

Deconstructing the  
Presidency: Sarah  
White explained

*f.ii* Looking back to  
the millenium:  
remember the  
1950's?

*inSci&ght*  
Russian crystals put eye  
surgery in a new light



# FELIX

The student newspaper of  
Imperial College

Issue 1052  
March 1st 1996

## Jokes prevail over issues at sabbatical hustings

SABBATICAL  
ELECTIONS

BY ANDY SINHARAY

The annual ICU sabbatical elections picked up pace this week with the candidates facing questioning at hustings at both South Kensington and St Mary's.

The grilling at St Mary's on Wednesday involved the customary interrogation by beer and shaving foam, with the medics particularly expressing their concern that ICU sabbaticals should reflect Mary's students' interests. One of the candidates for the position of ICU President is reported to have been given a pint of urine to drink because they had run out of beer.

Issues raised at the more somber South Kensington event on Tuesday focussed on the candidates choice of hair colour, though there was some discussion of Higher Education funding.

Questions of varying gravity were put to the candidates with Alex Feakes, the only candidate for *Felix* Editor & Print Unit Manager facing the crowds first. He referred to his current posi-



PHOTO: IVAN CHAN

Candidates for President: Eric Allsop, Luke Morales and Mark Bridge faced the serious business of winning support from IC's medical students in hustings at Wilson House on Wednesday.

tion as *Felix* News Editor, expressing his intention to open *Felix* up to local issues outside Imperial College. This, he assured one questioner, would not be to the detriment of overall College coverage. Questions were raised regarding the direc-

tion of news journalism at *Felix*, in the light of alleged inaccuracies in his reporting. The issue became a major factor at the St Mary's Hustings, where there was much concern over news coverage that the medics considered to be unhelpful to their

cause.

The three candidates for the position of Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) expressed different ideas for supporting the extra-curricular activities of IC students. Sarah Corneille, a

continued on page two

in summary



### BMS decision today

English Heritage will meet today to decide whether to support the new Biomedical Science project. The are concerned about the building's affect on the near-by conservation area. **page 3**

### Bike theft upsurge

IC Security are installing closed circuit TV cameras by the college bicycle ranks in an attempt to deter thieves. There has been an upsurge in bike thefts on campus in recent weeks. **page 3**

### Syllabus undecided

The syllabus for the degree from the new Imperial College School of Medicine is not ready, leaving current students unsure of the content of the later years of their degree. **page 2**



## ...and the flannings continue

continued from front page

founder member of women's rugby at IC, explained her plans for the promotion of the arts and the importance of health & safety while James Handley, former IC radio station manager, emphasised on his belief that approachability is one of the more important aspects of being a deputy president. Neil O'Shaughnessy, Senior Union Steward, cited his plans to better publicise Clubs & Societies using the five major student publications. The candidates were also asked whether their past associations with specific clubs might impinge on their impartiality, if elected.

Piers Williams, Pub Board Chair and the only candidate for Deputy President (Finance & Services), was described by his proposer as "level headed and clued-up", and managed to bring some levity to the evening. He was questioned at length regarding his hair-dyeing habits, denying rumours that this had ceased in a search for credibility. Piers did face some serious questions, promising to steer ICU through its 'financial turning point' given the recent cuts.

The three candidates for the ICU Presidency, Eric Allsop,



PHOTO: IVAN CHAN

**Sticky:** The candidate for Felix editor and Print Unit manager, Alex Feakes, and his proposer Mark Baker were particularly well-flanned to appease the wrath of St Mary's at the hustings on Wednesday.

(Current ICU council chair and MechEng PG), Mark Bridge (*Felix* news-writer and chemistry UG) and Luke Morales (Ents DJ and Biology PG) were grilled extensively on numerous topics. Luke and Eric advocated staying out of the NUS whereas Mark appeared to support affiliation. Their political views were also scrutinised though they all appeared to back 'New Solutions', a non-NUS affiliated pressure group proposing alternatives to student funding.

The candidates all seemed to be keeping their spirits up after rigorous treatment at the hands of St Mary's on Wednesday. "I've drunk piss before and I'm sure I'll drink it again in the future," commented Eric Allsop.

New Election is also standing for all posts, if another poll next term is a better option than any of the candidates. Voting will take place in departments around South Kensington, Paddington and Silwood Park sites next Monday and Tuesday.

## Sir Ron to Investigate

BY DIPAK GHOSH

The Government's favourite education trouble-shooter, Sir Ron Dearing, is to carry out a thorough review of the Higher Education sector. According to a recent ministerial announcement, Sir Ron's enquiry will take about 12 months, with the final report widely predicted to criticise provisions in the Bill, and recommend yet another student funding mechanism.

This has triggered some of the members of the House of Lords to describe the Student Loans Bill as a 'dead duck'. During the debate which preceded its second reading in the Upper Chamber on Monday, a large number of peers called for Gillian Shepherd, Education and Employment Minister, to scrap the Student Loans Bill altogether.

One detractor was Lord Morris of Castle Morris who cautioned the Government against imposing the Bill. "Even at this late stage, withdraw it. Scrap it. Take the advice of the good old English proverb: if at first you don't succeed - give up!", he pleaded.

## New medical syllabus leaves students in the dark

BY ALEX FEAKES

Imperial College authorities acknowledged last week that the syllabus for the Imperial College School of Medicine's (ICSM) degree is not ready, leaving current students ignorant of the content of the later years of their course. The course is being overhauled in preparation for the merger of Charing Cross and Westminster and St Mary's medical schools in 1998, and changes in it could mean less choice for the students.

The content of the new degree's curriculum has been thrashed out at numerous working parties and discussion groups, yet important elements of the course's structure remain unresolved, particularly the new clinical aspects.

Professor Edwards, Principal of the ICSM, explained that the review of the degree was implemented because of a decision by the General Medical Council's education committee to alter how doctors are trained. He stressed that "we can't resist this change," and that it was important that students would not be disadvantaged by the change.

Louise Moran, Education Representative of St Mary's Union, told *Felix* that medical students are pleased with the content of the new degree, describing it as 'good, but tough' but she pointed out that the plans were not finalised. This raised concerns that the October 1998 intake of students would be used

as "guinea pigs" for the course without any compensating reduction in workload for the extra clinical work in the new degree's first year. She said they had been told that the relocation of the school to the South Kensington site would mean that there would be "not as much choice, and a more difficult course."

In answer to this, Professor Edwards said that the switch over to the new course in 1998 would happen for all the years, and that there had been a "decrease in factual content" and an "increase in self learning" around a core curriculum that all students would be taught.

The prospectus for the course is currently being prepared, and Professor Edwards

expressed the opinion that the changes for the course should be finalised "as quickly as possible, if not this year" in order for them to be publicised. However, he admitted that some very basic things, such as the convergence of the entry criteria for Charing Cross and St Mary's, have not been fully cleared up, though funding for the extra year which the new degree entails has been secured.

Louise agreed that the funding issue had been worked out to everyone's satisfaction, but repeated that students are unhappy with the timetable for the implementation of the new syllabus. She hoped that they "would sort it out before the course starts."



# Bicycle Thefts Cause Alarm

BY DIPAK GHOSH

A spate of bicycle thefts around College has triggered the installation of closed circuit television cameras to counter the growing menace posed by criminals.

The easily accessible sheds beside RCS I have been the most regularly hit, but the Southside, Mechanical Engineering and Main Library sites have not escaped. One thief was caught last week in the act of stealing a bike, by an Imperial College Security guard, and was subsequently handed over to the police. Despite the large number of incidents, this was only the second time since October that a thief has been caught stealing bicycles.

The recent surge in bike thefts has meant that the need for routine patrols of bike sheds has become a priority. Plain clothes police and IC security staff routinely patrol the bike sheds to deter potential culprits. This clearly has had limited success so far, suggesting that the thefts have been due to a well organised group.

Closed Circuit TV (CCTV) cameras have been purchased by College to cover the walkway area in between the Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engin-

earing and the RSM. There are also plans to introduce similar cameras around the main library, one of the largest bicycle storing areas, though this is subject to the availability of funds.

Keith Reynolds, College's Head of Security, emphasised that the main problem in procuring more cameras is their cost. "Last year we concentrated on computer security - upgrade of bike security is dependent on the budget," Mr Reynolds insisted. He defended Security's current performance saying, "It would be ideal if there was one central site for parking bikes, but at the moment there are all scattered about thus making it difficult to monitor."

Mr Reynolds also said that the bike shed for the new Biomedical Sciences has not been fully integrated into the plans. The current provisional proposal is to locate it in the walkway, though this will not be enough to accommodate all the bicycles that will be coming along with the medical students.

With CCTVs likely to be installed in the walkway area during the next three or four weeks, Mr Reynolds advises students worried about security to park their bikes there.

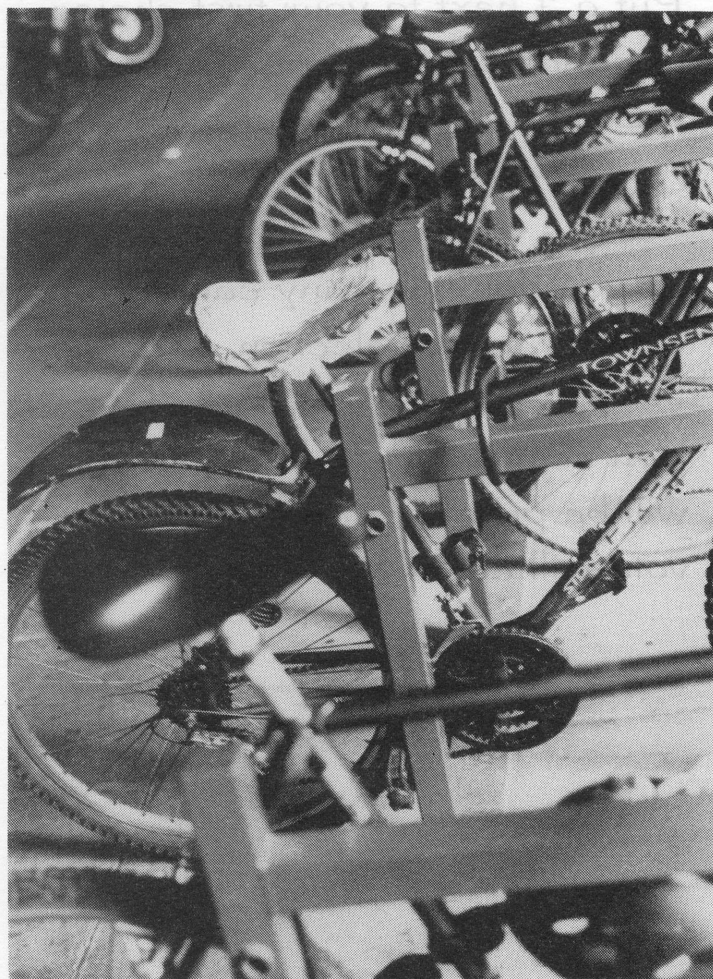


PHOTO: IVAN CHAN

On Tuesday Imperial College security apprehended a thief stealing a bicycle, but as the owner has yet to come forward, the police have been unable to press charges. Anyone who lost a bike at the beginning of the week should contact Sherfield security (extension 58900.)

## English Heritage to decide on BMS plans today

BY TIM ST CLAIR

English Heritage (EH) will meet today to decide whether to give their support to the plans for the new Biomedical Science (BMS) complex. They will make a recommendation to Kensington and Chelsea Borough Council (K&CBC) in time for the next planning meeting, scheduled for Wednesday of next week.

Representatives from English Heritage came to Imperial College on Tuesday to examine the proposed construction site. This inspection was followed by a meeting with architects from Sir Norman Foster and Partners where the plans for the BMS building were examined to assess

their compatibility with the present architecture. It has emerged that English Heritage's interest in the much delayed demolition of RCS II building centres not on the old building's preservation, but on the suitability of the proposed BMS building for its planned location adjacent to the Queen's Lawn.

The emphasis is on the long established designation of the Science Museum / RCS I area as a conservation zone, and the fact that the Queen's Tower is a listed building. This enforced preservation means that any major new construction work around the Queen's Lawn area must fit in with the current envi-

ronment.

Ian Caldwell, Imperial College's Director of Estates, said that he didn't anticipate any major problems, though he admitted that they may have to 'tweak the plans a little.' He explained that the building's 'off-shoots' would actually be 'architecturally joined up' to the RCS I building. It is possible that EH will give their consent to the BMS proposal with the proviso that adjustments are made to the area where the buildings meet.

The RCS II building should have been demolished by the middle of February but College planners still insist that this time can be made up. If EH give the

go-ahead as expected, demolition is set to 'go ahead almost instantaneously'. Mr Caldwell predicted that they would only end up being three weeks behind schedule, an amount he felt could be easily absorbed. "We never expected that getting planning would be easy," he said.

Mr Caldwell does admit that EH should have been involved in the planning process at a much earlier stage. He says that this delay is due to 'a breakdown in communication'. Apparently this occurred when documents mailed in October by K&CBC were not received by EH, but he generously commented that they were now being 'very helpful'.



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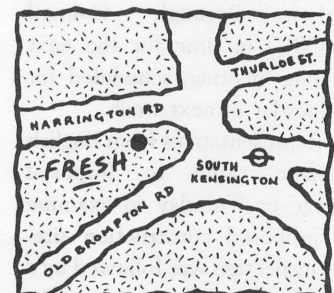
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# Deconstructing the Presidency

Sarah White is nursing a headache and contemplating tomorrow's disciplinary hearing. Sinking into her chair and surrounded by a collage of religious art she waits for the paracetamol to take effect on her frail figure before signalling her readiness with smile.

In the current climate it seemed sensible to gain some insight in to her motivations when she stood for President almost exactly a year ago. Was it a strong desire to overcome the injustice handed out to students, or something to do because the milkround applications had closed?

"I don't know really..."

I sighed, glanced at my watch and smiled back at her but before I could announce my regrettable early exit, she began to talk and talk. Sarah White has a lot to say.

On the subject of her motivation she offered a characteristic extended explanation involving an ex-boyfriend, an argument and numerous incidents involving characters from Leeds.

It all seemed a little opportunistic and devoid of any sensible judgement.

"Well, no... I was a departmental rep, and also involved with welfare and a lot of people said I'd be good at it -"

"Are you?"

"I think so."

The rumours are without foundation. Sarah White *does* think; not in the way an incisive and seasoned politician thinks, but then that is part of the problem of being a sabbatical, as she explains:

"People do expect you to be a Superman, rightly or wrongly. If there's a problem then either it's the President's fault, or if not then the President can and must be able to solve it."

She makes no attempt to hide the frustration in her voice - despite the hours she puts in, her attempts to do her best do not live up to her own expectations, let alone those of the student body. This isn't entirely the fault of others however, and in a candid moment she confesses to despising some aspects of her job, particularly disciplinary hearings. "I do hate them. There just very... uncomfortable and a hassle... the worst thing is when you have to represent somebody because that's your job and yet you know that they don't deserve any sort of help".

Her comments stand at odds with a central tenet of the law in every civilised country, but she maintains that it's very unrealistic to expect a sabbatical to adopt the philosophy of legal men and women who, in addition to the years of training, also receive

attractive fees for taking on the moral challenge of defending cheats and criminals.

"Personally, I can't do it very well and I know what you mean about disciplinarys being the ultimate act of representation, but I hate it... with such a wide area of responsibility there's going to be several areas that you don't like or aren't well suited to you just have to live with that". What Sarah White does enjoy is almost anything else. To her credit she has lost the wide-eyed innocence that has obviously accompanied her for most of her life. The delusions of grandeur, the meetings and dinners with senior academics can send some into a perpetual dizzy spiral from which they never recover to do anything worthwhile. Even her friendship with Ghassan Karrian, ULU President and Labour demagogue in training, has not turned her into a conniving manipulator.

She derives as much satisfaction from



being the union dustbin as she does from all her other tasks. A pretty useful attribute as she explains:

"I don't mind doing reception when I have to 'cause the girls at the front do a lot for us... I enjoy working the bar and even having to find lightbulbs for the DJ's light, it sounds stupid but you feel more valuable then than at any other time".

She sounds almost disappointed with the lack of headline making opportunities - most sabbaticals harbour some megalomaniac ambitions, at least initially.

"My idea of the job has changed and changes everyday. The role of President is loosely defined as it is, so you have to expect big differences from year to year in what you

have to do... but in a more general sense, this term I've come to terms with what I can and can't do which is important... You grow and learn so quickly it's unbelievable".

Some might say that she hasn't learnt much at all so far.

"You can't do everything right. When I started I didn't know what I could and couldn't do, and you fool yourself into believing your manifesto claims, which are complete bullshit anyway. Once you start you quickly realise that College aren't just going to give you £20m for new facilities, or be fooled by innocent emotional arguments about student hardship that they hear every year... you have to make a lot up as you go along and play the game."

The 'game' is the perpetual tussle that is the fabric of the Union-College relationship. Its ethereal, political nature, involving subjective interpretation of events and ambiguous minutes, is a large part of why she is misunderstood, or so she claims.

This isn't an excuse for apathy on her part, she adds, rather it underlines how sabbaticals ever year are ill-equipped for the first couple of months to deal with some of the situations they find themselves in.

When enlightenment does come, it's often during the last six months of the job which offer a completely different perspective; usually more egocentric than before.

"You definitely think more about yourself and what you'll do afterwards, especially when you know who'll be doing your job afterwards... it's a weird thing having to live out the last six months when everyday the next person's being sized up bit by bit. You know that you'll be involved in decisions that won't concern you at all; decisions about things happening five, ten years away. Maintaining any motivation at that stage is something. Combine it with the demand for miracles and perfection and you begin to realise why I can never do anything right".

She isn't complaining about the lack of understanding. Instead she picks up her manifesto and smiles at the thought of next year's potential who will be making their pitch in the coming weeks. "You know, I get a lot of satisfaction from knowing that all the candidates are talking complete crap! It's condescending but it's not cruel is it?"

I glanced at my watch and was painfully aware of the consequences of engaging in further discussion.

"No Sarah, that's not cruel at all".

By Nooman Haque



# **SABBATICAL ELECTIONS**

## **WHEN & WHERE TO VOTE**

### **4TH & 5TH MARCH**

ICU FOYER

JCR

ST. MARY'S FOYER

MECH. ENG FOYER

HUXLEY FOYER

BIOCHEM/CHEMISTRY FOYER

### **4TH MARCH ONLY**

SILWOOD PARK

ELEC. ENG. FOYER

### **5TH MARCH ONLY**

MINES FOYER

CIV. ENG. FOYER

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- 3) IF THE PAPER IS MARKED IN ANY OTHER WAY, EG. WITH TICKS OR CROSSES, THIS WILL INVALIDATE YOUR VOTE**



BBC RADIO

4

comes to  
Imperial!

Impressions" in The Concert Hall.

Team captains are Alistair McGowan and Steve Nallon with Pete McCarthy supposedly controlling the madness. With the help of as-yet-unknown special guests they will be battling to see who can make the best impression. This is the only show where you will hear Michael Caine's version of Jabberwocky, Mich Jagger as Richard III and Julian Clary's commercial "Slamb in the Lamb"!

Alistair McGowan has appeared on TV in shows such as They Think It's All Over, Fist of

This Monday (4th) BBC Radio 4 will be recording their comedy impressionist panel game "First

Fun and The Stand Up Show, as well as working on the club circuit for many years. He has done sporting impressions for Match of the

Day and Aunties Sporting Boomers.

Steve Nallon is best known for his work on Spitting Image and was one of the main contributors for the 12 years it ran. His impressions of Baroness Thatcher, Sir David Attenborough and the Queen Mother ensure his place at the top of the mimics ladder. He has also been seen in front of the camera in New Statesman and KYTV.

Free tickets are available from the Union foyer on the 1st and 4th March from 10am to 4pm.



## The (Durex) Report 1996

The national survey of sexual attitudes and behaviour had some interesting conclusions.

The British make love more often than last year - 77 times a year, compared with 70 times the year before. But that's nothing compared to the stonkingly sexy Yorkshire folk who averaged 88 steamy encounters a year. Bad news - Londoners came at the bottom of the table with only 71 times a year.

Saturday is by far the favourite day of the week for nookie, with 45% of people saying they were most likely to make love on this day. Tuesdays are a big turn-off with only 2%. Night time is the most popular time of the day, with nearly half of all adults preferring this time to any other.

Most people buy their condoms from Boots and 'Other Chemists', apparently, although for occasional purchases the Supermarket came next.

On the question of contraceptive decision making, the men and women have oh-so-slightly different views; 22% of men thought that they made the decisions, but only 3% of women said their partners made the decision.

Why is that not a surprise?

## SAINSBURY'S Ciders of Distinction

Sainsbury's has introduced a new range of 'traditional premium ciders' called, hilariously enough, "Sainsbury's Ciders of Distinction". It has four own-label ciders in it including the first ever Organic Cider (woo!).

Sainsbury's Natural Orchard is approved by the Soil Association, whether this means they put dirt in it I don't know, but it apparently has a 'clean, refreshing taste, making an excellent accompaniment to pork dishes.' It's 6.5% a.b.v. and costs £1.49 for a 500ml bottle.

Sainsbury's West Country Pride is made from selected West Country apples (no, really?). It is a good 'all-rounder' and is reputedly has a 'full character'. It has 5.5% a.b.v. and costs £1.49 for 500ml in a distinct round bottle.

Sainsbury's Oak Conditioned cider is a strong dry cider, and is 'an ideal partner to speciality cheeses' (hmmm). It's also the cheapest cider at £1.19 for 500ml, with 5% a.b.v.

Finally, Sainsbury's Old Hereford is a cloudy, strong, dry cider. When they say cloudy, they're not kidding - I've seen it! It's the strongest cider in the range at 7.3% a.b.v. and best accompanies poultry dishes (what, not big ones...). It is also available in a 500ml bottle for £1.39.

In this week's stuff: News of next week's big event - no, not the elections but Radio 4 recording a comedy panel game at the Union! Plus, the Durex survey into sexual attitudes, Sainsbury's introduce a new cider range and a new type of WWW site...



## Dischord

Bored with the web? Fed up with all the Americanised nonsense? Then try taking a look at Dischord, a UK produced music and culture site,

which aims to inform and provoke its readers, and question received wisdom. The current release includes provocative, polemical (look it up) articles on:

- Quentin Tarantino - a no-holds barred attack;
- Easy Listening - the truth;
- Hollywood - part 1 of an exclusive short story (obviously not that short);
- Too Blind to See It - the real origins of house music;
- Cult Fictions - whatever happened to British youth culture?
- Curse of the Um & Ah men - A&R men get what's coming to them;
- plus reviews, exclusive book extracts and 'much, much more.'

Dischord is edited by David Lubich, former editor/publisher of cult magazine Soul Underground. He says "I see the Web as offering freedom from many of the restrictions of print-based media, and of lessening the gap between writers and readers. I've never understood why so many sites make it so difficult for readers to find anything worth reading - all they end up doing is alienating readers. Dischord might not be the most highly designed site in cyberspace, but it's the most accessible."

Dischord is <http://www.Dischord.co.uk/Dischord>



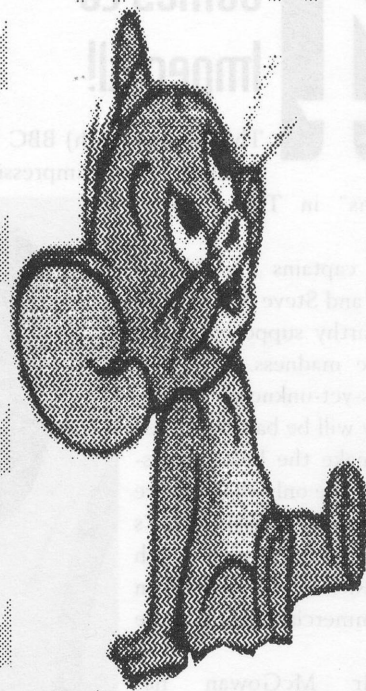
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Additional ballot boxes will be available at Silwood and Elec Eng on Monday, RSM and Civ Eng Tuesday

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...as the arbitrary  
festivities of the  
big 2000 get  
closer, many are  
looking back  
over a most sin-  
gular century ...

AND NOW...

# THE FIFTIES

TOWARDS THE MILLENNIUM - The Royal Festival Hall continues it's annual reaprasial of a decade. Starting yesterday, *Towards the Millennium* is a festival of music, literature and visual arts, supported by BBC radio 3 coverage, and having events in Birmingham, Cardiff and on the South Bank. In fact, if you want to find out what's happening, call 0171 960 4242 for a program.



exhibition: spellbound

jeremy

column: simon baker

book: rebel hearts - kevin toolis

babe magnet

insight: crystals from russia for eye surgery

james

album: various - trainspotting

mr trout

album: iggy pop - naughty little doggy

max

album: marion - this world and body

jason

singles:

max & paul & ian

album: sepultura - roots

vik

album: st germain - boulevard

k.s. pulaski

gig: echobelly

lucas

theatre: 1953 & les enfants du paradis

claire

film: strange days

bill & ben

travel: being deported from lithuania

graham trevitt

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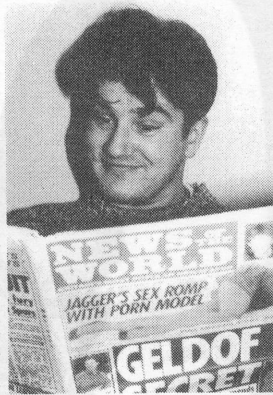
xvi



## simon baker

Jarvis Cocker. Jarvis Cocker. Ah, the mere mention of the man's name fills the heart with joy! His actions at the Brits, the most insipid back-slapping jolly of the year, may not have been seen by many people thanks to the gutless folk of ITV, but have done more to raise him to cult status than even the truly brilliant 'Different Class.' I said a couple of weeks ago that the most distasteful piece of television likely to be screened this decade was that concerning the American toddler beauty pageants. Mais non, mes amis. Michael Jackson's 'performance' was truly sick. It was cheap, tacky, blasphemous and deeply offensive. Portraying himself as the second Messiah, healing by the laying on of hands was disgusting, and the children's presence was almost as distasteful as the citation of unparalleled sycophancy read out by Bob Geldof, a man of whom we all expect better. What made it truly hilarious however, was the way that the man Cocker stole all the headlines from this nasty piece of transatlantic mediocrity by jumping on stage. As for Jackson moaning about the children that were injured, apparently by security guards, it is the best case of the pot calling the kettle black (or should that be white?) I have ever seen. Allegedly.

The Scott Report has generated almost its own weight in newspaper articles and despite the fact Sir Richard, who must have shares in a paper company, wrote his detailed conclusions over 1806 pages (plus an appendix of about 500 pages and a large index), everyone seems to have come to a completely different one. Having actually trawled through the five volumes that make the London phone book seem like *Guildsheet* (in length not content, you understand), I'm afraid that a couple of heads must



roll. To précis the report would take the whole issue of *Felix*, so I'll get to the point. Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Attorney-General, was either incompetent or deliberately misled ministers by advising them wrongly over the use of Public Interest Immunity Certificates. Further, he did not involve himself personally when Michael Heseltine expressed grave doubts about the actions he was effectively forced to take. As a lawyer, Lyell should have got involved, and for this reason he should resign.

The case of William Waldegrave is a little less clear. Scott says that 'Mr Waldegrave knew, first hand, the facts that, in my opinion, rendered the "no change in policy [over defence equipment exports]" statement untrue' yet 'I did not receive the impression of any insincerity on his part giving me the evidence he did.' The implication is of incompetence rather than deception. Whether this is a case for resignation is a difficult one that should be decided by him and the Prime Minister. But I don't fancy his chances.

I have restrained myself for a few weeks, not saying a thing, but I cannot go on. The BMS fiasco goes from strength to strength. One wonders what is keeping the poor dears at the borough council so busy. The solution is, in exchange for approval, to offer to make Imperial College Road a public highway and let them stick parking meters along it. Do that and it'll be sorted by tea time. Of Ian Caldwell, who is still not 'worried about this latest setback', I am in awe. What would worry this man? Imperial is very lucky to have such a cool, level-headed man working for us. If I had his job, I would be on tranquillisers by now. And then there is Schal Project Management. Less charitable souls than myself will begin to wonder if this is a contradiction in terms. Somebody somewhere must be very uncomfortable.

**"Michael Jackson moaning about injured children: the best case of the pot calling the kettle black (or should that be white?) I have ever seen."**

## book - rebel hearts

babe magnet

This book examines the Northern Ireland troubles and the thinking behind the IRA. Kevin Toolis is a journalist who has researched his subject over many years, gaining the confidence of the upper echelons of the IRA, speaking to its leader and an IRA informer, amongst others. The contacts have enabled Toolis to produce a perceptive and fascinating work.

He starts by outlining the republican background from which the IRA grew, and then works deeper and deeper into the structure of the organisation. We see the disdain for the Protestants who "get all the jobs" and the huge hate for the RUC and British crown "oppressors". It is felt (and is probably true) that the "occupying" British Army have cold-bloodedly murdered suspected enemies - "They try to use the civilian population as shields...You do not have to be a Republican or even a Nationalist to be murdered. There is no such thing as impar

tiality of law and order in this area."

The most revealing and chilling parts of this book come when Toolis is interviewing the IRA leaders: within their own little world, they seem perfectly rational. However, their world is so isolated that to most others their actions seem anathema. Toolis is also allowed to hear the last taped confession of an IRA informer, recorded minutes before he was killed. After a while Toolis admits that the thousands of deaths inflicted become a blur - no one person is remembered and it feels as if they died for nothing.

Toolis writes an incredibly revealing account which flows surprisingly well and is an excellent read. He has explored the subject in such depth and has such contacts that this could well be described as an authoritative masterwork. If you always wondered what the IRA were about, this book is superbly enlightening. With the recent collapse of the ceasefire and the IRA back in the news, it is more relevant than ever.

rebel hearts (journeys within the IRA's soul)

by kevin toolis

out now in picador paperback, price £6.99

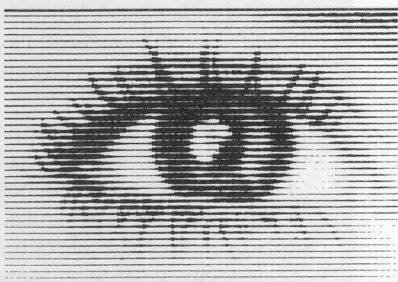
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X



Russian crystal technology has been used in a joint research effort at Imperial College to develop an ingenious laser with eye surgery potential. James Porteous reports on some focused work in the Blackett Laboratory.

≥inSci<sup>g</sup>ht<sup>o</sup>



# Crystal Laser Vision

It is often the case in science that researchers inadvertently 'discover' important new ideas and techniques while searching for the answers to questions about something entirely different. In fact, we owe much of the growth and diversification of technology to such accidental revelations. A case in point is an on-going collaboration between Russian and Imperial College scientists. While looking at the properties of new semi-conducting materials they realised that a unique Russian crystal and a sliver of semi-conductor can be used to build an unusually cheap and compact laser with the potential to be used in corrective eye surgery.

The focus of the excitement is an extremely pure garnet crystal, grown meticulously in a laboratory at the General Physics Institute in Moscow and brought to London to be harnessed to the equipment of the Solid State Experimental Research Group at Imperial College. Made up of the elements erbium and chromium, the crystal is special because it absorbs and emits near infra red light at the unique wavelength of about 2.98 microns. Using the crystal as a light 'generator', the combined team developed a laser to test the light emitting properties of semi-conducting material at Imperial College. The happy spin-off from their research was the realisation that they had engineered a laser which, with its particular wavelength and short, accurate pulses, would be ideal for use in delicate eye surgery.

At nearly three microns, the laser's near infra red wavelength corresponds to the peak in water's light absorption spectrum. Because human tissue is mostly water, it means the laser does not penetrate deeply into tissue, but is instead absorbed almost immediately at a very thin depth.

"It's quite amazing to watch" said Dr. Chris Phillips of the Department of Physics at Imperial College. "If you put your hand in front of the laser, it will burn a tiny hole in your hand, but you can't actually feel that hole because the penetration depth is about five microns and the nerves in

your hand are deeper than that. You can effectively tattoo your hand and not feel a thing. Consequently healing occurs in just a couple of days." In eye surgery, where precision and minimal damage are imperative, this new Russian crystal laser has ideal properties and very exciting potential.

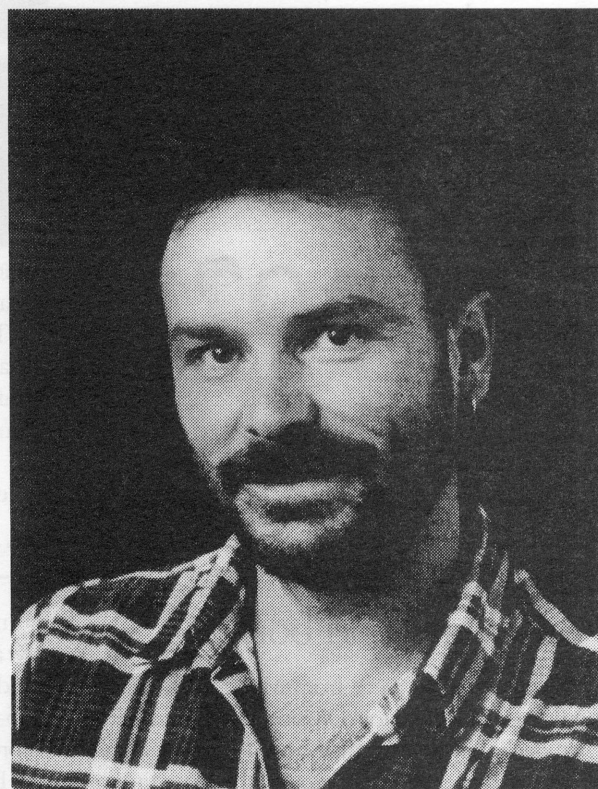
Although laser technology is now widely applied in eye surgery, the crystal laser has some special bonuses that should make both technology companies and ophthalmologists itchy with expectation. An ultra violet laser has already been developed in the U.S. for an eye surgery technique called photo-refractive keratectomy, or PRK, which treats mild degrees of nearsightedness by shaving microscopic layers off the cornea to change its shape and, therefore, alter the focal point of light on the retina.

The PRK technique removes thin layers of the cornea by disrupting the chemical bonds between tissue molecules, but the new crystal laser can potentially do the same job, better. With its very short (80 million-millionths of a second) and very intense

(10 million watts) pulses of light, the laser can remove tissue just a few microns thick without affecting the chemical structure of surrounding tissue or damaging nerves. The real magic of the crystal laser light is its unusually shallow penetration of the eye compared to other ultra violet and infra red lasers which require local anaesthesia. There is a possibility that surgery with this new 'shallow' laser may not even need anaesthetic help, but aside from that potential innovation, the laser's special characteristics mean it

could be easily employed in eye surgery other than for corneal shaping.

But where does the sliver of semi-conductor come into the story? Answer: as an extra piece of clever innovation which not only gives the new laser its impressive pulses, but which could actually revolutionise how lasers are engi-

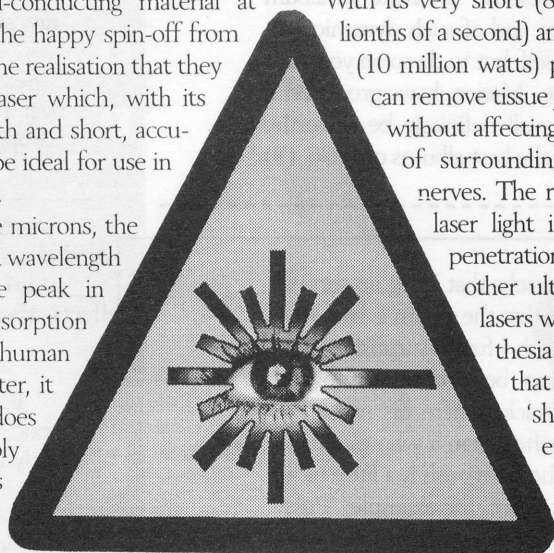


Chris Phillips (above) and Kostya Vodopyanov are part of the Solid State Experimental Research Group in the Blackett Laboratory, Department of Physics.

neered. The Russian and Imperial College research team developing the laser technology have patented the use of a semi-conductor 'wafer', just a few atoms thick, which is a substitute for the expensive and bulky electronic equipment currently used to pulse laser beams.

The wafer which is made from indium and arsenic, and grown atom by atom at Imperial College, acts as a kind of light 'valve' or shutter, by only emitting light of a certain wavelength. As light of increasing intensity is shone through the crystal and onto the wafer, it suddenly becomes transparent and emits light for just 80 million-millionths of a second before 'shutting' again, creating a pulse of intense, near infra red light. Trains of these pulses make up the beam which is then amplified by mirrors to laser intensity.

According to Dr. Chris Phillips the crystal and semi-conductor wafer combination is beautifully simple conceptually and very efficient in practice. It means a potential end to very expensive "garage-sized" lasers, and because it is all solid state material rather than gas or liquid technology, consistency and reliability are built in.



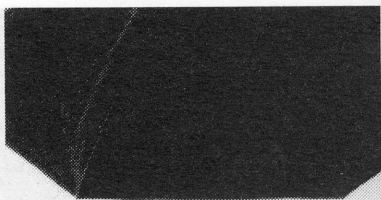


## album: various - trainspotting<sup>mr. trout</sup>

Much has already been written on the subject of Danny Boyle's controversial celluloid adaptation of Irvine Welsh's highly lauded 'Trainspotting'. Likewise, the accompanying soundtrack has attracted no small amount of media attention, having perhaps been more auspiciously advertised than its parent film.

Unsurprisingly, the heavily-hyped Britpop presence on the album supplies the slightly weaker tracks, whereas Lou Reed's 'Perfect Day' and a couple of recent Iggy Pop songs provide the emotional meat.

Where 'Trainspotting' really scores though, is not with the class of the individual tracks, but with the synergy that acts between



each of the very different styles to create the film's unmatched atmosphere; that of dreamers amongst the urban decay, holding to Oscar Wilde's idea of lying in the gutter to stare at the stars. This soundtrack accomplishes that with



ample to spare, allowing us to enjoy some of the best of British music, with exclusive tunes from the likes of Pulp, Blur, Sleeper, Leftfield and Primal Scream (read the posters).

'Trainspotting' takes the unique atmosphere of a superb movie and some diverse and brilliantly creative music along for the ride. Great film, top sounds. (9)

left: New Order, right: Elastica

## album: marion - this world and body<sup>jason</sup>

Marion are a five piece from Macclesfield whose influences include Joy Division and The Smiths although they do have their own distinctive sound. They started their career around the same time as the current Britpop scene began taking shape, but by good fortune or not, they have managed to stay detached from it.

The album begins with the thunderous 'Fallen Through' and continues in this fashion until the glorious and uplifting 'Wait'. The album includes the singles 'Toys For Boys', 'Let's All Go Together', the most recent one, 'Time', and 'Sleep', which

you may have heard on a certain car advert. The slow and impressive 'Your Body Lies' stands like an island amidst a sea of fast and headstrong songs on a 45-minute album which races by and is over before you know it.

For such a young band, Marion show a great deal of maturity in their songwriting but unfortunately they are considerably under-rated and don't get the credit they deserve. To create an album with so much passion and of such dynamic proportions is a feat in itself, but to do so on your first attempt is incredible. Marion have produced a debut album which will definitely be a worthy contender for one of the best albums of 1996. (9)

## album: iggy pop - naughty little doggie<sup>max</sup>

Iggy Pop is a man who, like Keith Richards, has defied medical science by staying alive long past his sell-by date. Let's face it; he doesn't look well, and if the legendary drug taking and self-mutilation are anything to go by, that's not very surprising. And yet at 49 years of age, the now peroxide blonde ex-Stooges frontman is still going strong with this, his first release in three years.

Despite the fact that he has apparently cleaned up his act in the last few years (no more stage-diving on to tables covered in glass objects, just the occasional altercation with items of musical equipment), this is not reflected in his music. What we have here then is your regular rock out-ing with plenty of guitar-wrecking and potentially

ear-drum destroying tracks that bring no surprises. This doesn't mean that the album is bad. It is, in fact, very good, which I found surprising given all the hype that has been attached to the 'Trainspotting' soundtrack, where his name has been dropped more often than a whore's knickers. Still, sometimes he does push it a little bit in the lyric department. Take, for example, 'Pussy Walk' (yes, you've guessed it - it's not about cats) with its references to school girls and the repetition of the word 'pussy' *ad nauseum*. It's not shocking, just irritating.

Despite this quibble, this album would appeal to those who already like Iggy's music, and to anyone who wants to listen to a good rock album produced by a consummate professional living in a world of excess. (7)

## singles:<sup>patil and max</sup>

**supergrass** - going out  
Very 'Fab Four' - much more so than last year's 'I Should Coco' - but still excellent. Pity about the sideburns though.

**papa brittle** - stress killer on the loose  
Dub War after a lesson in politics from Chumbawamba - but just the right side of the tedious crusty whingers/angry, disenchanted youth divide.

**super furry animals** - home-town unicorn  
Run-of-the-mill indie pop. About as exciting as a 20 minute knitting lesson.

**afghan whigs** - honky's ladder  
Buy it - it's the first really good guitar song of the year. Oh, and there's a cracking cover of TLC's 'Creep' on the b-side.

**magnapop** - fire all your guns at once e.p.  
'Come On Inside' is nice, jangly girlie grunge. The rest, unfortunately, is rubbish.

**lush** - ladykiller  
Opening line: 'Here we go, hanging out in Camden on a Saturday night.' It's a really nice tune but they're better off sticking to the dreamy guitar pop they do best rather than joining the Britpop bandwagon.

**raw stylus** - pushing against the flow  
Sexy, soulful femal vocals over a trippy, acid jazz backdrop. Definitely for all you Galliano fans.

**stereolab** - cybele's reverie  
A fabulous concoction of strings, weird harmonies and sound effects. The best single I've heard for ages.

**livingstone** - call around  
Loud, punky, and to be perfectly honest, not very good.

**ruth** - fear of flying  
Good, but not great indie pop.

**food** - octopus magazine  
They are trying desperately to be The Beatles but failing miserably.



## singles: max and ian

**paul weller** - out of the sinking  
The latest release from 'Stanley Road'. Excellent, as you might expect.

**melissa etheridge** - i want to come over  
Taken from her latest album, 'Your Little Secret', this is quality American rock.

**dr. robert** - the coming of grace  
In this folk/country-like tune, (a currently fashionable style), Robert succeeds in bringing out a tune that will stay in your head.

**honeycrack** - go away  
Happy, sing-along tune with layered vocals and guitar riffs that are a tad heavier than the Britpop variety.

**melanie garside** - big white room  
She has a nice voice but what you get here is a couple of tunes that will pass by unnoticed.

**hum** - stars  
A brilliant single. The heavy guitar riffs seem to clash with the singer's slow, quiet vocals but it ends up creating an atmosphere that few songs achieve.

**the wannadies** - how does it feel?  
This single has the band's trademark happy tune with a nice chorus. However, it lacks the exuberance of their other songs (like 'Might Be Stars') and will probably not make much of an impact.

**pig pretty** - heave  
A single that is all brawn and no brains and sounds like a dozen other tunes that are unlikely to change your life or the posters on the wall.

**terrorvision** - perseverance  
This is already huge hit and I suppose it's not surprising considering that everything that we love about Terrorvision is here - chunky guitar riffs and a tune that you hum along to without singing because you'll end up rapping.

## album: **sepultura** - roots vik

I must confess that there was a time when I had no time for Brazilian thrashers, Sepultura. To me they were merely Slayer-wannabes with a fine line in crass, bordering-on-the-Satanic lyrics. 1993's million-plus selling album, 'Chaos A.D.', however, was much more promising, particularly the likes of 'Refuse/Resist' which moved away from the speed and the stupidity and into mid-paced, controlled power. Now, with their sixth album, Sepultura have produced a work of stunning cohesion and breathtaking brutality.

Quite simply, 'Roots' is heavier than an elephant with a weight problem and is consequently not for the migraine-afflicted. Opener and top 20 single, 'Roots Bloody Roots', speaks for the whole album with its snarling, rabid guitars, 'pour some hot whisky down my larynx and then rub it with sandpaper' vocals, and Latin American tribal drumming. The latter musical element is a conscious decision on the band's part as they have sought to capture some of the ethos of their homeland amidst their modern, metallic fury (hence the album title). Luckily for them, and for

us, it has worked a treat.

'Ratamahatta' is a glorious rush that sees Sepultura vocalist, Max Cavalera, and Brazilian percussionist, Carlinhos Brown, exchanging furious Portuguese lyrics. If you can resist jumping up and down to the manic percussion and razor-sharp guitars then you're... well, probably just a less excitable and more sensible person than I am.

Going back to their roots doesn't just mean bludgeoning us though. 'Itsari' is an acoustic number that was recorded with the Xavante tribe in the Amazon jungle. It is certainly more than a mere curio and serves as an atmospheric breather that builds from a delicate intro to an intense yet sensitive finale. In many ways, the claustrophobia that the track invokes makes this song 'heavier' than all of the other, considerably louder, songs on the album.

Sepultura have successfully come up with a sixth album that sounds as fresh as if it were their first, and that incorporates their cultural heritage in a natural and plain angry sound. As far as I'm concerned, this is the only jungle music worth bothering with... (8)

## album: **st. germain** - boulevard k.s. pulaski

The man behind St. Germain, Ludovic Navarre, is a reclusive French misanthrope who doesn't believe in setting himself easy tasks - to wit, fusing deep house beats with late-night, jazzy atmospherics. This seemingly perverse notion should be doomed to failure since jazz and house are pretty much polar music styles - one relies on musical freedom and improvisation, where mistakes are integrated into the whole, while the other uses rigid beats and synthesised sounds to create a surface perfection. That it isn't a failure is a testament to Navarre's unique talent.

'Deep In It' opens in style, a glorious, laid-back groove overlaid with all the basic jazz vibes, soulful piano, the works. 'Thank U Mum (4 Everything You Did)', despite the appalling title, is even better - a deep bass-line, shimmering backing and mysterious vocals combining to produce the warmest sound imaginable. Mummy must be proud.

It's not all wine and roses, though. 'Street Love' falls into the old jazz trap of being, well, boring, while 'Dub Experience II' is nothing more than a pleasant bit of light dub-reggae, which is as out of place as you'd imagine.

Minor irritations aside though, this is a unique, soulful and very cool album. (8)

## gig: **echobelly** lucas

To expectant applause, Echobelly bound onto stage and go straight for the tunes. There's no signs of any arrogant posturing or gigantic egos here.

What hits you first and foremost is the music. But, like the advert for Granary, if you're male and heterosexual you cannot fail to miss the protagonist of the proceedings. In this case it's Sonya Aurora Madan. Her subtly effusive sexuality expresses itself in some of the kindest and quirkiest moves. And though she is naturally understated, paradoxically the sheer energy and exuberance of the music comes through her as if she was the vessel for it's oh-so-slightly screwed-up melodies.

Madan has an angelic voice, but unlike that of a choirboy, there is a certain *knowing* there, which she is totally un-self-conscious of. And, like a shooting star in a starry sky, she stands out.

It was a storming gig. What more can I say?





## play: 1953 claire samuel

It's not a new story: Craig Raine has updated Racine's *Andromaque*, which in turn was adapted from *Andromache* by Euripides. However this version is set in a world in which England surrendered the second World War. Hitler is still alive and Mussolini's son is King of Italy.

The sumptuous Art Deco palace of the Italian King is the setting for this tragedy. One of Vittorio Mussolini's spoils of the war is Annette LeSkye, the Jewish English Queen, whom he has installed in the palace, but with her young son also present placed under lock and key. Hitler's envoy, Orestes, arrives in Rome to retrieve the boy for the Führer, but Orestes is in love with the German Princess Ira who loves Vittorio. Vittorio is betrothed to Ira for the good of the Axis Powers, but he's really in love with LeSkye.

Emma Fielding is distinguished as the manipulative and spoilt Princess Ira and Jason Isaacs' boxing and pool playing Vittorio is played with an aggression which would make him feel at home in the East End gangland.

The play is not quite as gripping as it could



be, this is not a fault of the director, Patrick Marber (writer of *Dealers Choice*, and collaborator with Steve Coogan) or the writer, who introduced some very interesting metaphors in the modern English verse, but of Racine's original. Over one half of the play is used in setting the background whereas the tragic ending is almost brushed over. One possibility could be to play without an interval so keeping the dramatic continuity. Otherwise this is a finely cast play with an interesting interpretation of how the second half of the twentieth century may have evolved.



## play - les enfants du paradis claire samuel

There has been much criticism of Simon Callow's adaptation of the classic French film, *Les Enfants du Paradis*, managing to create a four hour stage production from a three hour movie. Having not seen the original, which has been voted the best French film ever made, by the French Film Academy, I can not comment on whether the spirit of the film has been captured on the stage but only on the play itself.

This is a complex love story, definitely not a boy meets girl, all in love, live happily ever after scenario, but considers the many forms which love can take and means of acquiring it. The narrative is centred around Garance, the beautiful young actress and the theatre where she, the ebullient actor Frederick Lemaître and the mime artist Baptiste work, and how their lives are intertwined with that of an assassin Lacenaire.

The difficulties on transposing a film to the stage have been mostly overcome by a giant

revolving stage as the central theatre, which unfortunately did tend to squeak and rattle a bit, and with the atmospheric music and lighting, provided a dark backdrop of early nineteenth century Paris.

The initial scene setting was a bit slow, but the play soon came to life with the confrontation between the innocent Baptiste and evil Lacenaire over possession of Garance. Rupert Graves is not quite the great Pierrot he is meant to portray but admirably acquits himself in the theatre mime shows that interspersed the play, their own theme complementing the plot. Including, in the only spoken play-within-play, a memorable performance of how not to perform Othello. The dark, subversive Lacenaire, played superbly by Joseph Fiennes (Ralph's younger brother) with aristocratic poise in a long black flock coat and top hat is the star player, but beware of walking canes. Although this is not a truly great production, it still remains a beautiful story, so do not be deterred by its length, and it definitely does not deserve all the slating it has received in the press.

## on stage: this week

1  
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**almeida** 0171 359 4404  
angel/highbury & islington  
tubes, N1  
1953  
8pm mon-sat, 4pm sat  
from £6.50

**rsc barbican** 0171 638 8991  
moorgate/barbican tube,  
EC2  
les enfants du paradis  
7.15pm, 2pm thurs & sat  
concs from £6 on day

**wyndhams theatre** 0171 369  
1736 charing cross road, WC2  
skylight  
mon - sat 8pm, £9.50-£25

**royal court** 0171 730 2554 sloane  
square, SW1  
valley song  
mon - sun 7.30pm, £5-£18

**apollo shaftesbury** 0171 494 5070  
shaftesbury avenue, W1  
dead guilty  
mon - fri 8pm, sat 5pm and  
8.15pm, £8 - £22

**duke of york's** 0171 836 5122 st  
martins lane, WC2  
the changing room  
mon - sat 7.30pm £5-£15

**drury lane theatre royal** 0171 494  
5062 covent garden tube  
miss saigon  
mon - sat 7.45pm £5.75-£30

**haymarket theatre royal**  
0171 930 8800 piccadilly  
circus tube  
an ideal husband  
mon - sat 7.45pm £10-£24,  
standby for concs £10.50

**phoenix theatre** 0171 369  
1733 leicester sq tube  
blood brothers  
mon-sat 7.45pm £8.50-£26  
standby for concs £12.50

**old vic** 0171 928 7616  
waterloo tube, SE1  
the wind in the willows  
7.30pm mon-sat, 2.30pm  
wed & sat  
from £10, concs £12 an hour  
before performance

xiv



## celluloid guide: this week

odeon kensington  
0426 914666

sense and sensibility

12.15, 3.15, 6.15, 9.15  
seven 6.30, 9.25

jumanji 1.50, 4.25, 7, 9.35

casino to sat 12.20, 4.05, 7.50  
from sun 1.05, 4.50 8.35

french twist

1.55, 4.30, 7.05, 9.40

othello 1, 3.50, 6.40, 9.30

tube; ken high street. £7, £6,  
£3.50 before 5pm mon-fri,  
£4 before 5pm sat-sun

mgm fulham road

0171 370 2636

trainspotting

1.20, 3.40, 7.10, 9.30

casino 1.20, 5, 8.40

heat 1.10, 4.40, 8.20

jumanji 1.30, 4, 6.40, 9.10

babe 12.40, 2.50, 5

leaving las vegas 7.10, 9.40

tube; south ken then bus

£6.80, £3.70 students and  
before 6pm

mgm chelsea

0171 325 5096

french twist

1.30, 4.05, 6.40, 9.25

jumanji 1.45, 4.10, 6.55, 9.30

when saturday comes

1.40, 4.20, 7, 9.30

sat-sun 4.45, 7, 9.30

seven 6.20, 9.15,

tube; sloane square then bus

£6.20, £3.70 students and  
before 6pm

renoir

0171 837 8402

rendez-vous in paris

2.15, 4.25, 6.40, 8.55

ulysses' gaze 12.35, 4, 7.35

tube; russell square

£6, £4 1st perf, £2.50 stu-  
dents

minima

0171 369 1723

rendez-vous in paris 3, 5, 7, 9

don't tube; you can walk it

£6.50, £4 matinees

empire

0171 437 1234

casino 12.30, 4.15, 8

seven 12.45, 3.25, 6, 8.45

sabrina 12.45, 3.25, 6.05, 8.45

tube; leicester square or

piccadilly circus

£7.50, £9, £4 1st perf mon-  
fri

## film: strange days<sub>kt</sub>

It's December 30th 1999 - the end of the millennium is near and, "everything's already been done, every Government, every hairstyle, every flavour of bubblegum and cereal. How are we gonna make it for another thousand years, for Chrissake?"

Ralph Fiennes plays Lenny Nero, an ex-cop and dealer in SQUIDS - Superconducting Quantum Interface Devices - playback versions of people's experiences. These are held on digital disc, and when played back allow the user not only to see and hear, but also to *feel* every single event. Whatever you want - sex, violence or thrills - Lenny will get it for you. Anything, that is, except 'blackjacks' - the SQUID equivalent of snuff movies, which become the illegal drug of choice for many.

Set in Los Angeles, where the streets are even now rife with gang warfare and police checkpoints, the film paints a bleak picture of a future which could be reality in only three years' time. The execution-style murder of Jeriko One (Glenn Plummer), a rap star and race rights activist, pushes the tension on the streets to an all-time high. Through a series of anonymous playback clips showing the murder of Jeriko One and a friend of his, Lenny becomes inextricably

involved in a chain of events which threaten his own life, but far more important to Lenny is the possible danger to Faith (Juliette Lewis), a former girlfriend. Lenny is still in love with Faith, now a successful singer (Lewis does a pretty good job of covering PJ Harvey's 'Rid Of Me' and 'Hardly Wait'), but Faith no longer has any feelings for him. She has moved on with her life, leaving him with only a bottle of vodka and a shoebox full of playback clips of their time together. It is up to Lenny, with the help of Mace (Angela Bassett), to solve the connection between the two murders while keeping their lives intact.

*Strange Days* portrays a dark, often shocking vision of civilisation at the end of the millennium. A soundtrack which contains Deep Forest, Skunk Anansie, Tricky and plenty of rap enhances the feelings of extreme unrest on the streets.

Directed by Kathryn Bigelow (*Point Break* and *Blue Steel*) and written by James Cameron (*The Terminator*, *Aliens* and *True Lies*), this film contains some exhilarating action scenes and stunts, some unexpected twists in the storyline and excellent acting by Fiennes, Bassett and Lewis. This film is many things, but dull and tedious it isn't. Go and see it and it may be the best film you see all year.

calm down kt  
it's only Ralph



## film: johnny mnemonic

the flowerpot men

In the bar afterwards.....

Bill: Well that was a big disappointment.

Ben: You mean it was over ambitious, had too many elements, and Gibson used every SF idea he had ever had.

Bill: Hmmmm. Incorrect ones at that - the short story was far superior. None of this 'overload' trash or 'seepage' or false brain 'imagery'.

Ben: Nothing wrong with the imagery! The point was the human brain can't remember arbitrary data - it needs something to relate to. That 'Super Stor' memory doubler was the biggest load of crap though - for exactly that reason.

Bill: Care of Microsoft! Ok - let's stop being pseudo-technical here. How about the acting, or

lack thereof?

Ben: I thought Henry Rollins and Ice-T were good, better than the usual singer-turned-actor attempts.

Bill: Ok - but what about the main crowd (ok girl) puller - K Reeves himself. Without a childhood - without a backbone if you ask me.

Ben: Pretty atrocious.

Anonymous girl at bar: Keanu Reeves - what a hunk!

Bill: See?

Ben: I liked the height of his monologue - "I want room service!"

Bill: Sure! Right - to round off. Do we generally recommend this, or do we say go and watch 'One Man and His Dog' on TV instead?

Ben: I like that show!



# Mr Fogg

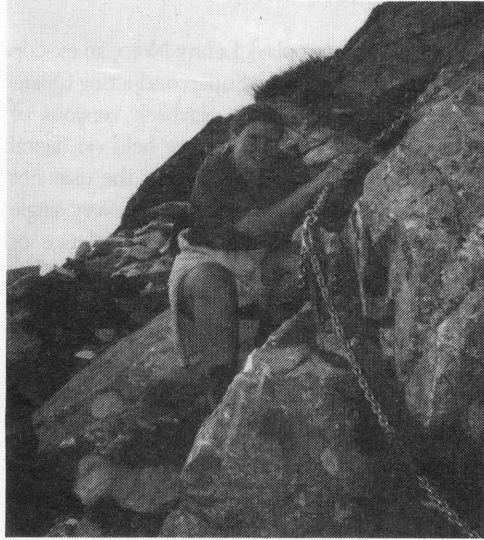
## gets deported from Lithuania

With a fair quantity of alcohol inside us both a two month "adventure" during the summer seemed like a fantastic idea. Meet new people, see new sights, sample foreign culture and cuisine, be threatened with deportation, get driven round Hungary by an Austrian art smuggler, and discover you suffer from vertigo halfway up the highest mountain in Poland. Travel. It broadens the mind. It also makes you smell.

We decided on Eastern Europe largely because it was cheap (where else can you get top quality wine for 7p a glass served by the man who made it, or "THE-BEST-ICE-CREAM-IN-THE-WORLD" for 8p a scoop? ). It's also close to home. Close, but still far enough away to require a 24 hour coach journey: the coach journey from hell. Our coach proclaimed itself to be the property of the Czech National Hockey team, but it apparently also moonlights as the National Express service from Victoria to Prague. Judging by the rather fetching upholstered chairs, I suspect the Czechs play in purple, and that the average player is around 3ft 6in in order to be seated comfortably in the "luxurious reclining seats". It was only an extra 20 quid to fly, but we were on a budget.

The plan was to work our way up through Poland and the Baltic States, then head back down to Hungary, up to Slovakia before making our way back to Prague. We saw a lot in those two months. Much of what was formerly Soviet Block is still relatively untouched by capitalism and stereotypes of grim, industrial landscapes are complimented by unspoilt towns and villages where people seem genuinely intrigued by western visitors. "You just want to look around the country and then go home?" asked one bemused Ukrainian we met on a train.

Some events stick out in the mind more than others. Refusal to pay a bill in a Lithuanian restaurant which tried to charge us 100 Lits (a third of a months wages for a Lithuanian - enough to buy 50kg of bananas. Lithuanians are obsessed by bananas) for a salad we hadn't even



ordered resulted in armed members of the local constabulary informing us that if we didn't pay up immediately we would be deported that evening. That was in the first week.

Memories of the three days spent in the Polish Tartras will be with me for ever. I really should have taken a change of T-shirt. After 72 hours in the same clothes, day and night (we didn't realise that half of Poland's youth come to the Tartras every year and the chances of a bed or shower are non existent) things were a tad unpleasant. My companion's discovery, made at several thousand feet above sea-level, that she has a disabling fear of heights was an interesting addition to the "experience", but the sheer beauty of the landscape, the fresh air, and the satisfaction of looking back and saying "I did it" more than compensated.

Then there were the people: we met an Austrian in a pizza restaurant who offered to take us to our next destination. He later confessed he smuggled rare postcards to sell back home for an outrageous profit, producing a holdall stuffed full of forged dollar bills. Then there was the elderly Lithuanian lady who stopped to tell us, in sign language, about the night the Soviet troops stormed the parliament at the start of the revolution. As we examined the remains of the baracades the citizens of Vilnius had erected, it emerged that she had been there. And I mustn't forget the restaurateur who spoke dodgy English and in translating the menu offered us "bollocks" and "breasts". Quite.

Two months were spent in fairly random wandering through the unknown, not knowing where we were going to sleep, unsure of what exactly we were eating, being confused by the rantings of ticket collectors, customs officers and armed policemen, and loving every minute of it.

Graham Trevitt

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xvi





# friday

## 1

### march

#### Amateur Radio Society (HamSoc)

1pm. Meeting in the shack. Top floor of union building. (R)

#### Rag Meeting

1.10pm Ents Lounge. (R)

#### Pakistan Society

3 - 5pm. Basketball, union gym. Contact Kashif, Aero II, k.ahmed@ae.ic.ac.uk. (R)

#### Wing Chun Kung Fu

5-7pm. Union Gym, 2nd Floor ICU. Beginners welcome. 1st lesson free. (R)

#### Fitness Club

5.30pm. Advanced Step. Southside. (R)

#### Ents

Battling on regardless, ICU Ents is still here with the penultimate Bust-A-Gut Comedy Club (*see below*). This week's acts are Dave Gorman, "This year's one to watch" according to the Guardian, and a stalwart of Saturday Zoo and the Mrs Merton Show. Support comes from Rainer Hersch and Lucy Porter plus the Open Mic slot. Four acts can be yours for just £2.50 or £2 with Entscards.

Although the bars are only open until midnight, the Pop Tarts will be doing their fabulous pop thing until 2am, and there's the return of the chill out room and Cocktail Bar, Free before 9pm, £1 after.

#### Free minibus service

Taking lone female students home from the union to anywhere in central London. First run midnight, last run 2am. See Beit Security for times. (R)

## friday

## Bust-a-gut

*Below:* Lucy Porter. 22 years old and 5 feet 6 inches tall, she's only been on the stand-up circuit for nine months, so is a babe in more ways than one.

*Right:* Dave Gorman. He already got a plug.



# saturday

## 2

### march

#### Gliding Club

Gliding at Lasham Airfield. For more information contact gliding@ic.ac.uk. Come to Thursday meeting first. (R)

#### Ents

5 Nations Rugby - the biggest match of the season, Scotland v England, live on DaVinci's BIG screen. Bar open from 1pm.

## saturday

## Boardsailing

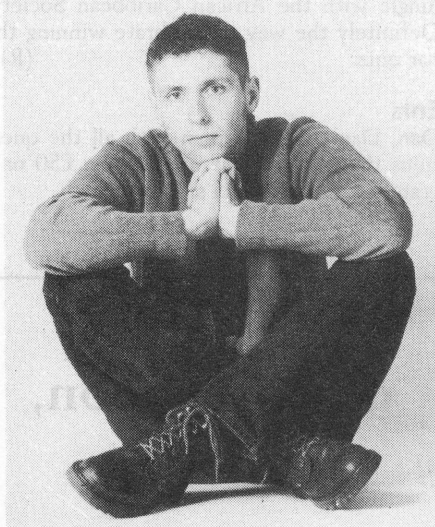
#### Trip to Anglesey.

Everybody turned up to pack the bus with some trepidation, as we'd taken the time to get a reliable weather forecast for the weekend: a low pressure system that brought with it a force 11 gale warning in our area. This meant serious wind, so did we have sails small enough for everyone?

After arriving at our rented house on the beach, we ran across the sand dunes to the nearest pub to meet up with Nottingham University's windsurfing club. The Nottingham lot had arrived on Thursday night and had already had a chance to size up the conditions. Our hearts sank as we heard stories of the nearby lake being frozen. Thankfully the warm front that came in overnight quickly sorted out that problem, and Saturday saw most of the club drag racing each other on the lake in near-perfect 5m<sup>2</sup> sail weather.

Mention must be made of the poor guy from Nottingham who ripped the fin box out of his board on rocks, and similar credit goes to Richard T for his impressive catapult fall, brought on by snagging his fin on the buoy line. Another noteworthy kit trash was Stew from Nottingham's, who snapped his mast as he blasted through an enormous gust of wind.

One of our top sailors did attempt the Irish Sea waves but was viciously munched by a 4.5m swell (above mast height). He was soon washed up absolutely knackered and



# sunday

## 3

### march

#### Gliding Club

Gliding at Lasham Airfield. (R)

#### Wargames

1pm. Table Tennis room. (R)

#### Fitness Club

2pm. Southside gym. Intermediate aerobics. (R)

## sunday

hardly able to carry his board and rig up the beach, but a few chocolate bars restored just enough energy to pack up and head back for a well-earned shower. Thoroughly knackered after a full day's sailing, we met up in the pub for a few swift pints, then it was off to the nearest curry house (a mere 10 miles away) for a slap-up dinner.

The winds were less ferocious on Sunday morning, allowing a few sailors to try out the waves in the bay, but this was cut short by the dying wind and a slight accident with a mast. All in all, the weekend provided testing conditions but was a great learning experience for everyone. Thanks must go to Rob, who drove a fair portion of the way home.

The club has some racing events organised for the future and would like to get in contact with people who can race a long and short board in the top division (those who have sound water starting abilities and can hold down big sails). There are also places in the intermediate classes, so if you fancy having a go at racing then come along to a meeting in the Southside upper lounge every Tuesday between 1-1.45pm.

A reminder to all club members - we only sail on Wednesdays up to the end of this term, but the reservoir is currently closed due to terrorist activities so if you want to go you'd better turn up on Tuesday to see if the trips are back on. There'll also be useful details about forth coming weekend trips and social events like the elections and the end-of-year dinners.

# the week ahead



# monday

## 4

### march

#### Student Industrial Society

12 - 2pm. Table Tennis room, Union building. (R)

#### Fitness Club

12.30pm. Beginners body toning (45 mins)  
5.30pm. Beginners aerobics  
6.30pm. Intermediate aerobics.  
Southside Gym. (R)

#### Jewish Society

No meeting this week. Sorry about the confusion over last Monday. Felix's fault. Oops.

#### Ski Club

5 - 5.45pm. Southside Upper Lounge. (R)

#### ArtSoc

12.30 - 1.30pm. Brown Committee Room. Come and sign up for our many trips to Musicals. Note the location change - look out for directions. (R)

#### Concert Band

5.15pm. Great Hall. Any ability. (R)

#### Cross Country

5.00pm. Circuit training. Union gym. (R)

#### IC 2nd Orchestra

7 - 9pm. Great Hall. All welcome. (R)

#### Methsoc

6pm, Princes Gardens Ecumenical Group. Chaplaincy Office, Northside. (R)

#### Ents

A special comedy treat - come and be part of a live recording of Radio 4's "First Impressions", featuring the talents of Alistair McGowan, Spitting Image's Steve Nallon, and Pete McCarthy. The best thing is that it's totally FREE, but tickets are limited so get yours first from the Union foyer between 10am - 4pm on Friday and Monday. Show starts 7.30 in the Concert Hall.

m o n d a y

# tuesday

## 5

### march

#### Cathsoc

12.00 pm. Bagritt Centre, Mech Eng. (R)

#### Yacht Club

12.30pm. Lecture Theatre 2, Physics. (R)

#### African Caribbean Soc

12.30 - 1.30pm. Room G02, Materials dept, RSM. All welcome. (R)

#### IC Sailing Club

12.45 - 1.45pm. Southside Lounge. (R)

#### AudioSoc

1.00pm. Southside Lounge. Want to buy cheap CDs? Interested in borrowing high-end Hi-Fi? We have it all! (R)

#### Photo Soc

1.00pm. Southside Lounge. (R)

#### Circus Skills

5 - 8pm. Ents Lounge. sdh@ee.ic.ac.uk (R)

#### Fitness Club

5.30pm. Advanced aerobics. (R)

#### IC Bridge Club

6pm in the Clubs Committee Room. (R)

#### icsf

7pm in STOIC Studios.  
<http://www.ph.ic.ac.uk/moontg/> (R)

#### IQ

7.30pm. Brown Committee Room.  
Further Info: pink-help@doc.ic.ac.uk or  
<http://pink.doc.ic.ac.uk/IC/> (R)

#### Canoe Club

7pm. Beit Quad. All levels welcome, and free instruction. (R)

#### ICCAG

8.15pm. Weeks Hall basement. Soup run for the homeless. (R)

#### After Dark

8 - 11.30pm in the Ents Lounge. Admission is only £1 for a night of swing, hip-hop and jungle with the African Caribbean Society. Definitely the way to celebrate winning the bar quiz. (R)

#### Ents

Dan, Dan the trivia man with all the questions that matter. Bar Trivia. Win £50 or a crate of beer. DaVinci's. 8pm

t u e s d a y

next diary

deadline: noon,

March 4th

# wednesday

## 6

### march

#### IC Sailing Club

12.15pm. Meet outside Southside, go sailing. (R)

#### Skate Society

12.15pm. Southside Lounge. Contact Alex a.cinelli@ic.ac.uk, 0171 352 9111 for details. (R)

#### Wargames

1pm Table Tennis room. (R)

#### Fitness Club

5 - 6pm. Southside Gym. Intermediate/Advanced step class. (R)

#### Squash Club

3.20 - 5.20pm. Sports centre. 'Club Night' (R)

#### IC Symphony Orchestra

7 - 10pm. Great Hall. (R)

#### Wing Chun Kung Fu

1.30 - 3.30pm. Lesson. Union Gym, 2nd Floor Union Building. Beginners welcome. 1st lesson free. (R)

#### ConSoc

Speak to Ministers at the Parliamentary Meeting. E-mail consoc@ic.ac.uk

#### Ents

Fun and Froliks! Go wild in the week, with Frolik! 8pm - 1am. (Midnight bar)

w e d n e s d a y

## Islamic Society

Imperial College Sisters Section present:

#### Eid Extravaganza

A celebration of unity from diversity.

*"O Mankind! We have created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that ye may know one another."*

(49: 13)

- One Ummah
- One World
- One goal

In the Great Hall, Imperial College, Saturday 2nd March, 2-6 pm. Nearest tube South Kensington. Sisters only.

#### Featuring:

- Speakers
- International clothes show
- Multicultural food stalls
- Entertainment

Tickets: 50p.

For more information, contact Nazia, Aminah or Tamilah via the Prayer Room.

the  
week  
ahead



# thursday

## 7

### march

#### Fitness Club

12.30pm. Die Hard circuit training  
5.30pm. Beginners aerobics. (R)

#### ConSoc

1pm. Southside. <http://www.su.ic.uk/clubs-/societies/scc/consoc/home.html> (R)

#### Gliding Club

1pm. Aero 266. (R)

#### Mountaineering Club

7pm. Social, Southside Upper Lounge. (R)

#### Yoga Soc

6.15 - 7.45pm. Table tennis room. Beginners' Kunalini yoga class. More information from [mpn@doc.ic.ac.uk](mailto:mpn@doc.ic.ac.uk), ex 48237. (R)

#### Christian Union

6.30 - 7.45pm. W2 in Biology. (R)

#### ICCAG

8.15pm. Weeks Hall basement. Soup run for the homeless. (R)

#### Skate Soc

Night skate - all welcome. Contact Alex on 0171 352 9111 or [a.cinelli@ic.ac.uk](mailto:a.cinelli@ic.ac.uk) (R)

#### YHA

1pm Southside Lounge. "Take a walk on the wild side." (R)

#### Jazz and Rock Society

Starting 8.30pm in the Ents Lounge  
Featuring Urban Spice, Northern Lights and Roosevelt 76 (see below).

#### Ents

Glamour, sophistication and elegance - if it's not your cup of tea, why not try the DaVinci's Cocktail Night? 5-11pm.

## t h u r s d a y

# Jazz and Rock Club

Following on from Abandon (9th Feb), the Jazz & Rock club brings you another night of top quality live music, featuring:

- Urban Spice - Last seen at Abandon and continuing their World Domination tour, and promise to rock you further than they ever thought possible.

- Northern Lights - Freshly grown in barn, somewhere in Devon, we bring a sample of their very classy harvest, for your own smoking pleasure!

- Pause

- Roosevelt 76 - Yes, also a historical USA president, but now more commonly found in this form.

The date is Thursday 7th March, starting at around 8.30pm in the Ents Lounge.

# friday

## 8

### march

#### Amateur Radio Society (HamSoc)

1pm. Meeting in the shack. Top floor of union building. (R)

#### Rag Meeting

1.10pm Ents Lounge. (R)

#### Pakistan Society

3 - 5pm. Basketball, union gym. Contact Kashif, Aero II, [k.ahmed@ae.ic.ac.uk](mailto:k.ahmed@ae.ic.ac.uk). (R)

#### Wing Chun Kung Fu

5-7pm. Union Gym, 2nd Floor ICU. Beginners welcome. 1st lesson free. (R)

#### Fitness Club

5.30pm. Advanced Step. Southside. (R)

#### Free minibus service

from the union, taking lone female students home to anywhere in central London. First run midnight, last run 2am. See Beit Security for times. (R)

## f r i d a y

# Express Yourself!



Are you that rare breed of IC student who can think further than fourier transforms and coefficients of restitution? That singular animal who is actually a bit - well - creative?

If you are, then phoenix needs you! phoenix is the annual arts publication of IC,

and is your chance to get your work distributed to the poor, culture-starved masses.

But what sort of art are we talking about here? Well, just about any! This year we're taking prose, poetry, stories, artwork, animations, audio, video, interactive works, and almost anything else we could distribute! Don't let the medium restrict you - be creative and just express yourself.

The suggested theme is 'Manipulation' - feel free to interpret it as you wish or ignore it completely, it's just there to provide inspiration if you need it.

This time the editors are Mark and Jeremy - you can reach us via the Felix pigeon holes, by phoning or faxing 58072, or e-mailing [mltb1@doc.ic.ac.uk](mailto:mltb1@doc.ic.ac.uk) or the soon-to-be-set-up phoenix e-mail account.

So, if you feel inspired or already have some work you want to share with the world, drop in for a chat or even an argument - either is fine by us!

Just one restriction - we'd like any work in by the end of this term, 22 March. If this is no good then come and talk to us, you might be in luck...

# Wargaming

Go into any good hobby or games store these days and more than likely you'll be confronted by a huge range of playing card-size packs. This is the new world of Customisable Card Games (or CCGs to those in the know). The range of themes is huge: there are games based on films, TV series (I think you can guess which ones I'm referring to), games and books, and others along more fantastical lines - the list goes on and on. At the rate at which new games are becoming available, the list will soon top one hundred.

CCGs work on the principle of having an initial set of over 300 cards, which are randomly spread though packs. Most of the really useful cards are 'rare cards', which means that you only get 2-6 (depending on the game) in a starter pack of 60 cards (£6 or upwards); or 1-2 in a booster pack of 8-15 cards (£2). There are also common and uncommon cards, with equal numbers of rare, uncommon and common cards in a set.

Once you think you've got a strong enough deck to compete, the game itself involves defeating your opponent's deck one way or another, using the cards properties to whittle away your opponent's strength while defending your own.

If you want to collect a set and have a few duplicate rare cards, there are plenty of people to trade cards with. Several cards of different rarity can change hands at one go, so you need a razor-sharp mind to make the best deals! If there's no one around to swap with, you could always put an advert on the the Internet: the newsgroup [rec.games.trading-cards.marketplace](mailto:rec.games.trading-cards.marketplace) is a good place to start trading or buying cards. Be careful when buying, as most deals come from the US and involve dollars. Some cards can be rather expensive; a Black Lotus (from the Magic:The Gathering set), now out of print, will sell for about £150. Even rare cards which are still in print, such as a Darth Vader (from the Star Wars set) can go for around £35, and it's only been available 5 weeks!

Should any of you start playing a CCG, I'm looking for a Darth Vader at the moment! If you already play a CCG then come to Wargames club - we have several Magic, Star Wars, Middle Earth and Star Trek:TNG players.

the  
week  
ahead



The Spanish Society celebrates Spring



Our Spanish DJ will have you dancing.  
Food and Drink will keep laughing.  
It's Spring  
So perhaps, some reminiscing...

**Saturday 9th of March**

JCR, Sherfield Building  
Imperial College Rd., South Kensington.

Dinner 7:30 - 9:30 Dance & Fun 9:30 until late.

Non members : Dinner £10  
Dance & Fun £5

Members: Much less !

**Tickets and Reservations in advance.**

Contact Hector on 0956-428223, Dalila on x59455  
or E-mail Takeshi at std.martinez@ic.ac.uk.  
Or get your ticket from the ICU office.

## Mark Bridge - the photo

### Some Personal Info

After my A levels I travelled around the world, and experienced a large part of the jobs scene working as a ranch hand, painting house exteriors, working in hospitals, and a bank, as well as a couple of multinationals.

I also had the valuable experience of helping a friend start up a business from scratch in California.

I am a 23 year old mature Chemistry MSci student. I am good at working with people from all backgrounds as a team player and a balanced leader, motivating and bringing out the best in people.

I know JCU can only get better and I want to help that.



Vote from 10am to 5 pm on Monday and Tuesday at Huxley, Mech Eng, new Chemistry, Mary's, JCR, ICU Foyer.  
Additional ballot boxes will be available at Silwood and Elec Eng on Monday, RSM and Civ Eng Tuesday

Paid for by the Mark Bridge for President Campaign 1996

## 'BUST-A-GUT COMEDY CLUB

dave

**GORMAN**

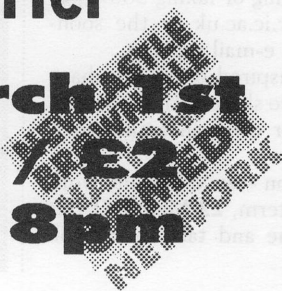
with Rainer Hersch &

Lucy Porter

**Fri. March 1st**

**£2.50 / £2**

**Doors 8pm**



Live Recording

First

Impressions

with

**Alistair McGowan**

**Steve Nallon**

**Pete McCarthy**

**FREE. MON 4TH. 7.30**

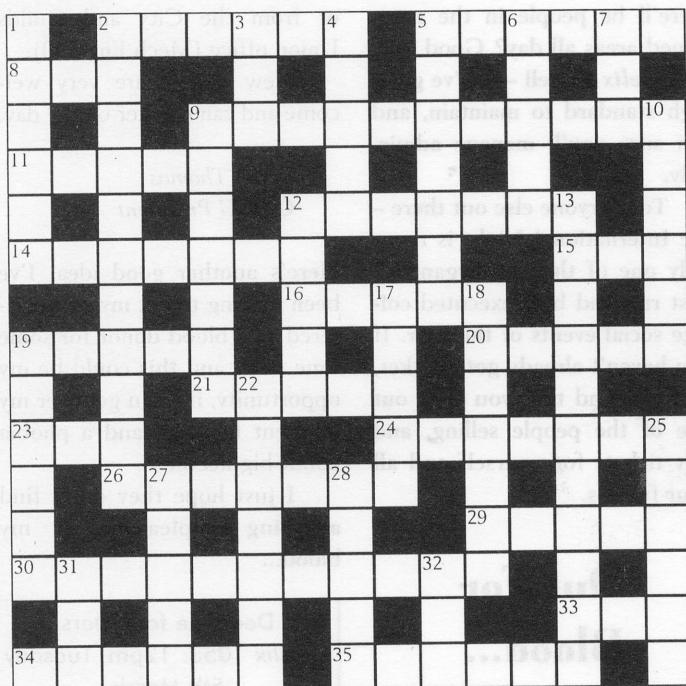
**CONCERT HALL**

free tickets available from  
the union on fri. & mon. 10-4pm





## Crossword by Clansman



Across:

2. Tungsten worker - press officer desired. (6)
5. Met about silly pup in the disguise of Miss Piggy. (6)
8. River in impromptu redirection. (3)
9. Asian snake element - princess embraces company railway? (6,5)
11. Royal Artillery and an Oxford fellow make a gas. (5)
12. Church deadly sin entwined in outfits? (7)
14. Tom and Anna roamed around a state. (7)
15. Manipulate American Englishman. (3)
16. Put a limb back on - equip again. (2-3)
19. Canine publisher? (5)
20. Set light to the gas, boy! (5)
21. Prohibited to jeer, we hear. (5)
23. Mr. R. Underwood in a marathon? (3)
24. Man with guts to tame a horse. (7)
26. Female state - or country! (7)
29. Eight coordinate coat about learner? (5)
30. Bridge-player with heavy weight after current measurement in city? (11)
33. Fuss about a party. (3)
34. Holy deposit south of supplies. (6)
35. Evil year nothing to agitated

town. (6)

Down:

1. Question circular drink - a valid number. (6)
2. Grinded wing pulped for symbol of marriage. (7,4)
3. Tory inquest now first in the can. (3)
4. Dominican Republic premier sick due to military training. (5)
5. Demon stone blended in man? (7)
6. Liable to price one. (5)
7. Tea refuse goes in hearing aid. (3)
9. Occupy in custom. (7)
10. Behind a southern bird? (6)
12. West Indian vehicle one blasts first? (5)
13. Sultana bits, when battered, are filling. (11)
17. Computer memory in adult article smell? (5)
18. Moan about sin in haunted house. (7)
19. Channel Islands rascal runs first to American clouds? (6)
22. Debt accumulation? (7)
25. Oaf about to go alto? (6)
27. Chemical compound is female, we hear. (5)
28. Suggest one politician - Liberal years. (5)
31. Obtain unanimous trust first - then not be in. (3)
32. Circle ten onions first - then get some gravy granules. (3)

The solution to this Crossword is on page 23. By request, the solution will be printed in the same issue as the puzzle from now on.

## Careers Information

**Milkround** - don't panic if you are too late to apply for the Milkround, as we shall be writing to several hundred employers in May and you can apply for their remaining vacancies when you have completed your finals.

**Penultimate years** - start thinking about your future now. Now you don't know what you want to do, come to the careers office and try PROSPECT - our computerised careers guidance system.

**Summer Vacation Training** opportunities are now available on the database in the Careers Office. Apply to UROP for research opportunities.

For more information and careers advice, come to the Careers Office, Room 310 Sheffield Building. It will be open between 10am - 5.15pm Monday to Friday.

## Stress Workshops

Everyone suffers from stress before and during examinations; for most people, stress improves performance, but if you have a significant or debilitating examination stress problem, these workshops are for you.

The workshops will be led by psychotherapist Claudio Calvi, and held at the Health Centre over two sessions between 3 - 4.30pm on the afternoons of:

Wednesday 6th March 1996  
and  
Wednesday 13th March 1996

To take full advantage of these sessions, you are advised to attend both.

For bookings, please ring

Liliane Carter by direct line on (0171) 594 9381 or internally on 49381. This service is entirely free of charge, so don't hesitate to register and solve your problem.

We are here to help - do call.

## Band Wanted

I am looking for a drummer and lead/bass guitar player. Someone who can write music is a must!

Demos or CVs should be addressed to A. Turner, CBS, Biochemistry Department, IC.

## Toccatta

Do you have a passion for performing arts? Bingo! You're the kind of person we're looking for!

Musicians, actors, dancers - come and defend your university's colours at "Les Fugues", the 8th European Performing Arts Festival for students in Dijon, France, on the 28th, 29th and 30th March 1996.

On the first two evenings you'll have to prove your talent in front of a jury of professional artists. If you're judged good enough, you'll be selected to play on the final evening in front of an audience of 1500 people, with the chance to win one of the four awards.

During the day, you'll have the opportunity to play in the open air on podiums.

For further details, please contact:

Les Fugues  
ESC Dijon  
29 rue Sambin  
21000 Dijon

Tel: 00.33.80.71.24.33

Fax: 00.33.80.72.5999

## Solution to issue 1051's Crossword:

**Across:** 1. Sword of, 9. Damocles, 10. Runaway, 11. Federal, 12. Ugliness, 15. Indus, 17. Rung, 22. Indeed, 23. Rash, 24. Vague, 25. Urbanity, 27. Ratings, 29. Rebound, 30. Enthalpy, 31. Defrock  
**Down:** 2. Wrung out, 3. Roaring, 4. Orate, 5. Gaff, 6. Woodwind, 7. Florida, 8. Useless, 13. Shandy, 14. Meteor, 18. Biennial, 19. Isotonic, 20. Ivories, 21. Agitate, 23. Rancour, 26. Breve, 28. Saps



# LETTERS TO FELIX:

REPLIED TO BY TIM ST.CLAIR

## Backbiting

Dear Felix,

I am writing to express the Labour Club's pleasure in noting that ConSoc has given up on their own side and started giving free publicity to the Labour Party.

We wholeheartedly endorse ConSoc's assertion in last week's *Felix* which stated that the Labour Party will win the next General Election.

Stephen Webb  
(Labour Club Secretary)

Well... yes... To be honest, I hadn't read further than the headline until you mentioned it, and assumed it was an ad for the Labour Club - ConSoc's press officer should be a little more careful next time, maybe?

Mind you, any publicity that

the ad provided for Labour was a little adverse, wouldn't you agree? Although I have to say, the only decline of Britain that I've experienced has been over the last sixteen years...

## Final Plug

Dear Felix,

The Overseas Students Committee, would like to wish all those taking part today in tonight's International Night all the best.

Tickets will be available until today from the JCR on Sherfield level 3, and the Union

Usman Malik  
(OSC Events Officer)  
Kamal Patel  
(OSC Vice President)  
Mitul Mistry  
(OSC Publicity Officer)

Thanks guys - presumably there'll be people in the mentioned areas all day? Good luck from *Felix* as well - you've got a high standard to maintain, and I'm sure you'll manage admirably.

To everyone else out there - the International Night is regularly one of the best-organised, best run and best executed college social events of the year. If you haven't already got a ticket, I recommend that you seek out one of the people selling, and buy tickets for yourself and all your friends.

## Out For Blood...

Dear Felix

City and Guilds College Union will be organising a blood donation session on Monday 4th March in Southside Gym. Donations will be taken between 9.45am - 4pm.

More details are available

from the posters around college or from the City and Guilds Union office (Mech Eng 340).

New donors are very welcome and can register on the day.

Sarah Thomas  
C&GU President

Here's another good idea. I've been meaning to get myself registered as a blood donor for some time now, and this could be my opportunity, if I can get over my inherent laziness, and a phobia about big needles!

I just hope they don't find anything unpleasant in my blood...

Deadline for letters  
in *Felix* 1053: 12pm, Tuesday  
5th March

Please bring your union card  
for identification.

Letters may be edited for  
length.

The opinions expressed by  
the editor or guest editors are  
not necessarily those of the  
paper as a whole.

# ICU Cinema £2

Imperial College or ULU students & staff.  
Compulsory annual membership of 50p  
(payable on first visit)

Sun 3rd  
8:00pm

"Slick, very funny...  
Nicole Kidman excels."  
Geoff Andrew - Time Out

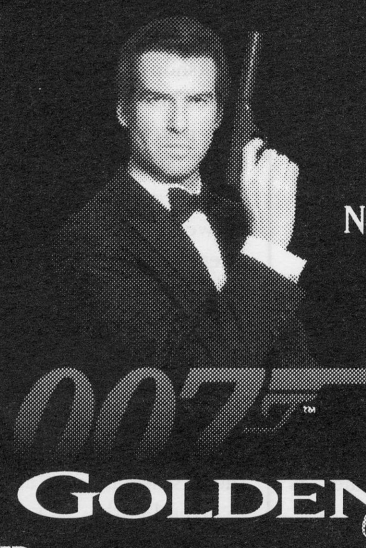
nicole  
kidman



TO DIE FOR

She knew what it took to  
get to the top.  
A lot of heart. And a little head.

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GOLDENEYE

Weds 6th 8:00pm  
Thurs 7th 6:00pm

No limits.  
No fears.  
No substitutes.

Thurs 7th  
8:45pm



Doors open 15 minutes before time stated.  
ICU Cinema is located on the second floor  
of the Union Building. E&OE; ROAR

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STA TRAVEL



# Election Results

A special 1-page micro-Felix will be out on

**Wednesday 6th March**, with the full results & info. Plus, for the first time ever – get the election results on the Web! Check out <http://www.su.ic.ac.uk/>

Felix will come out as normal on **8th March**.

Then, prepare yourself for the seasonally-adjusted Easter Felix! Coming out in a bumper family-size edition on

**Wednesday 20th March**.

Deadlines for Adverts and Diary entries / articles is

**Monday 11 March** as normal – but note that there will be no Felix on 15th March.

## FELIX

FOUNDED 1949

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### democracy?

I have lived perfectly happily in Northern Ireland most of my life and never before had the experience I have now of finding myself caught behind a police line. There's a suspect package in the Albert Hall and the police have cordoned off the area – we've been told to keep away from the windows. Doubtless it's only some little old lady's knitting, but on the other hand...

I went into some pretentious what-kind-of-democracy-do-we-live-in? tirade after the spectacle of this week's sabbatical hustings. But now I've been reminded that Monday's vote on the integrity of our government after the Scott report was determined by the utterly unrelated issue of the format of elections in Northern Ireland. I guess it seems a little ironic to complain about the lack of discussion of issues in hustings on student union politics.

### many errata

I think it's time to apologise heartily to those hockey and football people attempting to raise funds for their trip to Barbados. Yes, it's true. I really am totally inept. They weren't

very happy when a perfectly genuine article a telling us about their plans for this summer's tour went in under a fairly sarcastic headline.

So when I read my sports editor's offering for the back page just before I sent it to press last week, the heading "Are you a hustler?" seemed far too flippant for the serious business of raising money for a hockey tour. (It turns out that was the one the teams provided themselves. Clearly my idea of a silly headline differs from theirs). So I changed it. Or attempted to, at any rate.

The simple, direct message of "Barbados fundraising" seemed appropriate, but sadly after one too many late nights I was completely unable to type, and replaced a 'b' for an 'n'. Of course, when I gave the page to someone for proofing they assumed the sports teams were raising funds for that highly respected children's charity, Dr Barnados.

Oops. I really am *very* sorry indeed.

### police

Apparently they've all packed up and gone home now. It was only a false alarm.

### EDITORIAL TEAM:

NEWS: ALEX FEAKES FEATURES: MARK BAKER

MUSIC: VIK BANSAL CINEMA: WEI LEE

ARTS: JEREMY SPORT: JONATHAN TROUT

DIARY: BEN JANES CLUBS AND SOCS: STEPHEN HAMILTON

PHOTOGRAPHY: IVAN CHAN AND WILLIAM LORENZ

THEATRE: KATHERINE FISHWICK AND CLAIRE SAMUEL

PUZZLES: CATFISH SCIENCE: BEN WILKINS

COLLATING LAST WEEK: PIERS, TIM, ALEX, BEN & MARK,

DELIVERIES: ALEX LOUNGING: IAN

## THE FELIX WEEK

The indispensable guide for Felix contributors and helpers

monday, high noon

clubs & societies

articles deadline

monday 1.20pm

reviewers'

meeting

monday 6pm

news meeting

tuesday noon

arts meeting

tuesday noon

letters deadline

tuesday 6pm

features meeting

thursday night

collating

friday morning

another Felix hits the street...

Solution to this week's Crossword:  
Across: 2. Wanted, 5. Muppet, 8. Ure, 9. Indian cobra, 11. Radon, 12. Clothes, 14. Montana, 15. Use, 16. Re-arm, 19. Corp, 20. Arson, 21. Taboo, 23. Run, 24. Mustang, 26. Georgia, 29. Octal, 30. Southampton, 33. Ato, 34. Stores, 35. Yeovil Down, 1. Quantum, 2. Wedding ring, 3. Tin, 4. Drill, 5. Monster, 6. Prone, 7. Ear, 9. Inhabit, 10. Astern, 12. Carb, 13. Substantial, 17. Aroma, 18. Mansion, 19. Citrus, 22. Afters, 25. Galoot, 27. Ester, 28. Imply, 31. Out, 32. Oxo



# FELIX SPORT

## Clean Sheet For Virgins

**UCL 0 - 45 ICLRFC**

In the London University Cup Semi-final Imperial College ran out in confident fashion against the side previously beaten sixty nil earlier in the season. The pack was dominant and won virtually all the rucks and mauls led by the rampant Lynsey and Adele. The backs, led by Sarah, managed to score eight of the nine tries.

Catherine, the acting captain, achieved her second hat-trick of the season with Karen scoring two and further scores from Tara, Petra, Adele and Sarah. UCL's best players were those they borrowed from IC, a just reflection on the training, commitment and team spirit of the strong IC side which gelled well on the day.

## ...but less success at Holloway

**ICLRFC 5 - 26 RHUL**

Only thirteen of the Virgins were available and this did not bode well for our second meeting this season with Holloway, a traditionally strong side.

As in our first meeting soft tries were conceded early on, although defending against a permanent overlap was always extremely difficult.

To our surprise Holloway did not take advantage of our lack of a full back, and so the wingers were not challenged by high kicks. Sustained pressure from IC brought about a well worked try from Sarah Waiman, half of our front row combination in the centres. From then on until the middle of the second

half all the play was in the centre of the field. Holloway three quarter attacks were thwarted by spirited tackling from their IC opposite numbers, yet IC's back line created few attacking moves from the good loose ball won by their forwards. Toward the end two further tries were conceded on each wing by the understandably tired IC thirteen.

Despite the score this match provided the platform for our most enjoyable rugby of the season and the entire team must be commended for their continued efforts in the face of adversity.

Holloway should indeed be disappointed by beating us by a margin of only three tries.

*[gracious in defeat! -Ed]*

## Sparcs Fly As C&G Storm

**C&G 8 - 3 RCS (SPARCS CUP)**

After a close first twenty minutes the Royal College of Science broke the deadlock with a penalty. A brisk riposte by City and Guilds led to the score being three all at half time, the engineers scoring through Tom Salter. In the second half, a well worked back row move led to Simon Fuller going over for the only try. RCS tried to fight back but were utterly bollocksed by superb forward play.

With the final score eight three it was a triumphant return for ex-C&G captain Stevie Wilkinson. RSM 'ere we come...

## RSM footballers beat odd acronym

**UCHMX 0 - 3 RSM**

Following recent emphatic wins over UCL and RLSB, Wednesdays comfortable victory over UCHMX came as no surprise, and leaves them looking in good shape for the traditional Cambourne match later this week.

## X-Country women are particularly good

X-Country's last league race saw the final placing's top three women all from IC, with their team winning the 1st division, and the men's first team runners up, with two individuals in the top seven. The men's second team gained promotion from the second division.

Athletes are wanted for a UL track and field competition.

Anyone interested e-mail; aj.overend@ic or e.collins@ic.

## Unlucky

**IC III 0 - 10 BRUNEL III**

It was difficult to discern the true nature of the match, given the limited amount of information at this chroniclers disposal, so I am now forced to piece together what morsels have come my way.

Firstly, the match was in some kind of cup. It was a quarter final, and apparently this was the furthest any IC hockey team have reached, ever.

Having been approached by several suited up drunk blokes in Da Vinci's, I have ascertained exclusively for *Felix* that;

- a) They lost 10 - 0,
- b) The showers were cold,
- c) Poor showing in boat race, due to point b),
- c) The curry was very nice,
- d) They're all utterly pissed

Obviously, this does not make for the world's largest article.

Never mind, lads...

## Very Boring Headline About Very Interesting Game Of Football

**IC IV 3 - 5 KCL IV**

IC played well in parts in this game.

They lost due to poor finishing, defensive mix-ups, and indifferent goalkeeping.

It rained.

The team was; Stuart, Paul, Mike, Steve, Andy, Ryan, Pete, Nak, Charles, Chris, Dimitri. Nak scored one, Dimitri two.

## SportsNews

The FA charged Newcastle's £7.5M signing Faustino Asprilla with two counts of misconduct following his clashes with Keith Curle in Saturdays draw at Man.City. He allegedly headbutted and elbowed the renownedly ugly Curle after the final whistle.

IC Athletics Clubs Committee is sponsored by



## Results

### RUGBY

**WOMEN**  
VIRGINS 45 - 0 UCL  
VIRGINS 5 - 26 RHUL

### FOOTBALL

#### MEN

IC IV 3 - 5 KCL IV  
UCHMX 0 - 3 RSM

**C&G 8 - 3 RCS**

### LAWN TENNIS

IC 5 - 1 SOUTHAMPTON

### HOCKEY

#### MEN

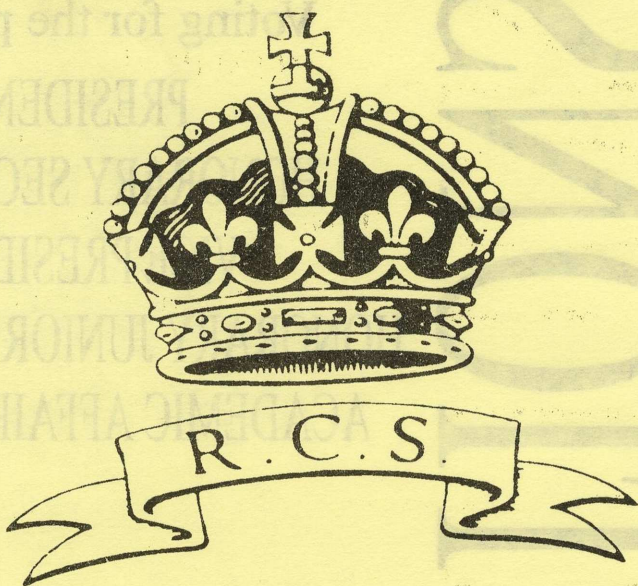
IC III 0 - 10 BRUNEL III

### X-COUNTRY

LADIES WON THE LEAGUE



# ELECTIONS



STOP PRESS NEWS!

Voting all day on Wednesday ONLY

Voting in departments from 10-1pm

JCR from 10am to 3pm

ICU Foyer from 10-3pm then 5-9pm

Green ICU Cards Required



# ELECTIONS

Voting for the posts of:

PRESIDENT

HONORARY SECRETARY

VICE PRESIDENT

HONORARY JUNIOR TREASURER

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

*Your vote WILL make a difference!*

Voting all day Wednesday ONLY

Voting in departments from 10-1pm

JCR from 10am to 3pm

ICU Foyer from 10-3pm then 5-9pm

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