

# FELIX

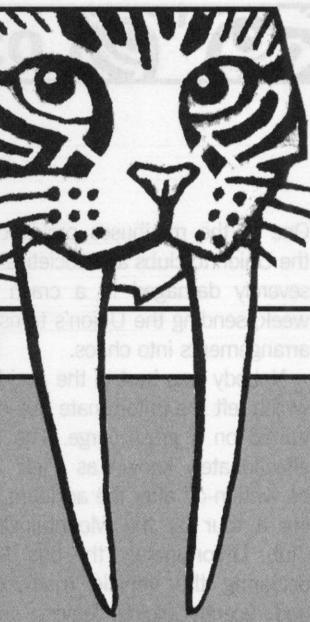
The Student Newspaper of Imperial College

Issue 1245

**Fellwanderers studiously fail to crash anything.**  
Page 6



**The first instalment of life in Wye.**  
Page 5



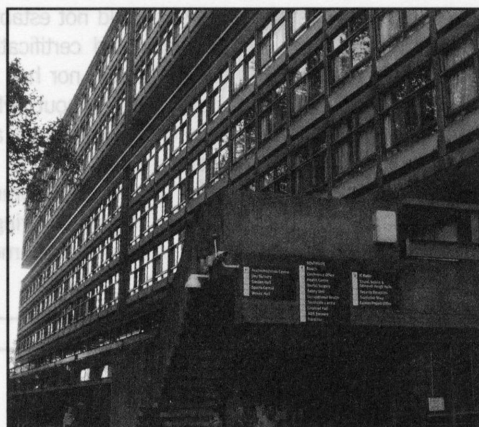
## Southside Demolition

**Southside's much-publicised renovation (*Felices ad nauseam*) may give way to its total demolition in a new plan drawn up by College.**

The landmark building, much maligned by residents, currently houses 390 students during term-time but has become steadily less habitable with each passing year. Plans to tear down the building have been thwarted by its Grade II listed status: The structure is considered to be exemplary of its style. The result is that refurbishment would require a huge investment by College to maintain original features while maintaining the infrastructure necessary for students to live there.

The Southside refurbishment plan has repeatedly slipped from its 2001 schedule due mainly to funding problems. However, despite financing issues, work had been brought forward to 2003-2004 due to grave concerns that the "critical infrastructure" may fail before the most recent refurbishment date of 2005.

In order to pull the building down, Southside



**Southside: Home of bar and student**

will have to be de-listed – something the College will have to agree with the Government while gaining support from preservation groups – certainly the biggest obstacle to the College's plans. Equally, de-listing the building might

make refurbishment cheaper, though delaying it even further.

The proposed replacement building will hold over 500 bed-spaces in extreme proximity to College, much touted as one of the Rector's main residences goals – a useful increase of 100 beds to offset planned halls sales.

Union President Sen Ganesh said that he was "excited about the provision of higher quality residences" and "keen for a quick decision", but expressed concern that the demolition bid may do little other than set back the inevitable refurbishment.

David Brookes-Wilson, Head of Estates, was reticent to comment before an official decision, but stressed that all the options were "beneficial to students".

The redevelopment of Eastside (Linstead Hall and tennis courts) will undoubtedly follow, but with so many slipping deadlines, it remains uncertain who will benefit.

AW

## Cynical Sykes Snubs Protest

650 Imperial students lined the route between the Rector's office and 170 Queen's Gate last Friday to protest about the proposed introduction of tuition fees for Imperial College students.

There seemed to be some confusion among protesters interviewed by *Felix* about whether they could be liable for fees – a condition explicitly ruled out by the proposal – but many were there on behalf of the next generation of students.

The Rector agreed with Union President Sen Ganesh in advance

that he would walk the protest route, but seemed not to take the crowd very seriously as he smiled broadly during his two minute walk to the College Council meeting where the proposal was to be presented.

At the meeting, the proposal was approved unanimously apart from the one vote awarded to the Union delegate. Sen Ganesh said that the protest had "raised questions" at the meeting, but clearly had little effect on the outcome.

The fees proposal now awaits Governmental approval. AW



## REFERENCE COLLECTION

Imperial College and Science Museum Libraries

## INSIDE...

Tom investigates Sykes' motivations for the UCL merger and top-up fees...

Alex vents his spleen (amongst other organs) about his financial worries...

quite-Halloween special, as y mixes our web reviews on with the Really Wild v...

gets slightly creepy... t stay up late.

25th October 2002

# Crash!

One of the minibuses provided by the Union to clubs and societies was severely damaged in a crash last week, sending the Union's transport arrangements into chaos.

Nobody was hurt in the accident, which left the unfortunate bus overturned on a grass verge. The bus, affectionately known as 'Fleb' may be written-off after the accident during a tour by the Mountaineering Club. Unfortunately, the bus' MOT, declaring the vehicle roadworthy, had recently expired leaving uncertainty over whether insurance will cover the damage.

Other clubs booked to use the bus have had either to cancel their trips or to hire private transport for their excursions. Private hire requires a driver aged over twenty-five, further limiting the number of qualified drivers available to those clubs with cancelled Union bookings.

An official responsible for transport in the Union said that clubs would not be refunded for money spent on private hire due to concern that there would be a "landslide" of claims for compensation – even if refunds were



**She canna take much more of this, Captain!**

limited to those clubs with existing bookings.

The loss of 'Fleb' brings the total of available minibuses down to five out of the Union's fleet of eleven, though one of those is apparently "dodgy" while the other "has no oil", leaving only three that are genuinely usable. The rest are awaiting the MOT certificates that the crashed bus lacks.

*Felix* could not establish any kind of repair and certification schedule for the buses, nor had any decision been made about whether 'Fleb' would be written-off as the issue went to press.

In a new development, Imperial College Mountaineering Club may now change their name to Minibus Crashers. AW

## FELIX

**Issue 1245**

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## Award for IC Radio

IC Radio's science-based talk show *Mission Impossible* was nominated for a national Student Radio Award at a ceremony held in London last week.

The show, put together by Imperial's Science Communication students, was one of six nominees in the category of Best Speech-Based Programme (Factual).

To quote one of the presenters, "*Mission Impossible* is to science what napalm is to a bale of hay, choosing to ignite the subject with a refreshing brand of humour and intrigue." The show blends together a variety of wide-ranging ingredients, from topical science news to the radio soap opera *Empirical College*.

The Student Radio Awards began in 1996 and are strongly supported by the industry, with

sponsors including BBC Radio 1, BBC Radio Five Live and the Radio Academy. Many past winners and nominees have launched successful careers in professional radio thanks to the Awards. In 2000, IC Radio's web

site [www.icradio.com](http://www.icradio.com) won the award for the Best New Media Innovation.

The nominations were announced at several regional parties across Britain, with the London event held at LSE Students' Union. Up-and-coming

bands Careless and Bushbaby provided the music for a packed student audience. Also present were Radio 1's Emma B, XFM's Kevin Greening and the controversial presenter Jon Holmes.

The main ceremony, hosted by Emma B, will take place at Goldsmiths College on Thursday November 14. Dave Edwards



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**4<sup>th</sup> November, 2002  
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# What's In It For Sykes?

During the last week, I have heard many stories and ideas about the Rector's proposed plans for the merger of UCL and IC, the £10k top-up fees, and the damaging effects that these will have on IC. Will the creation of a 'new' University of London wobble the delicate balance already held, putting the smaller colleges into an endless spiral of decline? Why do we want to dilute our good reputation with that of a University from which some of us received an unconditional offer to study, whilst accepting an AAB offer from IC?

Conversely, many people have nothing but praise for the plans. 'Fantastic!' 'Well done, the best thing that Imperial could do, merging with UCL.' Now we'll be a world class institution able to compete 'on an international market platform', attracting new students will remain as lucrative as it has been until now. Even arts students will be able to come to IC, and we'll sort out our money problems in one fell swoop, too!

So whilst there has been considerable debate on the effects of all this, it seems nobody has addressed the causes. Why does the Rector want to merge IC and UCL, and introduce top-up fees, and what's in it for him?

The Rector, Sir Richard Sykes, previously Chair of the board of GlaxoSmithKline (gsk), formerly GlaxoWellcome, formerly Glaxo,

presided over the merger of GlaxoWellcome and SmithKline Beecham. Even the Wellcome Trust (later plc) was not immune to him, being bought up in 1995 by Glaxo. He has a history of merging organisations, so his philosophy is very much 'bigger is better'.

At least he can send his own kids to IC for £10k a year, since for 2000 and 2001, he was paid a staggering £2.16m by gsk. But the Rector does not make as much money at IC as he used to at gsk, and merging with UCL is unlikely to massively increase his own salary as Rector, currently about £140,000 pa.

But something must be on the cards; even a man with his credentials wouldn't merge two Universities and introduce veritably reviled top-up fees just for fun.

Sir Richard serves on several committees - most notably in this case the council for science and technology - and has a steering role in education policy. It comes as little surprise that his paper 'pre-empts' the government white paper in November, and Margaret Hodge, higher education minister, has pointedly refused to rule out top-up fees when questioned by the education committee. In the current wave of 'neo-liberal' Thatcherism we are experiencing, it seems the government is keen to divorce the Treasury from the country's universities and thus reduce public

spending to cut taxes hence win votes. Drawing parallels to the rail industry, the government is attempting to privatise an under-funded state service.

Sir Richard has a taste for running large organisations. UCL is currently in a weak position; the incumbent Provost, Sir Derek Roberts is only temporarily on the job, and the previous Provost Sir Christopher Llewellyn Smith was booted out. Could Sir Richard be exploiting the situation to his personal advantage: an aggressive merger with a rudderless University? As merger partners go, LSE would be a much better choice for IC, but LSE have already given us the proverbial finger. They know that they have a strong brand, can attract the best students - and don't want to waste money on an expensive merger.

It's well known that the favoured way of saying "thank you" to a supportive un-elected crony is to grant them a life peerage, or a seat in the House of Lords. The best thing is that Sir Richard can choose to leave IC whenever he wants. Merge with UCL, sell most of the buildings to fill funding gaps, take the money off the students and then leave as Lord Sykes of South Kensington, and watch the student number/ability decline. Reminiscent of the recent Glaxo share price movements, actually.

*Tom Tibbits*

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# Editorial

Even as we speak, I am being reminded of a time when I was, and I quote, "deeply pissed off and angry" during the last summer term. I don't remember why, but so it must be, and apparently in that time I wrote a suitably offensive editorial that totally failed to raise any sort of controversy at all. Last week I feel I did a similar thing, but politically instead of personally, and again not one letter of abuse. You're all either very open minded, very polite, or lazy. I know which my money is on.

So in an attempt to make my life more interesting (I'm going to do a PhD one day to study what the maximum amount of interest one life can take is) I'm going to be very normal this week. Or so I intend.

To start with, I'm going to tell you about a website. I very rarely do this, and were it not for the fact that I'm positively avoiding talking about anything political, I would probably put it somewhere else, but, as it is, here it shall be in my

very own editorial. It's called [www.gonumber.net](http://www.gonumber.net), and I really haven't been paid to talk about it: I just think it's a really good idea. It's basically like having your own business card on the web, where you can put all sorts of bits of information about yourself (mostly for keeping in contact at the moment), different bits of which can be viewed by the whole world, or just by your mates. They've started by trying to sell this to students, because your details change the whole time, but with this, you keep the same ID on the website for life (and you only pay once), and then you can change all the info in there as often as you want.

I'm not usually easily taken in, but I liked the idea, and the website is nice too, so go and have a look at it, is my advice. There are posters all around college you can look at too, if you're so inclined.

Incidentally if any company is now reading this and asks me to 'boost' their product, I won't.

So now onto something else (I wonder if I've offended anyone yet, except AI, of course.) Female erotica. I've been thinking about this recently, and have discovered that there is no erotica (what men call porn) for girls to look at. I have found (but not in the way you're thinking) that most women don't like the same stuff that men do, and prefer something with slightly more story line and romance. So researching this (for purely intellectual reasons, of course), I turned to the friend in an hour of need, the internet, which furnished me with exactly nothing. Now I know girls have sex drives. And I suspect that visual stimulus can be... well... stimulating. So why is there nothing for the discerning female erotophile?

To counter this, I have decided to start a revolution, or perhaps my own company, to provide for this hole in the market, and am asking you, mostly the girls, admittedly, to get involved in the largest female

erotica based survey the college has ever seen! Although I'm not really sure how.

Talk about anticlimax. This has all just come to me as I've been writing this, so I'm not really organised in my head with respect to how this would work, but I'm getting pretty psyched about it, I can tell you.

So, if you (male or female) have any ideas about the sort of questions I should ask, or if you just give the smallest most remote flying fig about the idea, then e-mail me at Felix on [felix@ic.ac.uk](mailto:felix@ic.ac.uk) where I will be waiting to see if a single person replies.

Then I will create the survey, and there will be a huge prize as an incentive for bearing your deepest darkest fantasies to me, a physics graduate: but I met a girl once, honest, guv'nor.

While I am serious, it's worth noting that I seem to be much better at being offensive when I'm not really trying...

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# Wye 'Sup

## Wye Freshers Week 2002

Hello! Welcome to the first article from Wye by someone at Wye! Like it or not, we are here and it'll take a while before we go away again. Let's start with Freshers Week.

Well, another year begins and, yes, I know this is a bit late. So what? We all like a bit of variety.

Freshers Week for us country bumpkins down in Wye is still a big thing, even though student numbers are low. This year, with a first year intake of only 55 (8 of which are blokes (Help us!)), it has been a challenge. But, we gave it a go.

Monday saw the infamous JSF disco. For those of you who don't know, the JSF (or Jock Strap Farmers) is one of our drinking clubs, described as a group of

guys who "work on being complete jobs, don't know the meaning of a quiet drink and take pleasure in drinking anything which resurfaces". Their Freshers Night is always a bit of a mess and this year wasn't a big exception. Our poor Union Bar found itself covered in trees, shavings and beer cans aplenty, but once the ... er ... civilised act of... well ... let's class it as anatomy chundering for the sake of the press (I'm sure you know what I mean) got going and the Yard was brought out, it turned into a bit of mess.

Tuesday, Scottish Reeling, awarded Adam Trehane with the Best Drunken Injury Award for managing to injure himself in classic style and still being able to dance on.

Wednesday was a pub crawl in

Canterbury, as usual, with no major occurrences, except for the Freshers slowly getting used to being out of the recesses they call their rooms.

Thursday night, a night spent in a local pub, The Compasses, was a bit of a milestone, wasn't it Andy? Yes, that's right. Some of you know him, others don't, but Andy Shore, our respectable Union President, did a classic. Armed with two friends, a Fresher and no mobile with a signal, Andy decided to walk the good 5 miles across the Kent Countryside over barbed wire and through someone's conservatory. About 2.30am, after falling asleep in the middle of the road, our Welfare Officer (Maria) got a phone call. When asked, "Where are you?" Andy replies, "at a T-junction". Nice one.

Friday, the Freshers Ball with a theme of Lord Of The Rings, was, I am told, a good night. Unfortunately, I was kidnapped by a bottle of wine and plenty of vodka beforehand and, well, I wish someone would tell me the rest. All I know was I fell up the stairs and woke up in pain. Oops. Apparently, everyone loved the ball and it was nice to see all the Freshers finally in the open, even if Ross was in a clown suit as the Garter's mascot. Bless.

Nevertheless, it was a good week. We'll get those little people out eventually, but, oh, how we suffer.

I was planning to put sports results etc. in this as well, but since no one's actually written anything you'll have to make do with this. Hopefully it'll be more substantial next time. Hint hint.

## Charing Cross Bar Events

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Quiz

### Tuesday

Cocktail Night and Comedy every fortnight  
(see posters for details)

### Wednesday

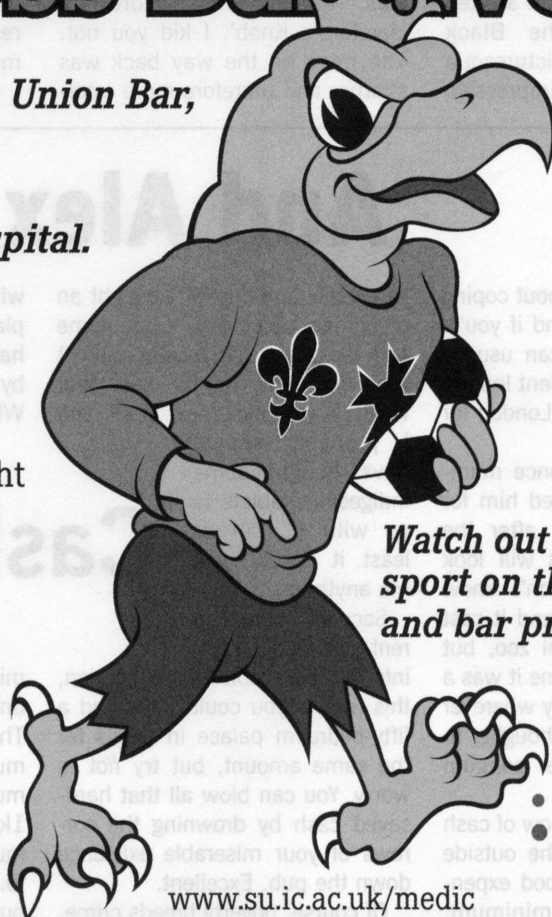
12am Bar Sports Night

### Thursday

Music Nights (see posters for details)

### Friday

Bar until 1am, Bops every fortnight  
(see posters for details)



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# A wandering we shall go

South of Snowdonia, only one mountain range approaches 915m in Britain: the Brecon Beacons. The Brecon Beacons National Park consists of the Black Mountains to the East, the Beacons in the centre and, confusingly, the Black Mountain in the West. On Friday night, 11 of us met up at the union with this national park as our destination. Despite the inadequacies of the union bus, we set off in good time for the hills. The traffic was heavy and Wales felt very far away, even further due to the lack of radio in the bus, but we kept spirits high, and were soon at the chippy in Caerleon. A small hop further and we arrived at our luxury accommodation in Brecon. We said hello to the other residents in the bunkhouse and a few bevies ensued, after which we were all pretty tired and retired to our beds.

We were all woken by a beautiful sunrise in the morning, apart from some of the girls who were woken by Chris in his boxers mistaking their room for his. Apparently this was not such a beautiful sight! Our walk started from Llantony in the Black Mountains. This is a picturesque village with a very impressive

ruined priory - the stuff of picture postcards. We climbed up a steep path to the top of the ridge and on to the famous Offa's Dyke path - built to keep the Welshmen out of England. The views into England were lovely, and as we walked along in the sunshine it really couldn't have been more pleasant. Before too long we arrived at the first trig



point - Hay Bluff - just in time for dinner. Revived and full of energy, we climbed up to the next trig point after lunch. This one was the highest point of the day, and was named 'The Lord of Hereford's Knob'. I kid you not. The ridge on the way back was sharper and therefore more inter-

esting, giving us nice views over the vale and surrounding hills. The pub beckoned and we dropped back into the valley for a pint, and a chat with the less than sober locals. The country roads on the drive back to the barn proved to be too much of a challenge for the bus, resulting in it getting stuck in the mud. With a bit of brute strength, the men

could hear the rain bashing on the window. High winds were forecasted - not a day to go up on the tops then. Instead we drove to Pontneddfechan and walked along the valley to the potholes at Ystradfelte, which made a perfect lunch stop. The walk back in the afternoon included the main attraction of the day, where the path passes behind a waterfall. Seeing as we were all already soaked from the rain, no one minded getting wetter and it took sometime before the novelty of this waterfall wore off.

Unfortunately, all good things come to an end, and it was time to head back. The lack of radio on the way back got too much and everyone decided to make their own entertainment by singing a variety of classic songs from the Beatles and Queen. It didn't sound good, and the drivers contemplated the various different methods of suicide. We stopped off at the Crown and Horns for dinner, where we, by pure fluke, bumped into ex-president Sam, before we headed for home and our much-needed beds.

Interested in Fellwanderers? Visit:

[www.su.ic.ac.uk/fellwanderers](http://www.su.ic.ac.uk/fellwanderers)

Waking on the Sunday we

## And Alex Said...

Being a student is all about coping with a small budget, and if you're especially thrifty, you can usually stretch out a year's student loan to cover your expenses in London for about three weeks.

As a very old man once mumbled to me when I asked him for financial advice, "look after the penis, and the pandas will look after themselves". I don't know what he meant either, and it cost me my job at the local zoo, but perhaps he was telling me it was a good idea to save money wherever I can (and not, as I thought, to expose myself in the penguin enclosure).

So, how to stem the flow of cash from your wallet into the outside world? First, get your food expenditure down to a minimum.

Vegetables are cheap. I bought an onion the other day. I got home and looked at the receipt, and it cost 8p. Now, on its own, that wasn't a very nice meal at all, and I probably should have bought some indigestion tablets to go with it, but at least it hardly cost me anything.

Second, scrimp on rent by living in a rat-infested cesspool. Being London, this means you could have had a fifty-bedroom palace in Leeds for the same amount, but try not to worry. You can blow all that hard-saved cash by drowning the sorrows of your miserable existence down the pub. Excellent.

Of course, poverty breeds crime,

which is probably why I was plagued by theft when I was in halls. I was particularly distressed by the loss of four Cornish Pasties. When I noticed my milk was going missing, I devised a cunning plan.

No doubt several of you are also experiencing milk loss, so do what I did: wait until you've only got a few centimetres of milk left and dilute it with water until you've got half a bottle full. This way you don't end up wasting much real milk, and it looks pretty much the same. Next, take your 1kg tub of table salt and pour as much in as you can be bothered to. Shake it up, and voila. If you've put enough salt in, even a splash

in some tea will be heartily disgusting. The only thing left to do is tempt your milk thief, and there is nothing more tempting to somebody who is looking to steal some milk than a big sign attached to some milk, saying "PLEASE DO NOT STEAL MY MILK". So, try that. No need to wait around - you should be able to hear the retching from your bedroom.

Of course it's not just students who face financial hardship - the recent announcement of the plan for top-up fees shows Imperial is on a diet of Tesco Value Beans too. The rector thinks the answer is charging students more, but here's a crazy idea - why doesn't College spend less? If it means cutting out a few lectures, so be it. It's a sacrifice I'm willing to make. Alex

## Cash!





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# Employer Presentation

## THIS WAY UP

**DATE:** 30 October

**TIME:** 7.00pm start

**VENUE:** Chemical Engineering  
Lecture Theatre 1,  
Imperial College

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# Amnesty International

In 1961, two Portuguese students were sentenced to prison for seven years. Not a month, not a year but seven years. And the reason? For raising their glasses in a toast to freedom. In 1961, a British lawyer, Peter Benenson, read about these students and on the 28th of May he wrote an article for the Observer newspaper entitled 'The Forgotten Prisoners' which was an appeal for amnesty for men and women held in jail for their political or religious views. The appeal was also printed in other papers across the world, and Amnesty International was born.

## What is Amnesty about?

Amnesty International has grown into the largest voluntary human rights organisation in the world with an organised presence

in 72 countries. Today, AI has more than a million members worldwide and students play a crucial role in its organisation. In fact it relies a lot on the commitment, motivation and energy of students to achieve success in the coming years.

Often people take part by writing letters to governments in cases where people have been wrongfully detained. Sometimes there is a good end result and sometimes unfortunately it doesn't turn out the way we hope. But people don't give up because for every letter written, every bit of awareness raised, AI members provide hope for victims of human rights abuses around the world. One recent example was General Gallardo. On 7 February 2002, General Gallardo, a prisoner of conscience detained for over eight

years, was released after President Fox ordered that his sentence be reduced to time served. He was detained in 1993 after criticising human rights violations by the Mexican armed forces and for proposing the creation of a military human rights ombudsman to investigate such abuses.

In 1994 Amnesty International adopted General Gallardo as a prisoner of conscience. Amnesty members have campaigned for his release over many years and it is this on going pressure on the authorities that has contributed to secure his release. General Gallardo's family have expressed their gratitude for all our help:

"We are all very happy that our father has been released and we are profoundly grateful to Amnesty International. Without your support my father's release

would not have been possible."

We have an Amnesty International group at Imperial where we meet up every Thursday to write letters for particular cases like General Gallardo. We have stands around college, and arrange speakers to visit. We also work with other London university groups as well as more 'active' awareness raising such as demonstrations outside parliament. This term Amnesty International are focusing on the poor regulation of the arms trade, which is fuelling violent conflict and human rights abuses.

For more information email [icamnesty@yahoogroups.com](mailto:icamnesty@yahoogroups.com) or see our website at [www.su.ic.ac.uk/amnesty](http://www.su.ic.ac.uk/amnesty), or turn up to our meetings every Thursday lunchtime in South Kensington.



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**DATE:** WEDNESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

**TIME:** 3PM - 5PM

**VENUE:** ROOM 6B, EAST WING BASEMENT BEIT QUAD

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# Your Letters

## Take One UCL Merger

Dear Felix,

I have an indecent tendency to ramble so before the off, as it were, I'd like to set a few things straight. Firstly, I am definitely in favour of a possible merger with UCL - I think that beyond the immediate obvious problems everyone has to admit that the subject range here at Imperial is pretty narrow and in some senses crippling. Secondly, I have much respect for the union 'hacks' and sabbaticals that do a fantastic job against multiple committee odds, and provide pretty good support to our active (?) student population (and I'm not just trying to score brownie points here). With that out the way, the point I would like to address is that, however desirable, the actual likelihood of such a merger with UCL seems to me pretty damned slim. This view has been prompted from recent events within, of all places, the IC Canoe Club. Bear with me on this one, and let me explain: I have been a canoe obsessional for a far few years now, and over the past three years I've

slowly earned canoe club guru status. This IC club is a bit of an oddity in the fact that if you're a student in that strange amalgamation that is University of London, and fancy a spot of whitewater canoeing, we're pretty much the only place that you can come (ULU run a canoe club but as far as I know they're yet to leave the swimming pool - no offense intended). With this in mind, at the start of the year we tend to recruit not only the usual crop of IC freshers, but also a significant number of dedicated paddlers from UCL, LSE, etc. The beginning of this year has proved slightly different however, due in no small way to a union official watching someone in a UCL rugby top filling out one of our membership forms.

In a very understandable way, IC Union want the money they put in to the IC club to benefit IC students. To this end IC students receive subsidised travel, accommodation, and so on while students from other London universities do not and have to pay up the full whack. This is all fairly standard, but a point that I think is not yet widely realised, and

must apply to many other clubs than our own, is that being in a London university belonging to ULU does not necessarily allow you to join an IC club as an unsubsidised member. Imperial and the university involved has also to sign a 'reciprocal agreement' first. Following the aforementioned UCL rugby top incident, an amiable chat and rather incriminating piece of A4 paper from the union ensued. Although Imperial seems to have 'reciprocal agreements' with every London university/college under the sun (the list filled a double columned A4 page), UCL is nowhere to be found. Apparently the two universities could not come to an agreement in what is surely a fairly simple issue.

I'm not an insurance policy legend, and I certainly don't know all the ins and outs of this case (in fact, I don't even know what the 'reciprocal agreement' is), but this omission raises a few interesting questions. Considering UCL members would be unsubsidised (and thus 'steal' no IC money), what really is the problem with them joining our club? Our members from UCL don't just see our stand at freshers fair and fancy a crack, they have been referred/searched us out and thus tend to be fairly experienced paddlers. In a sport with a by necessity high experienced to inexperienced ratio needed, do the union really want us to expel our experienced UCL members and effectively be less safe on the river? Don't get me wrong - this club exists to introduce and cultivate the skills of IC students in the back art that is travelling down vicious rivers in a small plastic thing, but quality, safe paddlers come far and few between, and I honestly think it is wrong to ignore what UCL students have to offer.

But I'm already off on a tangent - the main point is that although this is obviously an Imperial and UCL union related matter rather than an academic institutional concern, I can't help feeling it has implications for a possible merger. If IC and UCL cannot agree to something as simple as a clubs and societies 'reciprocal agreement', surely this doesn't bode too well for agreement on no doubt exceedingly complicated issues that would arise in relation to full UCL/IC integration. UCL and IC merger? It'll

be a full five to ten years before even the basic framework is sorted out, if you ask me, and by then I'll be long gone.

Cynically,

Rob Tuley, 4th Year Mech Eng

It is clear from reading our new Rector's prose, that he intends to manage it like a huge business corporation ("need to change our brand", "international market", "merger"...). While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, and sometimes a little dynamism is good, I hope we all recognise that IC is very different from a car or (indeed) a pharmaceutical company. In all this talk of "opening up" and being "competitive" there is a big danger that research (like pure mathematics or physics etc.) that does not bring in immediate dividends, or grants from the US Defence department or GSK, will be axed. The independence of Science from commercial interests is also a fundamental issue.

We should keep in mind the functions of a university, and keep our priorities well in check.

Well, I could also rant on the dangers of the GATS agreement on liberalisation of educational services but...

M. Cand

## Add Some Top Up Fees

I am absolutely appaled by the events of the last few days and the hastiness with which the rector of my alma mater, Imperial College, is trying to push through his own agenda. I hope sincerely that the entire college shows their disgust at the proposals and the way in which both staff and students are being totally walked-over.

Imperial College is an outstanding place to study but I fear that if we do not speak out, it will soon turn into Sir Richard's dream - a mega- institution for the elite, where money and not intelligence dictate who gets in. Imperial is a top institution, respected the world over, for its academic excellence. It is not a blue-chip company; it is an institution which has built its reputation thanks to the abilities of the people it

"On behalf of Imperial College Union, I would like to thank all the students who attended the protest, and all those who helped co-ordinate the event"

*Sen Ganesh, Union President*

For more information on student fees, please go to  
[www.union.ic.ac.uk/protest](http://www.union.ic.ac.uk/protest)





# Your Letters

attracts. Let us not lose sight of this fact, otherwise I fear that Sir Richard's latest, corporate experiment, will be a disaster for the UK, signalling the end of the right to a top-class university education for all, and a slippery slope towards a two-tiered, segregated society such as the United States, where ethics are second to the dollar.

For a man whose CV professes "humble beginnings", it appears that Sir Richard suffers from severe amnesia. Someone as clearly talented as himself would probably never have had the chance to achieve his full potential if our education system was self-funding and socially exclusive, like it is in the USA. Hence it is very worrying indeed that most people, except for Sir Richard himself, know that intelligence has no respect for money and social-class. Yet it is what has made Imperial College great. So why may we ask are we allowing such a man to conduct his get-rich-quick experiment on Imperial, and be at the helm of this ill-planned voyage to certain disaster?

## And Stir...

Dear Felix,

What is going on at Imperial? Don't let them introduce top up fees of up to £10,500!!! I most certainly would not have come to study at Imperial if I had to pay that much. Most people would not be able to afford it!

What's this about a merger with UCL? In the news I read that the merger was for academic reasons and not economic. They also claimed that they not 'anticipate' any staff reductions. Do you believe them?

When I was at Imperial, the majority of students didn't care much about College politics and I assume it's still pretty much the same. I am as guilty of this as most. But I think that this is the time for IC students (past and present) to come out of the woodwork (and the bar) and really let their opinions be known! Don't just let the senior management just walk all over you!

I say NO to top up fees and NO to the merger!

Jason Wong. (Elec. Eng. 97-01)

Hello World.

Did anyone else notice how Imperial politics become more and more alike to real-world politics? Take this current development for example: IC plans to merge with UCL (something strongly against our interest and therefore potentially unpopular), and to divert our attention from this major issue, someone spreads rumours about top-up fees that are consequently denied.

It's like a president starting a war to hide that his economy is going down the drain.

We should be protesting against the merger today, not against top-up fees that won't materialise. The real threat has been successfully swiped from our minds with this cunning trickery.

What kind of pompous ass is it that says "whoever wants to drag the university of london tag can go to brunel"??? I very much hope that this university is not going to fall into this kind of elitist "we don't give a fuck about anyone else cause they're not a s good as us", which is why many people dislike Oxford and Cambridge..

I hope that was coming indeed from the 70's, and that this idiot was an aberration even in his own age.

Yours, Physics

Dear Felix,

This is an open letter to say an enormous thank you to all the students and staff who turned out for the silent protest last friday morning. Despite the early hour, cold wind and persistent rain there were at least 700 people lining the route all the way from Sherfield to the Rector's residence at 170 Queen's Gate.

Those present at the meeting of College Council say that the Governors and academic staff were impressed by the large numbers present and the good behaviour throughout the protest.

Although the decision on tuition fees still went through, it did so with a significant amendment in our favour and an acknowledgement from the Rector that the views of students can't just be brushed aside.

We're not going to let this end here - if you want to get involved

with the second phase of the campaign against increased tuition fees, visit <http://union.ic.ac.uk/no2fees/> for more information.

In summary, the protest made a positive difference to the outcome of the meeting, so well done and thank you for coming along!

Etienne, Katherine, Oliver, Mustafa, Jude and the rest of the Protest Co-ordinators.

## ...Until Half Baked

Dear Will,

I've worked it out, and you're in big trouble this time... did you really think no-one would notice? This whole UCL, top-up fees, blame the rector nonsense is all your doing isn't it! Just a big scam to kick the media group into gear! STOIC \*and\* ICRadio live at the same time? People actually \*reading\* Felix? Obviously this is all just a big lie to get people to start paying attention to your newspaper and your little friends in the Media Centre.

Yours aggravatingly, Jess

## And Another Thing

Hi Guys,

As a break from all the talk of the merger, I'm wondering if anyone out there has managed to claim their 10% discount + student VAT exemption (-17.5%) from food purchased from IC catering.

I've had several furious rows with till staff in the MDH and SCR but since the amazing 10% discount for IC people was introduced I haven't been able to get the VAT taken off my food.

It all seems a bit naughty because there is a notice beside all the tills telling me that I can have a (10% + 17.5% =) 27.5% discount but they won't give it to me. I'd also like to know what happens to the VAT I have paid since my purchases have been put through the till as VAT exempt (they swipe my student card after all)...

Hmmm. Has anyone had more luck than me?

Jenny Rickerby  
Chemistry

## Transport Manager

Imperial College Union has a vacancy for a part-time Transport Manager to provide support in the maintenance of the Union's minibus fleet.

The successful applicant will be required to do maintenance checks of the minibus fleet and general repairs as and when required. A maximum of 18 hours a week with pay of £4.20 per hour is required for the job.

For a job description, please phone 0207 594 8060 or Ext. 48060 or write to:

Nick Gore  
Student Activities Co-ordinator  
Imperial College Union  
Beit Quadrangle  
Prince Consort Road  
London  
SW7 2BB  
[n.gore@ic.ac.uk](mailto:n.gore@ic.ac.uk)

Interview Date to be confirmed

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- Participants aged 18 – 49 years of age who **HAVE NOT** received a Flu jab in the previous two winters and have not suffered influenza in the previous two winters.
- Interested in participating in a clinical trial and available for 9 clinic visits and a 9 night quarantined stay in a hotel, after we have administered the flu virus to you, to test the vaccine we give you.

**In return you will receive £1250.00 for your assistance.**

If you are interested please call Retroscreen Virology Limited at Barts and The London, in Mile End on **020 7882 7414** and ask to speak to:

Pat Meeking (Clinical Trials Manager)

Rita Smith (Research Co-ordinator)

Dr. Anthony Gilbert (Study Doctor)

Dr. Lauren Carp (Study Doctor)

or visit our website: **[www.retroscreen.com/clinicaltrials](http://www.retroscreen.com/clinicaltrials)**

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# Web View

**www.eatbug.com**

## Spot the deliberate mistake

**Term of the Week:**  
***RAM (Baaa)***

## From the dotMeister

Come one, come all to the second in the series of hastily thrown together Felix Film reviews! Fingers crossed, by this time next week you will be reading a well organised, informative and easy to understand set of up-to-date movie articles. There may even be one or two interesting articles. Perhaps the sheer volume of copy will shoulder its way onto a second page. Perhaps.

For the time being though (i.e. this week) the level of work put in by your hard working but shockingly green film editor has been limited by happenings in The Real World. Which is bang out of order I know, but such is life. So what does all this gibberish mean? No xXx review I'm afraid. No K-19 review either. Nor is there a review of Red Dragon or even Halloween Resurrection.

I haven't been to the pictures in over a week so you're stuck with cop-out DVD and video reviews. Sorry to all of you without either - keep an eye out for the TV premieres or something ;)

On the bright side, it's Halloween next Thursday, so all the reviews are of appropriately gory and blood-chillingly scary horror movies. Enjoy!!



## RING

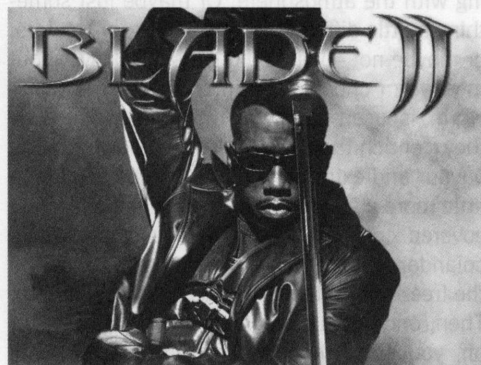
Ok, in what can only be described as a vain attempt to push back the boundaries of film reviewing, I will now proceed to watch the "Scariest Movie Ever", as recommended by my horror-movie loving friends - Hideo Nakata's "Ring" (cheap in Virgin, btw). I will then, in a thoroughly petrified state, try and fill you in on the details. Its 3am, I'm alone in the house, the lights are off... wish me luck....

Well, ninety minutes later I'm still here. The television is still in the room, but I am twitching a bit and I fear sleep may be a little hard to come by this morning. I've already decided I'll wait for the sun to come up before I go to the loo...

The movie centres around a Japanese urban myth involving a videotape - anyone who watches the tape dies horribly. Ring (also known as Ringu) is a fantastic suspense filled film that had me scared silly throughout. There are a few slow patches, but the sting in the tail will have you burrowing behind the sofa.

The American remake (cleverly titled "The Ring") was released in the U.S. earlier this year and is scheduled for a December release over here. I'm not sure how well a remake will suit this movie, it's one where much of the appeal derives from its very particular style. For example, the Rollerball remake was entertaining but nowhere near as intense and effective as the original. Ring has planted seeds of paranoia in my head - a terrifying piece of work. Subtitled Japanese horror may not be your cup of tea, but I urge you to try this one for size this Halloween - it's the perfect movie for a dark, lonely night.

*Ring is out now, Cert 18 on DVD and video*



## BLADE II

The Daywalker returns for the second movie in a series that is sure to be a franchise before long. Not that I'm saying this is a bad thing, mind. I love Snipes and reckon that Blade was the best thing he'd done - aside from Demolition Man (yes, i really *did* like that movie) - until this.

Our Wes reprises his role of Blade - a half human half-vampire cross breed - in this violent and fast paced fantasy horror. On the face of it, this one hasn't got a great deal going for it. Unknown director, obviously trying to cash in on the success of the original, samey plot, one third of Bros as the main bad guy and so on. But somehow all this adds up to an utterly fantastic ride, with some superbly choreographed fight sequences (heavy on the Wire-Fu and SFX, so steer clear if you're not a fan) and a surprisingly enticing story, which sees Blade forced into a truce with the Vampire Nation after a new mutual threat is discovered in the shape of Luke Goss and his hybrid vamps. And yes, Luke actually makes a convincing bad guy - its worth seeing just for that spectacle alone.

If you do get your hands on the DVD version, you will be treated to two superb commentaries (one featuring a frank and honest account from first-time director Del Toro, the other featuring Snipes and the writer, David Goyer) as well as a treasure trove of deleted scenes, storyboards, documentaries, interviews... all of which have commentary provided by the director Guillermo Del Toro. A fun movie ideal for Halloween and a packed DVD. Heartily recommended!

*Blade II is out now, Cert 18 on DVD and video*

## Coming soon

### 28 DAYS LATER...

Alex Garland? Danny Boyle? An undead Leonardo DiCaprio? We can but hope! Seriously, this zombie-esque flick looks fantastic. Mostly an unknown cast but I for one am dying to see the striking scenes of a deserted London, as well as Garlands proper scriptwriting debut (The Beach doesn't count).

*28 Days Later... is released on 1st November 2002, Cert. 18.*

## DOG SOLDIERS

Werewolves vs. British Special Forces in a fight to the death in Scotland. This one was released to an unsuspecting public earlier this year and became a huge cult hit. British movie making at its best, ladies and gents, with buckets of gore just like any self-respecting 18 certificate should have. The best werewolf movie ever?

*Dog Soldiers is available to rent from 4th November 2002, Cert. 18.* (Note - this is an unconfirmed date and since it's been put back a couple of times already, don't hold me to it. I do however have it on reasonably good authority that it will have a US DVD release on November 5th, so those of you with multi-region players keep your paws crossed.)

### What you should be watching....

...at the Movies : Donnie Darko (Released 18th October, 15)

...on TV: Interview With The Vampire (Wednesday 30th October, 23:35, ITV1)

...on Sky: Pitch Black (Monday 28th October, 22:00, MovieMax)

...on Video: Blade II (Released 14th October, 12)



**Did You Know That  
CERVICAL CANCER  
&  
GENTAL WARTS  
are Caused By Similar Viruses?**

**A vaccine to protect against these viruses is now  
being tested in london**

**100 young women between the ages of 18 & 23 will  
be invited to take part in this research**

**If the vaccine is shown to be effective it is hoped  
that eventually all young women will routinely be  
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**If you want to find out more about how you  
can become involved then please phone the  
study hotline number on**

**020 7886 6047  
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# Albums & Singles

## Supergrass

5/5

### Life On Other Planets



If in ten years time **Supergrass** are still making music, then surely all of us will have a bright future to look forward to. Their distinctive blend of pop-lyrics and retro sounds have made them last a lot longer than their contemporaries of the Brit-band explosion of the mid-nineties. And if this album is any indication of things to come, we can expect to see them around for some time.

As with a lot of their music, *Life On Other Planets* seems to be music from a different era. It is as if it was originally recorded in the mid-seventies and then sealed in the Blue Peter time capsule along with a copy of The Daily Mirror and a signed pic-

ture of John Craven. When I say this, I mean that like a lot of music of that era, **Supergrass** have no fear of putting tasty electric riffs and catchy pop lyrics together, resulting in something that is decidedly bouncy and optimistic yet with a suggestion of maturity.

*Life On Other Planets* is an album that flows like lemonade from a glass bottle: cleanly, quickly and with a lot of effervescence. *Grace*, the first single taken from the album, sets the tone for the album with the line 'we jumped all night on your trampoline'.

**Supergrass:** keeping the nation pogoing.

Patrick

## Singles

### Moby - In This World

Another Moby single, another soulful blues sample, sung by another unknown artist. Anyone who's heard *Natural Blues* (and let's face it, who hasn't?) will know what to expect. It seems the skin-headed songster has discovered a simple formula for chillout tune success - gospel tinged vocals, simple piano refrain, dreamy backing strings and relaxed house beat - and is churning out single after single of the stuff. Now, don't get me wrong; I liked *Play* as much as the next man, but I just hope he runs out of old bluegrass recordings soon, so he can start making something a little different.

3/5

Tom Bell

### Parva - Hessels

This was good, but not dirty and innovative enough for me - like a good power-rock song should. The bass is particularly attractively tight, the guitars are sharp, totally high-fidelity. The whole song sounds nice and nostalgically, like one of those on the debut album of Snuff. It seems as though the lead singer of Parva wanted to make his song edgier like those of Snuff, and in trying to achieve that aim, he decided, at regular points, to shout gently. And that's the problem because his gentle shouts are like flat tyres; the song is working but there is also something bothersome. The band act with kitsch effect because the anger that the singer tries to express is the kind of anger that hits you when you realize that there aren't any cereals left for your breakfast.

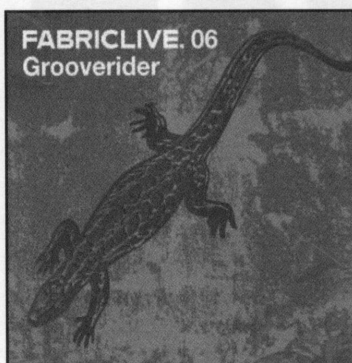
3/5

Nic

## Grooverider

4/5

### Fabric Live 06



This is the sixth release from the *FABRICLIVE* series. The idea is that Fabric releases mixes from their resident DJs and punters can subscribe online to receive (at a discount from the real retail price) their latest dose of breakbeat through the post.

**Grooverider** is the latest to receive the *FABRICLIVE* treatment, and this CD does make for interesting listening. Compared to some of the drum and bass dross that is churned out on a regular basis, **Grooverider's** choice of tracks and mixing style (jigsaw mixes, VIP dubbing and quick cuts) harks back to his early days as an acid house impresario.

This set starts with some blinding tracks (*Got Me Burning* by **Peshay** and *Alien Girl*, by **Ed Rush**, **Optical** and **Fierce**), but the tempo worked up at the start seems to almost lose control mid-way through, and seriously heavy bass beat takes over. The tracks get dark and dirty, the crowd - you would imagine - are going wild, and it is only

towards the last third of the set that you get a sense of **Grooverider's** range as a DJ, when the tracks seem to take on an almost schizophrenic quality, dodging from laid back, almost chilled drum and bass, to mentalism on a grand scale!

Stand-out tracks on this CD would have to include **Optimus Prime's** *Amen Slag* and **Grooverider's** VIP mixes of *Deadline* by **Digital** and *Back for More* by **Influx Datum** - tracks that offer both a chill out and a party at the same time.

Perhaps it is the fact that **Grooverider** has been around since the early days - when house turned into jungle, which then turned into drum and bass. Perhaps it's because he's not afraid to throw all these styles together, mix them up and see what happens. Whatever it is, if you love drum and bass you will not be disappointed. If you can only afford one CD in the *FABRICLIVE* series, this is the one to get!

Katherine

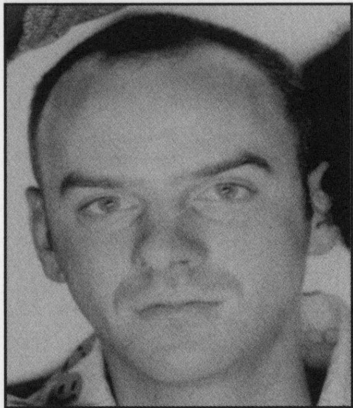




# Albums & Singles

## Various

### Big Beach Boutique



This compilation has music from the massive free gig on Brighton beach during the summer by Norman Cook. It's not the complete set, and he used **Midfield General** to mix this album as well. The album contains songs which are eclectic but still have some of his house roots.

The album kicks off with **Midfield General's** *Reach Out*, a nice chilling song which has a rasping chorus with Linda Lewis who sounds similar to Macy Gray. It mixes to the only **Fatboy Slim** track *Talkin' 'bout my Baby* (not including his involvement with the **Might Dub Katz**). It's not his strongest track but it does mix well.

The track selection is filled with songs which I've heard but didn't know the name of, for example **Tim Deluxe's** *It Just Won't Do*. Other notable tracks are the classic **Groove Armada's** *Superstylin'* and the mind numbingly overplayed **X-Press 2's** *Lazy*. The compilation seems to dip at the end with songs

which aren't up to the same quality as the beginning. However, it does pick up, with the surprise inclusion of the **All Saints' Pure Shores**, which is an excellent song to finish a set right next to the beach.

If you went to this gig, you might want to buy this album for nostalgic reasons. Otherwise it's a tidy compilation which really depends if you're a fan of Norman Cook's taste in music.

Oscar

#### COMPETITION TIME

If you fancy getting your hands on a copy of the Sugababes brand new single, then here's your chance.

The Sugababes first album was:-

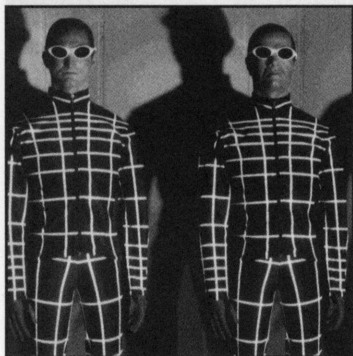
- a) One Touch
- b) Sugababes

Please email your answer, with your name, year and department to [music.felix@ic.ac.uk](mailto:music.felix@ic.ac.uk) by Thursday 31st of October.

## 4/5

## Cabaret Voltaire

### Nag Nag Nag - Mixes Novamute



At first I used to hate that kind of recycled albums; using old stuff, asking several DJs to collaborate in order to make them squelch that little bit out of the anonymity, making shiny new money. With this album, I can drop a very little piece of my prejudice. For those who don't know, **Cabaret Voltaire's** *NagNagNag*, released in '79, is a real punk song with Bontempi beats instead of drums, additive voice samples and electronic guitar-like layer. The vocals are also industrially modified; we can say that it's a Kraut-rock song. As the term 'innovators' has recently been applied to **Cabaret Voltaire**, it would have been regressive to ask some existing so-called punk bands to cover *NagNagNag*.

What makes that song (and the

band, I suppose) so fascinating is that it is located at a limit, a border. In the course of the album, the DJs try to recreate that enjoyable feeling of transition (the first two versions are remixes by **Tiga & Zyntherius**) or use elements set down by **Cabaret Voltaire** to create a new current electronic piece and finally go across the border (like the last version).

The third (remix by **Akufen**) is really pleasant. They use the guitar-like part as a noisy, dull under layer for sketches of the original voice. The beat is a kind of bossa rhythm, very sweet and she (or he) inserts fly's farts and other very appreciable crummy sounds. The piece is pretty cool and makes this album rather not bad, above all for the C.V. fiends.

Nic

## Singles

### The Vines - *Outtatheway*

The Vines are still riding high with this, their third single from the highly acclaimed album *Highly Evolved*. There is a lot of hype behind this band with many critics drawing parallels between them and Nirvana, but not to worry too much, a lot of the praise they have received is justified. This single isn't as catchy as *Get Free* but it is not a problem. It's still something good to shout along to. These guys will be playing in London at the beginning of next month, so go get yourself a ticket and see what all the hype is about.

4/5

Sean the dude

### British Sea Power - *Childhood Memories*

This is a very pretty song, and somewhat reminiscent of Fleetwood Mac. They keep it quite chilled and pull it off nicely, even saving some mad noises for the end of the song. Simple lyrics and pleasant sounds await you. An original and unique band. Check them out.

4/5

### Little Hell - *Everybody's Cursed*

There doesn't really seem to be anything new here - it's a bit glam, with a nice clangy bassline and cutting guitars but that is where it ends. I wish it was toned down a bit. It's very hard to take seriously. I'm sure this must be a spoof band because the lyrics are so ridiculous: "I've been saving to fill your grave in, so here's a bag of dirt".

About 20 years too late... Sorry guys.

2/5

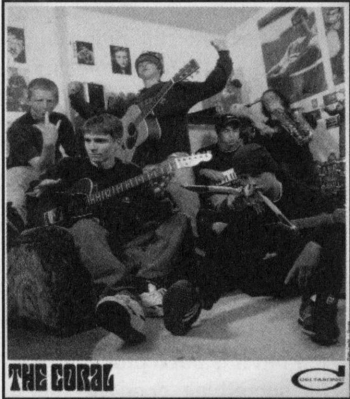
Robin



# Live Review

## The Coral

*Shepherd's Bush Empire - Thursday 10th October*



Thursday evening, and the Shepherd's Bush Empire is sold out for a band which was totally unknown a few months ago. Following the release of their debut album, this band from Liverpool is doing its first UK tour. Their music is "psychedelic rock", a genre ideal for radio play but can songs like *Dreaming of You*, their most recent single, have the same

effect live? That was the big question before the gig.

Opening with *Spanish Man*, a very short but intense song, they invited the London audience into their imagination-filled world. And it worked! The six members gave an excellent live performance. They displayed no fear on stage and showed a maturity seldom seen in such young people (the members are aged between 18 and 21). I don't say it was the most entertaining concert I've been to but they played their album and that was enough. The strength and diversity of their songs made it work.

From the beginning of the year, England has been introduced to new bands such as The Electric Soft Parade and The Music; new guys who give a breath of fresh air to the Brit pop-rock scene after the Oasis/Blur era. But our boys fol-

low the new fashion of short gigs; only 50 minutes from beginning to end. A little too short, perhaps?

I don't judge an album or a performance instantly, but I believe that a band has to give more on stage than in the studio. The Coral did their show and you had to "take it or leave it". Why no encore? I'm sure that they had other songs to play; there were two new tracks on their last single! Perhaps because it was 50 intense minutes full of happiness without intermission, I was begging for more. It's too late to see them in London now. So get the album immediately! Or you will miss out on one of the best albums of the year 2002!

Mike

*The Coral's self-titled debut album is out in the shops now.*

**3/5**

## Richard Ashcroft

*Human Conditions*



The bright summery feeling of the first single, *Check The Meaning*, from his latest album is guaranteed to make you smile. The perfect autumn song, reminiscent of summer and yet cozy enough to make you want to dive back under the duvet and just listen....

And that is exactly what this album is, 'cozy'. While it doesn't represent a massive departure from the style Richard Ashcroft had cultivated whilst in The Verve and in his previous solo

releases, it does offer exactly what any die-hard fan of northern soul will want - songs with strong melodies and strong sentiments.

At times Ashcroft is in danger of sounding a bit like a new-age hippie, singing '*Nature is the law, baby*' to a chilled-out, hazy chorus line.

However, the range exhibited in this album, from love-ballads to songs describing the harsh realities of life, is impressive. It acts as an indication of him achieving a new level of accomplishment in his craft as a songwriter.

Richard Ashcroft sings to you in this album from the enviable vantage point of knowing that what he has crafted will not only be popular with his loyal fans, but also accessible to the rest of the record-buying public, con-

taining - as it does here - a noticeable polish compared to some of his previous releases, which had more 'rough and readiness' about them.

The combination of guitar band music with orchestral accompaniment still works well and one of the tracks, *Bright Lights*, offers a hint of something different - experimentation with new percussion styles resulting in an altogether more interesting, complex brand of music.

In this latest album, there is an overriding feeling of darkness which is, unexpectedly, almost comforting. Listening to this is like the return of an old friend....and as the man himself says 'It sure feels like I've been here before'.

Katherine

## Albums

All Systems Go - Mon Chi Chi

All Systems Go sound exactly like an American high school TV show. Normally, this is no reason for complaint, but they're Swedish and while you can hear (if you listen really carefully) bits of The Soundtrack of Our Lives and maybe even The Hives, they still sound like they belong in California. Sounding like you belong in California typically means you are a big, dumb, vacuous, pop-punk for school girls, which coincidentally is pretty much how ASG sound.

They take the tried and tested route of picking three chords, playing them in slightly differing orders around catchy three minute pop songs without taking themselves seriously at all, and it pays off. Instead of the usual dirge about girls, school and how things are so like, totally unfair man, they sing about big dumb things like motorbikes, robots, girls, revenge and the temporary loss of sanity. All of which makes it far less tiresome and a great deal more enjoyable than the rest of the punk-boy-bands around at the moment. It may not be clever, but it certainly is big.

3/5

Dom

### REVIEWERS

#### REQUIRED

No experience necessary, and you get to keep whatever you review.

Come to Felix in Beit Quad on Thursdays at 1.30pm or email [music.felix@ic.ac.uk](mailto:music.felix@ic.ac.uk) and we'll see if you can do better than us!



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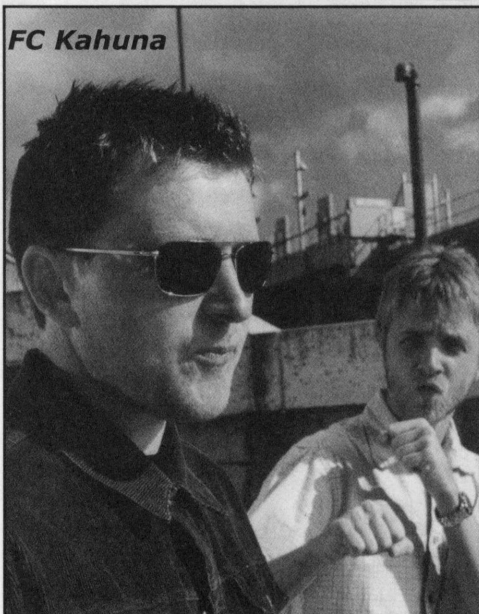
IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION, BEIT QUAD, PRINCE CONSORT ROAD, SW7





# NightLife

FC Kahuna



## Fabriclive

Friday @ Fabric

The debate over the existence of a God should be left for another time and place - but the fact that my 21st birthday fell on a Friday, and coincided with Fabric's 3rd anniversary - certainly nudged me a little further away from complete scepticism.

I have often said that Fabric is the best Friday night out in London, not only for the music and the understated style of the place but also because of the likeminded, friendly and invariably fucked crowd. They were out in full force tonight, all ready to take the beats by the horns and dance until the grins dropped off their faces.

Arriving at 11pm, with the venue already packed, I made my way directly to Room 2 to watch the likes of Grooverider, Adam F and Andy C make it impossible not to be moved by the atmosphere. A good hard dance, a few random conversations with random conversation-ists, a nice chillout on the stairs, a thorough appreciation of the water fountains; all in all, a textbook Fabriclive experience which, even if you are not a fan of the music, should not be missed.

Dan B.

Josh Wink



## Fabric

Saturday @ Fabric

Fabric's Saturday night birthday celebrations took place in fine fashion by doing what they do every Saturday; putting on a night of deep techy house.

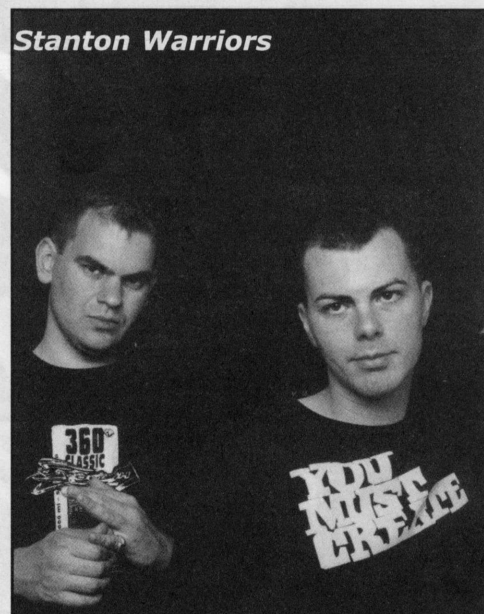
It all really started when Philadelphia's finest, Josh Wink, came on at 2:30am and hammered the crowd with a brilliant set of pounding mechanical, iron hard beats, with screeching acid overtones. His prowess was evident: he would cut out the bass for a few seconds so the crowd could take a breather, before letting it kick in again to an eruption of crowd appreciation.

If that wasn't your thing, DJ Cosmo in Room 3 was playing a great but slightly weird set of 80's electro, jacking', techy bodypopping hiphop sounds (you had to be there) which had everyone doing "the robot".

The climax came at 4am when we headed over to Room 2 to catch Slam, who were playing an inspired mix of funky/party/Detroit sounding techno. By 5:30am we had danced too hard, had no energy left and had to leave to the sound of Dirty by Dirty: "obscene, dirty, filthy, immoral, ah yeah!"

Alexander H.

Stanton Warriors



## Welcome

Everyone loves EC1.

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, Fabric is now three years old. As you can probably tell, we here at Nightlife thought it was significant enough to demand a whole page to cover.

For three years, Fabric has been the night-club of choice for many a clubber. It is the club's attention to detail with its design and its state-of-the-art sound system which guarantee its popularity as a venue. However, it is Fabric's atmosphere, its music and its commitment to giving its clientele an exciting night out which have made it the success it is. If you have never been before and you can bear queuing (or arriving before the queues start to stretch all the way back to the tube station), then you should definitely give it a try (as our reviews will testify).

### Clubbers' Diaries:

If any of you want Nightlife to print an account of a great night out that you've had, then send it to Nightlife at:

clubs.felix@ic.ac.uk

It should be no less than 150 words. So, if there is some gem of a club that you've discovered, or there is some night out that has been cruelly ignored by us - or even if you want to tell everyone about some reckless, lairy bender (within reason, guys - I'll have no pathetic tales of dodgy kebabs and the subsequent vomitus, thanks).

Have a good weekend and take it easy.

Patrick

### Saturday 2nd November

Rahzel (Live)  
Stanton Warriors  
Scratch Perverts

9.30pm-5am  
£12 (£10 NUS)

Fabric, 77A Charterhouse Street, EC1  
www.fabriclondon.com

### Saturday 2nd November

Terry Francis  
Jon Marsh  
DJ Buck

10pm - 7am  
£15 (£12 NUS)

Fabric, 77A Charterhouse Street, EC1  
www.fabriclondon.com

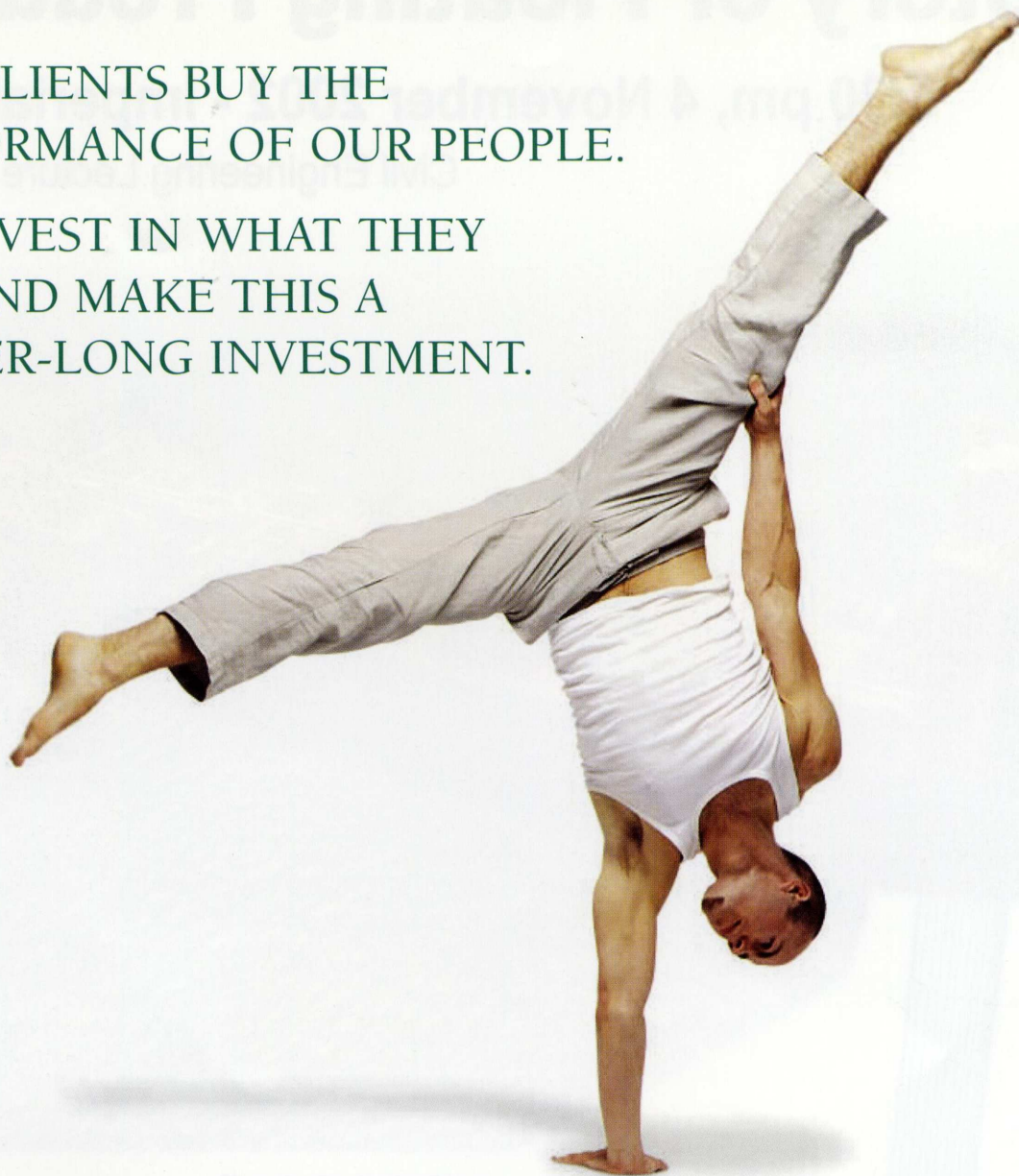
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"My nose feels like it's been taken for a 24hr test-drive by Daniella Westbrook..."



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Civil Engineering Lecture Theatre 208



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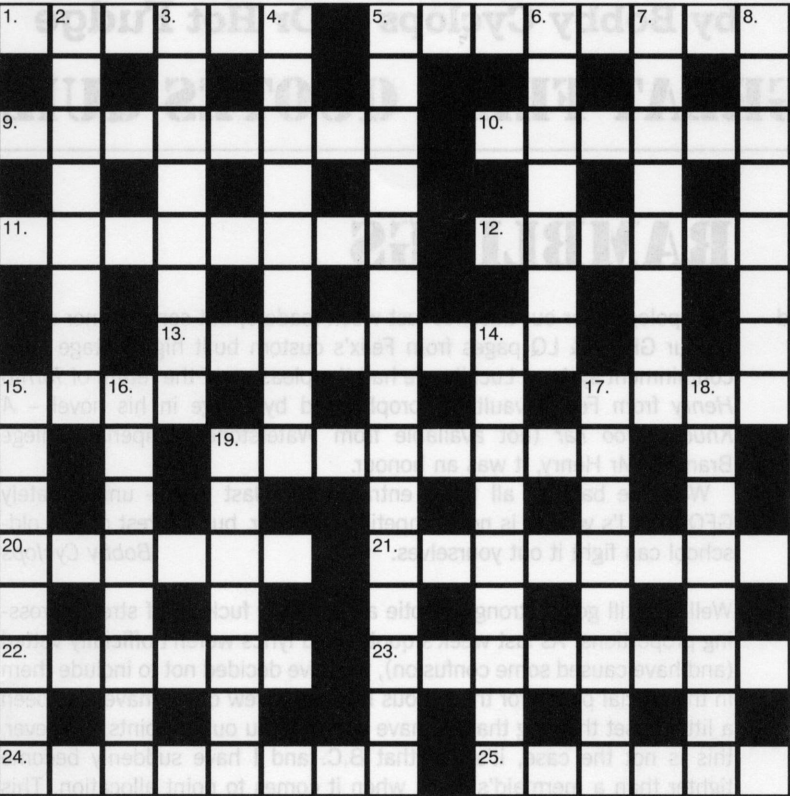
[www.singlebuoy.com](http://www.singlebuoy.com)

**Looking forward to meeting you on 4 November 2002 !**





Felix Crossword 1245



By Boris the Inquisitive Goat

- Across**

  - 1 God-like editor returns if College calls (6)
  - 5 Implant celebrity on crazy isle (8)
  - 9 Coerce Fred to join the University of London energetically (8)
  - 10 Big Ben sounds with no Latin drums (6)
  - 11 Good catch! Joining uses Helium with two fifties (4, 4)
  - 12 Sit back, dear girl and take a Kleenex (6)
  - 13 Croon after initial fear of Copper, moving a lens (8)
  - 15 Space Cowboy takes tea in over-the-top land (4)
  - 17 Ian wears Calvin Klein, but why? It's a childish mess! (4)
  - 19 London club takes in a loan - how unnecessary! (8)
  - 20 Known as Mother, she's a hurrier we hear (6)
  - 21 Going off, idiot loses race in Tring (8)
  - 22 Is the Order of Merit given by the Queen for atomic similarity? (6)
  - 23 Race across the water, part of eye with Hydrogen, guys (8)
  - 24 New England editor's at start of winter - requires victory (5, 3)
- Down**

  - 25 Mother holding tea is silent (6)
  - 2 Bizarre rice toes can only be understood by a few (8)
  - 3 This fact has sorted out life and makes you prettier! (8)
  - 4 Circle Of Friends bill vessel - not my cup of tea (9)
  - 5 Steve met Elrond's kind after questionable cider sun tot and killed himself (4, 11)
  - 6 One man saw Ingrid remove her skirt - what a chore! (7)
  - 7 Not quite organic, Naomi's into S&M - it's so good! (8)
  - 8 Direction, not to put to fine a point on it (8)
  - 14 New stick is Mauritian coinage (9)
  - 15 Graft around rising professional with a sting in its tail (8)
  - 16 Tax haven is bad, but sounds certain (8)
  - 17 Wondering if the opening is available, simple Si sits above a shed (2, 2, 4)
  - 18 Bloke on E sees the monster loch with enthusiasm (8)
  - 19 Sir Shev shakes (7)

Greetings one and all from me, Boris the Inquisitive Goat. I'll be your crossword compiler for the foreseeable future and here is the first attempt - be gentle with me. Last week's winner was **Neil Yorke-Smith, IC-PARC**, so congratulations - another entry for the extravagant extravaganza commonly known as the crossword tombola, the winner of which will receive an unspecified prize of immense proportions. Keep your answers coming in to the Felix office or send them to [coffee.felix@ic.ac.uk](mailto:coffee.felix@ic.ac.uk) - you know the drill. What with my new-found fame expanding faster than a hamster in a microwave, I've decided to launch a campaign to have the new college formed by merging IC and UCL named after me! Boris the Inquisitive Goat College, London (which helpfully abbreviates to BIG) will be a name that strikes fear into the hearts of other academics across the world! I'm off to e-mail the Rector about it...

- Answers to 1244**
- Across:** Channel, Aborted, Haricot, Outlets, Raspberry, Radio, Salsa, Prototype, Spineless, Sit-up, Royal, Demarcate, Aileron, Gigolos, Macadam, Canards
- Down:** Cohorts, Aerosol, Neck Brace, Later, Anonymous, Otter, Tuesday, Dispose, Pseudonym, Oestrogen, Sarcasm, Idyllic, Trawler, Pleases, Lurid, Magic

JOHNNY ROCKHEAD WAS ALWAYS POPULAR WITH THE LADIES BECAUSE OF HIS STRONG, SILENT IMAGE. BUT HE COULD NEVER ESCAPE THE FEELING THAT HE SHOULD BE WAIST-DEEP IN MUD IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PACIFIC



# GFQQ MK II

by Bobby Cyclops & Dr Hot Fudge

## THE GREAT FELIX QUOTES QUIZ

### THE QUOTES

1. "Adrianos was not perfect. It was perfectly planned, but executed with neolithic incompetence."
2. "Man, you really are prehistoric!"
3. "I like you Clarence, always have.....always will."
4. "Not just screwing Mitch. But the kind of intimate acts like oral and what-not, that a trusting young wife might find hard to forgive."
5. "To make honey, young bee need young flower, not old prune."
6. "This little scrotum – sucker deceived us!"
7. "The moral of the story is, 'don't be a dick', Dick."

### ANSWERS TO GFQQ 1244

1. Westley/Cary Elwes - The Princess Bride
2. Dr Frank-N-Furter/Tim Curry - Rocky Horror Picture Show
3. Fred/Lance Percival - Yellow Submarine
4. Blade/Wesley Snipes - Blade 2
5. Roy Batty/Rutger Hauer - Blade Runner
6. HAL 9000/Douglas Rain - 2001: A Space Odyssey
7. Withnail/Richard E. Grant  
~I/Paul McGann - Withnail and I

### WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

[www.hatsofmeat.com](http://www.hatsofmeat.com)

**Synopsis:** Intriguing insight into the world of meat hats – "Remembering the past, cherishing the present, and celebrating the future of meat hats."

**Rating:** Never have we been more confused by a website. Plenty of info, FAQs and so on, but we like pictures, and there needs to be more on this site. Nevertheless, it is fascinating - find out where the phrase "I'll eat my hat" came from, and how to discourage dogs from eating your meat-hat with a water-pistol filled with lemon juice. Enjoy.

Coffeebreak score: 6/10

### RAMBLINGS

We apologise for our absence last week readers, but some janner deleted our GFQQ & LQ pages from Felix's custom built high voltage laser containment system. Luckily, we had the pleasure of the return of *Turnip Henry* from Felix's vault, as prophesised by Fudge in his novel – *A Knuckle Too Far* (not available from Waterstones, Imperial College Branch). Mr Henry, it was an honour.

Welcome back to all those entrants from last year – unfortunately GFQQ mk I's winner is not competing this year, but the rest of you old-school can fight it out yourselves.

Bobby Cyclops

Well it's still going strong, despite an almighty fuck-up of stream-crossing proportions. As last week's quotes and lyrics weren't officially vetted (and have caused some confusion), we have decided not to include them in the official points for the various leagues. A few of you have also been a little upset thinking that we have cheated you out of points. However, this is not the case, it's just that B.C. and I have suddenly become tighter than a mermaid's crack when it comes to point allocation. This means that to gain the highest stature in the lyrics quiz you have to state the exact artist. For instance, Coolio & L.V. recorded *Gangsta's Paradise*, not just the braided one himself. So don't cry my little pretties, just make sure you do your research. Toodle-oo.

Dr. Hot Fudge



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# GFLQ (THE FIRST ONE)

## THE GREAT FELIX LYRICS QUIZ

### LEADER BOARDS

#### GFOQ

Name	Score
JMC4 Coalition	16
Chris Ince	16
Dave Roberts	16
Jennifer Williams	16
50D	16
Samuel Jackson	16
Geoff Lay	16
John Anderson	16
Richard Hutchinson	16
Fred Marquis	16

#### GFLQ

Name	Score
50D	22
Ongar Rd Massif	20.5
Chris Ince	20.5
Christopher Dent	20.5
Jennifer Williams	20.5
Samuel Jackson	20.5
Geoff Lay	20.5
JMC4 Coalition	20
David Mercer	20
Rosemary Chandler	19.5

### ULTRALEAGUE

Name	Score	Name	Score
50D	38	Rosemary Chandler	33.5
Chris Ince	36.5	Richard Moore	31
Jennifer Williams	36.5	Luke McManus	30.5
Samuel Jackson	36.5	Anthony Jude Rodrigues	19
Geoff Lay	36.5	Chris Tickner	17.5
JMC4 Coalition	36	Ruth Loeffler	15.5
John Anderson	35.5	Christopher Pollock	15
Ongar Rd Massif	35	Rebecca Newman	13
Christopher Dent	35	Leo Harrison	12.5
Richard Hutchinson	35	Ben Dudson	10
David Mercer	34.5	Kev Fox	6.5

### I SEE GRAFFITI

Being a home of the scientist and engineer, Imperial provides some 'side-splitting' toilet and lecture relief with graffiti which arises from the combined wit of 10,000 bright young minds. Or so you would think....

From physics:

*[Written in the grouting in a toilet cubical]*

**More graffiti should be confined to grouting...**

**More physics should be confined to grouting.**

From chemical engineering:

*[On the toilet roll dispenser]*

**Mech. Eng. degrees: help yourself.**

If you spot any worthy graffiti around, be sure to let us know, and gain yourself an Ultraleague point or two!

### THE LYRICS

1. "Welcome to the physics disco, where all the boys are dancin' on their own."
2. "This city desert makes me feel so cold: It's got so many people but it's got no soul."
3. "Keep your foot hard on the pedal, Son never mind them brakes. Let it all hang out cause we got a run to make."
4. "This indecision's bugging me. Esta undecision me molesta."
5. "A hundred stairs to her new room, over glass and blackened spoons. Children grow old so soon."
6. "He can't satisfy you with his little worm, but I can bust you up with my super sperm!!"
7. "Like a gay tarantella... lucky fella."
8. "John's got brewers droop, he gets intimidated by the dirty pigeons – they love a bit of it."
9. "Once there was this girl who wouldn't go and change with the girls in the change room. But when they finally made her, they saw birthmarks all over her body"
10. "Hanging on in quiet desperation is the English way. The time is gone, the song is over, thought I'd something more to say."

### ANSWERS TO GFLQ 1244

1. Vanilla Ice – Ice Ice Baby
2. The Irresistable Force – Nepalese Bliss
3. The Aloof – One Night Stand
4. Led Zeppelin – The Lemon Song
5. Andreas Johnson – Glorious
6. The Kinks – Come Dancing
7. Dire Straits – Romeo and Juliet
8. Fleetwood Mac – Songbird
9. Eagle-Eye Cherry – Indecision
10. All Saints – Never Ever



# Football, Football

## Goldsmiths 0 - 6 IC I

This was our first official game of the season. A bit of trip to get to their grounds, but we were there nice and early and got ready for the game. We started off a bit rusty, but after the first 5 minutes, we came back to take complete control of the game. Everyone was working hard and putting in the effort, and we started looking really dangerous going forward and created a pile of chances, but just couldn't finish them. Finally, about 35 minutes into the game, Alan cleverly took a free kick while they were sorting out their wall, curling the ball over it, making it 1-0.

We didn't manage to score again that half, but knew we could do better than that, so we came out having decided to win this one. Our second goal didn't take long, with Mark delivering a free kick to the far post, Alan linking

up to finish it with a power header. 2-0! We kept our foot down, scoring again within a couple of minutes. Some great movement in the middle and down the right, a good ball in from Mark, a set up by Oli and 3-0 it was by Joss. We were all over them and knew we could score more. Jeff, who'd come on for Anis, got the ball inside their box, smashing past the keeper...4-0. There was still some time left in the game, and we had to make something of it. Mark, going past everyone down the right, put a great ball in the box for Mathan to put the 5th one away, bottom right corner. A couple of minutes before the end we got another one, Mark's brilliant through ball to Jeff, who brought it down nicely and finished it easily, to end it 6-0.

Good performance all round, but they weren't the best side we've played against, so no need to get carried away...

## Reading 1 - 2 IC I

BUSA has always proved to be a tough competition, and our first game in it this year proved to be no exception.

We had to make our way to Reading. Got there a bit late, as they gave us no instructions to get to their pitch, which we thought was very nice of them! Got out really fired up for the game but didn't start as well as we might have done. They started better than us and took control of the game for the first 15 minutes. It was about then we decided to start playing a bit of football. We evened up the game and looked dangerous when going forward. It was clear this was going to be a tough one and we had to fight to win it. We threatened them a couple of times, but they managed to score first, a good move and finish to be fair. But we weren't gonna give up just like that. We fought,

and managed to pull one back. A well deserved goal, quick pass from Tim to Left Back Ant, Straight to Joss, switching play to the right to Mark, who combined with Anis beautifully, to score. That was how the first half ended.

In the second half we came on really determined to fight harder, as winning the game was what we were there for. We were now looking a lot better than them and much more likely to score. And so it was! A sweet chip ball by Oli behind the defence to Nathan, who took it on and finished easily and confidently past the keeper. After this we didn't let our performance drop although they did put pressure on us. They had one or two chances, but so did we. Neither of us managed to score, so 2-1 it was!

First BUSA game, a convincing win against a very good side. Keep this up boys and lots more will come!

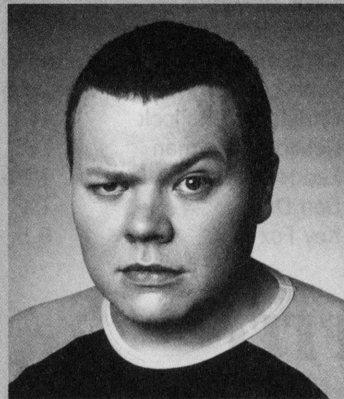
# Football

## Kent II 0 - 1 IC III

The team had to leave an hour early to travel to Canterbury via tube, train and bus, and at the end we were still left with a long walk to find the club house and pitch.

The team were immediately put into a state of shock by Gary deciding to prance around the changing rooms wearing only his newly bought black man thong - not a pretty sight I assure you. On the pitch IC started slowly, unable to keep possession and for long periods of time and we spent most of the first half chasing the ball. Chris Jermyn strained his thigh at the beginning of the first half and with Henry being our only substitute, a straight swap was made and we had our midfield captain playing up front, or at least attempting to as I often found myself further up the field. Our

defence held strong and for all their possession Kent made very few chances and were unable to score. This took us into half time at nil nil. We were tired and knew that we had to get more of the ball in the second half and keep possession, however we still felt confident that we could go out there and win the match. We started the second half brightly and we scored early on with Henry toe poking the ball through the keepers legs. This led to another spell of very little possession, however our fitness didn't seem too bad and we were able to chase back and defend well. Towards the end we had another decent chance, this time Henry was unfortunate and the keeper made a good save. Towards the end the match was tense and we just managed to hold on for a well deserved away win, which was a good reward for all our efforts.



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# Grass!

# Plastic!

## GKT 15 - 29 IC 1

Having trekked across London to play the mighty GKT, only to find they had made the slight oversight of forgetting a referee, we had doubts we would ever actually play a rugby match this season. However, with the calm intervention of Brimah, our backs coach, the game went ahead.

The game got to a "cracking" start with an immense scrum being led by Chris "You're not so lippy with your legs in the air" Protherough, and soon enough, after some slick forwards moves, the backs were released by an outstanding kick by scrum half Rob to score their first try.

Then GKT came back, worryingly led by the ginger army to push IC back to their own try line. The Imperial Defence, led by Alex "shiner" James rose to the challenge admirably and the half ended with a blistering try by Dan "Mr

Casual" Darg to put the score at 12-0 to IC.

IC began dominating the second half with monstrous tackles going in from Mike "the Animal" Hicks and Alex James to put GKT on the back foot. Further outstanding play from Chris "Are you clean or do I need to go to the clinic" Protherough again gave the backs the space and opportunity they needed to break through the defence and set up Will "the Raging Bull" Nicklin with a try in the corner. To state that Will enjoys picking on little wingers is as big an understatement as saying our supporter's hair was a little queer.

Basically, Imperial rose to a huge challenge despite the obvious cheating on the scoreboard by the furry ginger. Special mentions to Dave Evans, whom scored a freshers hatrick, Dan Darg and the indisputable man of the match Chris Protherough. Watch out Virgins before it goes to his head.

Some of us are too impatient to wait for snow to start racing, and so the first race of the year took place last Saturday at Wycombe Summit.

The first two races for both teams proved that racing with no practice for 5 months is not a good idea, with both teams coming away empty handed.

An intermission in the racing gave both teams a chance to regroup. Ben and Ned headed straight for the bar at this point - something about dutch courage and fear of pain - whilst the rest of us hit the slopes to try and prevent more embarrassment.

Both methods seemed to work, however, and IC1 and IC2 both racked up 2 deserved wins. Confidence was high and IC2 stepped up to take a tough challenge against Southampton. All 5 racers went down and IC2 celebrated a deserved victory - until they were disqualified.

No matter, IC1 v IC2 was up next, and more importantly Ned against Hideaki - last years race captain against the all conquering Japanese newcomer. Hideaki matched Ned all of the way, and it would have been a photo finish but Hideaki fell at the last and crossed the line on his arse. The rest of the race was a formality, the 1sts recording a victory that was so easy that the last racer crossed the line backwards.

IC clearly won the final race, but it was given the other way. Time for Ned to have a tantrum - a pre-requisite of any race meeting - but throwing the toys out of the pram had no effect and the teams finished 12th and 15th.

Special mentions must go to Katie, who flew the flag for the imperial ladies in the absence of the rest of her team, and to James who came out of retirement to help with our lack of team members.

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# SUBWAY

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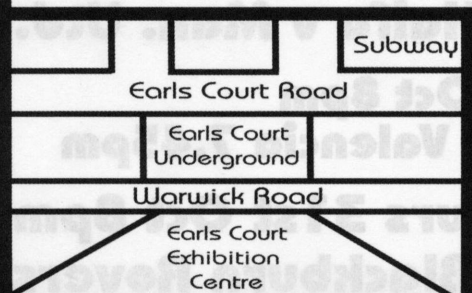
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### Opening Hours

Monday	07.30 - 23.45
Tuesday	07.30 - 23.45
Wednesday	07.30 - 23.45
Thursday	07.30 - 23.45
Friday	07.30 - 23.45
Saturday	07.30 - 23.45
Sunday	09.00 - 23.45







# Miners

**ICSM 0 - 5 RSM**

Tears were brought to the eyes of many on Wednesday when the Royal School of Mines football team beat the medics by the most convincing of margins. Though for the RSM it was a normal Wednesday at work, having won their fourth game in a row, now topping the ULU 2nd Division.

It all started beautifully with the cheap return fare to the football ground and it then went from good to brilliant when RSM scored three quick goals in succession. The first, from the legendary mid-fielder James Dean, the second from Paul Talbot, our own bulldog who never gives up the chase, who with his back to goal, somehow pulled it out the bag to spin and shoot. Before the end of the first half another one of our legendary players - James Stewart - ran on to a long ball, and flicked it

over the goalie. To be fair, a Medic would have cleared it, had he not fallen on his arse.

Second half, storming Gareth Northam ran through the entire medic team and when he ran out of pitch decided to pull one back to a Mr. Kan Niwho who slotted home a beautiful side foot volley. The fifth and final goal was scored by Rob "Shampoo Officer" Thomas, when after a handball in the box, he stepped up to place the ball in the bottom right hand corner off the penalty spot, amazingly. This team effort would not have happened if it weren't for the fantastic duo Dougal Tyrie and Russel Talling, who provide the spinal cord of the whole team. Benoit "Bartez" incidentally had an interesting trip to the suburbs of London, by being introduced to the specialty of "Fish & Chips". Big shout out to Bitchin' Becky from ULU for not promoting us out of this league, 0-5, thanks.

# Virgins

**Surrey 10 - 5 IC Virgins**

We won but we lost... Cryptic? Not really, we arrived at Surrey gagging for some action to find that their referee didn't turn up, so they conceded and we got the BUSA points, yeah baby yeah!

So we scored our first try of the season, beautifully executed by Aoife - and if you don't know how to pronounce her name, you should've read last week's match report! The try originated from the back of a ruck, the ball travelling down the line with stunning precision, getting to Aoife who ran through at least three attempted tackles at high speed, side stepped the most beautiful side-step and followed up with a sprint to score under the posts.

They scored two lucky tries, but our tackling left a little to be desired and they did manage to break our line.

Comedy moments have to be Muttley finding her doppelganger, standing in the scrum was just like looking in the mirror, freaky!

This week we pay homage to Curly Claire and our new spangly shirts now have pink collars. We love you Claire and your Ref...

Forward and Back of the match go to Kitty and Aoife (again) for being good, really, supporting us and all that good rugby type style stuff. So for their efforts they downed a pint each with Fresher Jess, for being a match virgin.

Oh, and kids, we have two new romances for you following last week's drunken Wednesday night. I'll keep you updated, of course.

**Congratulations to the IC Ultimate beginners team who recently beat everyone from UCL, Royal Holloway, University of Surrey, LSE and Brunel.**

**imperial college union**

**CHEESY Wotsits**

**Wednesday, October 30**

**8pm-1am (Bar 'til 12)**

**£1 Union/£1.50 Guests/£.50 P2P**

P2P members must enter before 10pm for their discount to be valid

## Live football on the BIG SCREEN

**imperial college union BARS**



**imperial college union CHARGING CROSS BAR (WEEK DAYS ONLY)**

**Sun 27th Oct**  
**2pm Southampton v Fulham**  
**4pm West Ham v Everton**

**Mon 28 Oct 8pm**  
**Bolton v Sunderland**

**Tues 29th Oct 7.45pm**  
**Maccabi Haifa v Man. Utd.**

**Wed 30th Oct 8pm**  
**Liverpool v Valencia 7.45pm**

**Thurs 31st Oct 8pm**  
**Celtic v Blackburn Rovers**