehearsal for 'Cabaret' in CH. (R)

Aerobics Class 12.30pm
Body Toning level I, SG (R)
Art soc 12.30pm
Meeting, UDH (R) Tickets for X'mas trip and Starlight Express.
Exploration Society 1pm
Meeting at Southside Upper Lounge (R)
Ski Club 1-2pm
Meeting, SL (Upper) (R)
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Beginners level I, SG (R)
Concert Band 5.45pm
Rehearsal. Open to players of any ability, Great Hall (R)
IC Dance Club 6pm
Rock and Roll, UDH (R)
Op soc 7.30pm
Rehearsal for Cabaret in UDH (R)

Cath soc 12pm
informal mass and lunch, Bagrit centre, Mech Eng (R)
S+G Outdoor Club 12pm
Meeting. Welcome, SL (R)
Yogasoc 12.15pm
Beginners' classes, SG, (R).
IC Sailing Club 12.30pm
Sign up to sail! SL (R)
Quasar Club 12.30pm
Meeting, SL (Upper) (R)
Careers Talk 1-1.50pm
'Environmental Careers', Huxley LT 213
Photo Society 1-2pm
All welcome, SL (R)
UCO 1pm
Bible study, Mat B342 (R)
Circus Skills Soc 5-8pm
Table Tennis Rm UB (R).
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Advanced level IV, SG (R)
IC Dance Club 6pm
beginners, JCR (R)
Wine Tasting Soc 6pm
£5, £4 UDH (R)
Dram Soc 6.30pm
Meeting, UB (R)
LeoSo 6.30pm
Civ Eng Rm 101 (R)
Op soc 7.30pm
Rehearsal for 'Cabaret' in Mech Eng 342 (R)
Canoe Club 7.30pm
Sports Centre pool, any level of ability, (R)
Chess Club 7.30pm
1st team match, SCR (R)
Caving Club 9pm
Meeting SL (Upper) (R)

Japan Soc 12-2pm
meeting, Ante Room (R)
IC Roller Blade Soc 12.15pm
Meeting for all at SL followed by Hockey in Hyde Park (R)
College Communion 12.30pm
Holy Trinity, Prince Consort Road (R)
Motorcycle club 12.45pm
weekly meeting, SL, (R).
Quasar Club 12.45pm
Quasar Trip, UL (R)
IC Wargames Club 1pm
Table Tennis Rm (R)
OSC 1pm
Hon. Treasurer's meeting, CCR (R)
Ski Club
Recreational Skiing & lessons
Aerobics Class 1.15pm
Beginners/Intermediate level I, SG (R)
STOIC 1.30pm
Production meeting, Stoic Studios (R)
Careers Course 2-4pm
'Improve your Applications and Interview Skills' for ALL Sign up in Careers Office.
Ten Pin Bowling 2.15pm
meet outside Aero (R).
Jazz Dance 3.30-5pm
Beginners class, SG (R)
Aerobics Classes 5pm
Step level III, SG (R)
IC Chess Club 6.30pm
Club night, SCR (R).
IC Choir 7-10pm
Rehearsal in Great Hall

GO Club 12-2pm
Ante Room, Sherfield (R)
Aerobics Class 12.30pm
Legs, Turns & Bums, SG (R)
Y.H.A. 12.30pm
Weekly meeting, SL (R).
Career Talk 1-1.50pm
'2nd Interviews, Assesm't Centres', Huxley LT 213.
Yacht Club 1pm
Physics LT2 (R)
Parachute Club 1pm
Table Tennis Room, UB (R)
Conservative Club 1pm
Meeting, SL (Upper) (R)
Conservative Club 1pm
Meeting, SL (Upper) (R)
Gliding Club 1pm
Meeting, Aero 266 (R)
Get Fit with Louisa 1pm
Aerobics, UG (R)
Jazz Dance 4-5.30pm
Advanced classes, SG (R)
Aerobics Class 5.30pm
Intermed. level 3, SG (R)
IC Choir 6.15-8pm
Rehearsal
Christian Union 6.30pm
Huxley 308 (R)
Leonardo Society 6.30
Civ Eng Rm 101 (R)
IC Dance Club 7pm
Beginners, JCR (R)
Jazz Big Band 7-10pm
Table Tennis Rm (R)
Jewish Society 7pm
Friday Night Fever, £2.50, Hillel Hse
Motorcycle club 7.30pm
SL, bike run round L'dn, (R)
Ladies' Football 8.30pm
Training, contact Union office pigeon hole, UG (R)

Three Colours Red
Renoir, Brunswick Sq
0171 837 8402
tube; Russell Square
doors; 12.10
tickets; £6, 1st perf £4
with concs £2.50

Ian McNabb
Mean Fiddler
tube; Willesden Green
doors; 8pm
tickets; £8

Khovanshchina
English National Opera,
The London Coliseum,
St. Martin's Lane,
0171 836 3161
tube; Charing Cross,
Leicester Square
time; 6.30pm
entry; £8-£45, standbys
£15 (3 hrs before perf.)

Cronos
Metro, Rupert Street
0171 437 0757
tube; Piccadilly/Leicester Sq
3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00
tickets; £6, Mon, 1st perf
Mon-Fri concs £4

Roachford
Forum
tube; Kentish Town
doors; 7.30pm
tickets; £9

Prokofiev Symphony No.5 & Goldschmidt Violin Concerto
Royal Festival Hall,
South Bank Centre,
0171 928 8800
tube; Embankment
entry, concs £5

What's the big idea then? Recorded twice weekly, WTBIT is STOIC's answer to Anne & Nick (without Anne or Nick)
As Seen On T.V. A powerful short drama about the problems of video addiction.

Dora & Dan The STOIC guide to AIDS awareness.

STOIC Shorts A collection of short films made by you, for you

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
12:00/6:00	12:00/6:00	12:00/6:00
What's the big idea then?	What's the big idea then?	What's the big idea then?
12:30/6:30 STOIC Shorts	12:30/6:30 STOIC Shorts	12:30/6:30 STOIC Shorts
12:50/6:50 As Seen On TV	12:45/6:45 Dora & Dan	12:50/6:50 As Seen On TV

Thursday	Friday
12:00/6:00	12:00/6:00
What's the big idea then?	What's the big idea then?
12:30/6:30 STOIC Shorts	12:30/6:30 STOIC Shorts
12:45/6:45 Dora & Dan	12:50/6:50 As Seen On TV

STOIC broadcasts to the JCR, DaVincis, Beit, and Princes Gardens halls of residence.

At other times of the day, STOIC will show the One O'clock News, Neighbours, Star Trek : TNG Mtv, and will show 'The Muppet Show' to the JCR at lunchtimes if requested. Things currently in production include:

Inside Out. A deep and searching documentary into something or other...

The Hamster Christmas Carol, Piers & Bruce let you inside their minds. Danger!

James' Essential Film Guide. What hot films to see this Chrimbo.

If you are interested in any of the above projects, or merely want to make a programme and don't know how, come up and see us on the top floor of the union building, or you can contact us at any time, on (0171 59) 4 8104 or email stoic@ic.

Coming Up Next Week On STOIC:

Cat Show Special!

(use sure way to see some pussy)

STOIC is The Student Television Of Imperial College

If you would like to be in the audience for Don't Forget Your Toothbrush II on 24th December, contact STOIC NOW!!!!

Local Special!

Special Express Lunch Menu

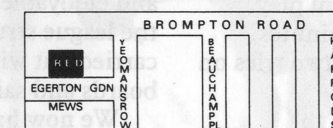
served between 12:00 to 2:00pm and 6:00 to 7:00pm

at **RED** of Knightsbridge 0171-584 7007

The best Chinese without artificial colouring and flavours.

- | | | |
|----|---|------|
| A. | Crispy lamb with wok fried rice and seasonal vegetables | 5.00 |
| B. | Sun Sing Chicken with wok fried rice and seasonal vegetables | 5.00 |
| C. | spare ribs with wok fried rice and seasonal vegetables | 5.00 |
| D. | Aromatic Crispy duck with pancakes | 5.00 |
| E. | Buddha pot rice (vegetarian) | 5.00 |
| F. | Beef in black beans with wok fried rice and seasonal vegetables | 5.00 |
| G. | Special fried rice (prawn, pork etc.) | 5.00 |
| I. | Singapore noodles (prawn, pork spicy) | 5.00 |
| J. | Hot and Sour fish with wok fried rice and seasonal vegetables | 5.00 |

Take away to your offices is also available



RED 8 Egerton Garden Mews Knightsbridge SW3

Miracle on 34th Street
Odeon Kensington
0426 914666
tube; Kensington High St
1.40, 4.20, 7.00, 9.40
tickets; £6, £6.50, before
5pm £3.50

The Nightmare Before Christmas
Odeon Kensington
0426 914666
tube; Kensington High St
3.00, 5.10, 7.20, 9.30
tickets; £6, £6.50, before
5pm £3.50

Trial By Jury
MGM Fulham Road
0171 370 2636
S. Ken tube and then bus
1.40, 4.20, 7.05, 9.35
tickets; £6, Mon-Fri
before 6pm and students
£3.50

Three Colours Blue
Renoir, Brunswick Sq
0171 837 8402
tube; Russell Square
doors; 12.20
tickets; £6, 1st perf £4
with concs £2.50

Three Colours White
Renoir, Brunswick Sq
0171 837 8402
tube; Russell Square
doors; 12.10
tickets; £6, 1st perf £4
with concs £2.50

Gene
LA2
tube; Tottenham Ct. Rd.
0171 434 0403/4
doors; 7pm
tickets; £5.50

Offspring
Astoria
tube; Tottenham Ct. Rd.
0171 434 0403/4
doors; 7.30pm
tickets; £6.50

Paul Weller
Empire
tube; Shepherd's Bush
0181 740 7474
doors; 7.30pm
tickets; £14.50

Meatloaf
Wembley Arena
BR; Wembley
doors; 7.30pm
tickets; £19.50, £17.50

Dina Carroll
Wembley Arena
BR; Wembley
doors; 7.30pm
tickets; £15, £12.50

Michael Nyman's 'The Fall of Icarus'
(repeat Sat)

Queen Elizabeth Hall,
South Bank Centre,
0171 928 8800
tube; Embankment
time; 7.45pm
entry; concs from £8

Gloria - Poulenc Symphony No.5 - Tchaikovsky

ULU Chorus & Orchestra
St. Luke's Church,
Sydney Street, Chelsea
time; 7.30pm
entry; £7/£4, concs £4

Gainsborough and Reynolds

Buckingham Palace
SW1
0171 799 2331
tube; Victoria
time; Tue-Sat 10am-5pm,
Sun 2-5pm
entry; £3

Turner Prize 1994

Tate,
Millbank, SW11
0171 887 8000
tube; Pimlico
time; Mon-Sat 10am-
5.50pm, Sun 2.5-5.00pm
entry; Free

Nosferatu (adapt. of Bram Stoker's Dracula)

Courtyard Theatre,
10 York Way, N1
0171 833 0870
tube; King's Cross
time; Tue-Sun 8pm, Sun
4pm
entry; £6.50, concs £5

Rowing

British Indoor Rowing Championships

Bracknell Leisure Centre provided the setting for this year's British Indoor Rowing Championships. A squad of 30 rowers competed for Imperial College against the likes of Cambridge University Boat Race Squad and many medal winners from this year's Commonwealth Games and World Championships.

Imperial was well represented in the Mens Under-23 category with strong performances from L. Attrill (7:45.0) and S. Dennis (7:45.5) who came from behind, putting his extra inches to good effect, pipping Cambridge's best in the last few strokes.

In the women's competition, Imperial was also strong with Lena Havranek coming third (9:14.0) and an impressive debut from Alison Trickey (9:30.0).

Overall, Imperial showed great strength in depth and will be looking forward to performing amongst the country's best on the water, later in the year.

Rugby

IC Virgins vs Royal Holloway & Bedford

IC Virgins arrived at Royal Holloway's ground raring to go, after some dubious map reading which sent us the wrong way around the M25 (thanks Penny).

An unfortunate first quarter lead to three soft tries being scored against us. We finally got things together and kept Holloway at bay for the rest of the half.

Following a rallying half time talk from the coaches, IC started the second half in fighting mood (literally). IC kept the pressure on Holloway with some good team play until the last five minutes, when we conceded two tries on the wing.

Congratulations to everyone for their brilliant effort during the game and in Southside afterwards.

Sport	IC Team	Score	Opposition
Hockey	Ladies	8 - 0	CXWMS
Netball	Ladies	41 - 19	St. Barts
Rugby	Ladies	0 - 25	Royal Holloway

Netball

IC vs St. Barts

On Saturday IC travelled to Bethnal Green to play St. Barts. Unfortunately there were no umpires and as our reserve had mysteriously not appeared we agreed to play with 6 players on each side, with one player from each team umpiring.

IC made a strong start, taking the lead straight away. Barts came back at the beginning of the 2nd quarter, but we soon regained our composure and by the end of the 3rd quarter we were aiming for a half century. However towards the end, being more than 20 goals ahead the concentration lapsed and the half century slipped out of our reach. Nevertheless it was a comprehensive victory and the game was played in a friendly spirit.

Windsurfing

London vs Best of Rest

The London University Windsurfing Club (comprising mostly IC sailors) stole a dramatic one point victory last weekend, in the "Brass Monkey" inter-uni contest - being held for the first time. Our racing pedigree was confirmed by beating the well-established university clubs of Oxford, Cambridge, Southampton, East Anglia and Essex. The contest was hosted by Oxford University at the Farmoor Reservoir where, despite light winds, the racing was both highly competitive and enjoyable. Each round of the league structure was carried out with identical boards and sails.

We now have everything to prove in next term's student championships in Clacton.

Sports Editorial

Blatant space filler #2

Arrgh. My worst nightmare has come true: it's nearly 10pm and I've got about half a page to fill up. It's at times like this I wish I'd listened to what my mother used to tell me. "What did your mother tell you Mark?" you cry. I don't know - I never listened. Boom boom! Yes, I'm not above cracking jokes to fill the page up.

On a more serious note, what happened with the reports this week? Perhaps with sundown occurring so frighteningly early, the sports teams are too scared to play after dark? Or perhaps all of

our teams have been knocked out of their respective leagues and cups. Possibly the cold weather and Xmas Tests have something to do with it. Or maybe you just like to see me suffer.

I'd like to give my thanks to the four teams that did submit a report this week, it is especially good to hear from Windsurfing and Rowing for the first time (and they won!).

The next FELIX will come out on the last Wednesday of term, so we will be doing the Sports page on Thursday evening, giving you an extra day to hand in (or telephone) your results and reports to us. I look forward to seeing more of you next week!

[12:10am Thursday]

Ever had one of those days? I was literally walking out of the door when this hockey result turns up, 4 hours late, expecting to be included because they won. After I shouted at them, I decided that I'd include it, as I'm such a nice bloke, but if anyone else ever tries such a stunt again, inform your next of kin before talking to me.

You have been warned.

Mark Baker

Hockey


IC Ladies vs CXWMS

After a most bogus result last week against the same team, we pulled our resources and pierced their defence 8 times. With storming goals from "Sammy", "Pussy Galore", "Lt. Worf" [oh dear, here we go again... - Ed.] and the "Pint Kid" the IC ladies romped to a most precedented victory.

Coming down the Chimney...

FELIX 1015: The Christmas Festive Feast

Packed full of christmas cheer, spirits, cholesterol and too many bloody nuts! Look out for the definitive guide to xmas fashion and where to be on New Years Eve...the CluedUp columnists meet and debate the years events...Music and Cinema rank the year, from best to rank...We interview *Rendermorphics*: IC grads with Attitude and big (3d) plans...jon looks towards Bethlehem...Yuletide through the gloomy gothic eyes of Luke Gietzen...A Pressie list to the Rector...A guide(d missile) to holiday viewing...The editor blows a page...PLUS all the regulars including a pumped up S-Files, a Double Barrelled CluedUp and a News Review of the year so far...

FELIX 1015 hits the streets on WEDNESDAY December 14th. Read it  get the best Christmas present your lickle brothers and sisters could ever have wanted....

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Registrar and Clerk to the Governors
P.E. Mee, MBE, TD, BSc(Econ)

IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION MEMBERSHIP AND OPTING OUT

Since the time of its establishment, it has been the practice to regard all registered students of Imperial College as members of the Imperial College Union. The same arrangement has applied to the constituent College Unions.

There has been no subscription or fee charged to students or their sponsors to secure membership. The College has funded ICU and the CCUs to enable the provision of a range of services and facilities for students - sporting, cultural, recreational etc - and students have been free to use or not use these services and facilities as they individually decided.

However, under the provisions of the Education Act 1994 the College is specifically obliged to make provision for students to opt out of membership of Student Unions.

Moreover the College is charged with ensuring that any student who exercises the right to opt out should not be "unfairly disadvantaged" with regard to accessing services and facilities available to the rest of the student body.

In order to comply with this requirement, the College has agreed with ICU that ICU will act as the College "agent" in the provision of facilities and services for all our registered students. The College will continue to fund ICU and the CCUs on the traditional basis so that the normal provision of services and facilities is available to all registered students irrespective of whether they have formally opted out of Union membership or not.

The only practical effect therefore of opting out will be that such students cannot stand for elected office or take part in Union elections.

For this purpose the College needs to know and to keep a record of students who have opted out.

Thus all registered students who wish to exercise their rights under the Education Act 1994 of formally opting out of ICU and CCU membership for the session 1994-95 are required to come to the Registry (Room 343 on level 3 of the Sherfield Building) by Monday 9 January 1995 (the beginning of the Spring Term) to record their decision.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'P E Mee'.

P E Mee
Registrar

30 November 1994

Sunday 11th December
**ACC's Christmas
Discount Day**

*SAVE an extra 10% on
ALL calls ALL day*



HAPPY
CHRISTMAS
FROM
ACC



Freephone 0800 100 222 for details