



Thames Valley here we come!

Felix investigates the current state of
accommodation at Imperial



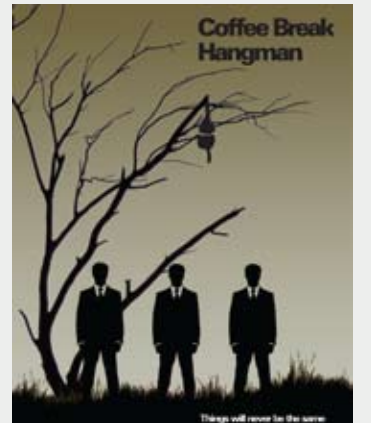
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News

News Editor – Khadim Shubber

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Vision 2008: get a taste of the medical profession

Lord Winston wonders: has the NHS lost touch with the doctors of today and tomorrow?

Jovan Nedić
Editor in chief

This year's Vision Conference, an annual event which attempts to introduce the medical profession to students from deprived areas, was undoubtedly a success, with nearly 300 A-Level students in attendance. The day started with Imperial College School of Medicine Student Union [ICSMSU] President Mark Chamberlain giving a talk on what being a medical student is all about, and what they should expect from the six-year course.

After this introduction, the potential medical students sat through talks about the various requirements needed to become a medical student, as well as talks on what it will eventually be like to roam the wards as a doctor. Various role-play interviews and student panels followed, where the guests asked the medical students whatever they liked. The definite highlight of the day, however, was the keynote speech by Prof. Lord Robert Winston.

The lecture room for the keynote speech was packed with prospective and current medical students alike, as well as a few members of staff and even some of the guest speakers. The topic of the speech was 'what it means to be a doctor'; an enthralling topic from arguably the most famous doctor in the country. Everyone was eager to hear his views, and he didn't disappoint. His speech had two main points: that students should always be prepared for any eventuality, and that they should be willing to give up their time to do the best they can for their patients. He went on to say that: "by doing medicine, you gain a huge perspective on life. As doctors you have to be human beings; you must listen, be open-minded and patient. The NHS does not value these issues, they care



Prof. Lord Robert Winston, the 'man who save the NHS'

about paperwork more than the doctors connecting with their patients." The issue at the heart of Lord Robert Winston's talk was the fact that doctors rarely have time to spend listening to their patients, which can lead to unacceptable oversights.

This is by no means the first time that Lord Robert Winston has been in the spotlight over his attitude to the NHS. In a 2000 interview with the *New Statesman*, he criticised the funding given by the Labour Government to the NHS: "it's ludicrous that we spend so much less than the European model". The resulting pledge of billions for funding earned Lord Winston the

title of the 'man who saved the NHS'; though this has not stopped him campaigning in an attempt to save it again.

Last month, the government decided to reverse a decades-old policy by no longer providing free accommodation to doctors in their first year of their medical career. It is for this reason that the government has not increased the wage of first year doctors. Medical students and the British Medical Association [BMA] are worried that this decision will cripple the already debt-stricken medical students, though Health Minister Anne Keen MP has refused to open discussions on the matter – much to the dismay of the BMA.

Medical student killed by tram in Croydon



Jeevan Sivalingam, affectionately known as Jeeves, a medical student who was about to enter his fourth year at Imperial, unfortunately passed away on the afternoon of the 13th of September 2008. He had been cycling near his home in South London when he collided with a tram. By all account he did not suffer as he immediately fell unconscious before passing away later in hospital.

He was born on the 18th of June 1987 and his mother had become pregnant with him despite having undergone a sterilization. His parents were told that the chances of this happening were 1 in a million and so when they decided on a name, the thought it appropriate to call him "Jeevan", which roughly translates into English as "life".

Throughout his life Jeevan maintained a reputation of being cheeky, funny and full of life. This is something that his many friends throughout Imperial can confirm. Many of these friends were in the Medics Hockey Club, which he was a devoted member of for 3 years. He committed himself to this club fully both on the field and off, and there is no doubt he will be missed.

The Tamil Society was another club he was fully committed to and he made huge contributions to their show Mega Maalai in 2007, helping to raise a large amount of charity in the process. Many will also remember Jeeves as a resident of Bernard-Sunley House in his first year, a place where he made many of his most valued friends.

His smile and his friendly nature will be missed by many throughout Imperial. He always stopped to chat and rarely left until he had put a smile on your face. Unfortunately he has left this World prematurely, but hopefully the memories of him can make us smile from time to time in the years to come.

Muhuntha Sri ganeshan

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Friday 3/10/08



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Special thanks to
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The first of 29 issues... Looks like we've got a long way to go! Anyway, if you're actually reading this, a big hello from the team.

We hope you enjoy this issue so much that you'll join us on this side. Positions are available for copy and layout editors, contributors, photographers, web editors and anyone who wants to write something we haven't covered.

Feel free to drop into the basement in the West Wing of Beit, we've got lots of shiny new iMacs for people to play with, plus other distractions for when you get writer's block.

See you all soon,

Jov and the team

LOLcats



OF THE WEEK

Students to live at Thames Valley University

Kadhim Shubber
Deputy & News Editor

The Imperial College Accommodation Office has had to deal with a record number of applicants this year, a direct result of the increasing number of students studying at Imperial. This led to fears that some students would not get student accommodation in their first year; as guaranteed by the university to those who apply in time. Three weeks before the start of term, *felix* was informed that there were about 160 students who had applied for accommodation but had still not received it.

This problem occurred because some students, unhappy at what they believed to be an unreasonably high rent for halls close to Imperial, rejected their offers in order to receive less expensive accommodation. One student was even trying to swap his single en suite room in Beit on Facebook, as it had not been one of his choices and he would struggle to afford it.

The accommodation office has been unable to change the offers made to students due to the understandable difficulty in making individual changes once everyone has been catered for. This year 80% of students received one of their top 5 accommodation choices.

It is a combination of a shortage of rooms and a demand for cheaper accommodation that has put this pressure on the accommodation office. While all students want to be situated as close to university as possible, the high cost of rooms in the area (the majority of single rooms in South Kensington range from £140 to £180 a week) has put many off.

Hannah Theodorou, Deputy President for Education and Welfare, admitted that “the price of accommodation is certainly climbing out of the reach of many students” but argued that the rent was in line with other London universities. *felix* then conducted a survey of the three central London universities: LSE, UCL and Kings. The most expensive hall was High Holborn Hall, where LSE students could be expected to pay up to £160 a week for a single en suite room. UCL’s most expensive accommodation was at John Dodgson, where a single en suite room costs £145 a week. Kings’ Great Dover Street Apartments, the most expensive Kings accommodation, costs only £128 a week. Hannah Theodorou then concluded that “Imperial was focusing too much on quality”; presumably instead



The back of Eastside, which will house close to 400 students

of on affordability. Eastside, the new hall being built at Princes Gardens, will consist almost entirely of high quality single rooms with only around 17 affordable twin rooms.

This is not the first year that there have been problems with 1st year students. Last year, due to redevelopment work on halls in Princes Gardens, Imperial was forced to rent out two UNITE Halls of Residence (Piccadilly Court and Orient House) at nearly £500,000 each in order to house all the 1st year students.

In addition to UNITE, this year’s accommodation office has looked to Thames Valley University (TVU) to house the overflow of students. The college is planning to house over 20 1st year students in Paragon Hall close to Boston Manor tube station in Zone 4, and is currently looking for a warden to accompany these students.

The wardening staff have rejected the scheme, however, on the basis that the students will not receive appropriate pastoral care. An alternative solution was offered to the college by the wardens, which included reconverting single rooms that were once twins back into twin rooms, though this was later rejected. A contract has already been made with TVU, making it difficult for the wardening staff to prevent college from housing students at TVU.

The accommodation problem has largely been ‘solved’, however, by the fact that many students who were unhappy with their accommodation offer have decided to either live at home or seek housing in the private sector.

In total around 10% of this year’s intake has been unable to obtain, or have chosen to opt out of, student accommodation.

There is significant work being done to address this problem in the long-term, and work on the new halls of residence on the east side of Princes Gardens has been progressing rapidly over the summer. The hall is being built in a similar manner to Southside, with three adjacent halls being built, each expected to house close to 400 students. On the first floor there will be a bar to replace Harrington’s Bar and Grill (looking out onto Prince’s Gardens) as well as a cash machine and a small shop for everyday groceries. This new hall, which will be opened in September 2009, will deal with the steady increase in the number of students coming to Imperial in the near future.

For students desperate for cheap accommodation, however, these halls are not a viable solution. As stated above, fewer than 20 rooms in these new halls will be affordable twin rooms. A follow-up story will run sometime this term.

And finally... New beers, new bar, new union

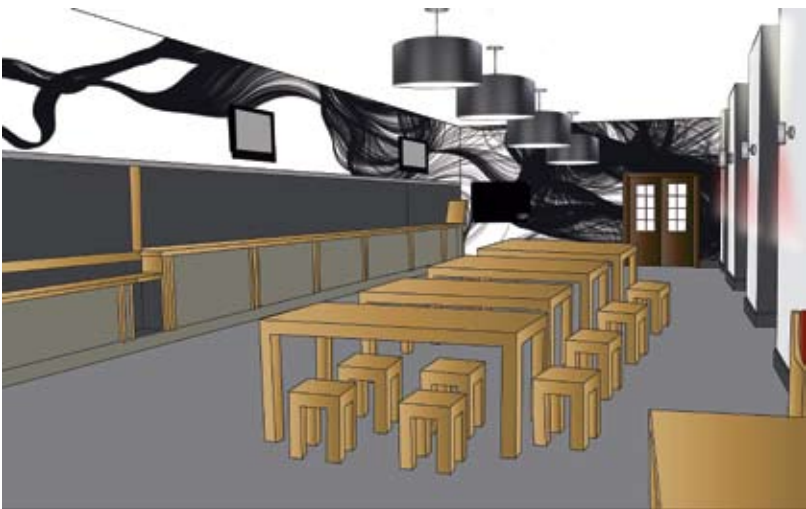
Jovan Nedić
Editor in chief

The Union has received a facelift over the summer, with dB’s and daVinci’s getting a new lick of paint and a brand new style. The aim of this work was to make daVinci’s feel more like a bar than a canteen, and for dB’s to be more like a nightclub. A new colour scheme has been employed with a funky new wallpaper, as seen in the picture below. The visual appearance, however, is not the only thing that has changed.

A new range of drinks have also been brought in, hoping to attract a larger audience to the Union bars. A total of 7 lagers will be available on tap, ranging from Fosters to Staropramen, as well as a larger range of ales on tap in The

Union Bar. Imperial College Union’s sports night, *Sin City*, was also recently voted the best student Wednesday night out by the *London Lite*. The new selection of beers and the recent positive publicity will definitely make the sports teams happy, especially for those snakebite lovers, who can now have a *premium snakebite*, made of Stella and Magners...

Becks	£2.20
Foster	£2.00
San Miguel	£2.40
Blackthorn	£1.60
Grolsch	£2.30
Stella	£2.30
Staropramen	£2.40
John Smith	£2.00
Guinness	£2.90
Coors Light	£2.20
Magners draught	£2.75



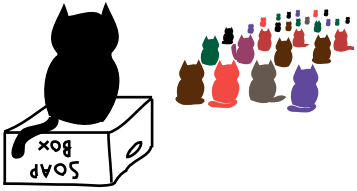


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For more information visit

www.imperialcollegehealthcentre.co.uk



Comment, Opinion & Letters

Let us know your views: comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Letters may be edited for length and grammar purposes
Views on these pages are not representative of *felix*



A. Geek

Fresher Meat

It's hard to know how to introduce myself at the start of a new year. There's something very tacky about Freshers' Week, and in places like this the same sort of thing gets trotted out all the time – "Welcome To Imperial", "Geeks Are So Funny, Ha Ha Ha, Am I Right Guys?", "You've All Done So Well To Get Here", et cetera. It's all rubbish, of course, and after the fiftieth iteration – which you should encounter by Wednesday at the latest – you'll understand why people turn to alcoholism, violence and columns in *felix*. So let's avoid that this year and not even mention the fact that it's Freshers' Week.

Hell, I'm not going to introduce myself, even. You can work that shit out for yourself, because you're going to be so sick of asking people what they do in three days' time that you're not going to care who I am anyway.

Actually, fuck not mentioning Freshers', let's really let off about it. Not the first years, mind you. Hordes of en-

thusiastic first years aren't the problem – and I actively encourage you to physically assault anyone who mutters how awful it is to have first years everywhere, because they're morons – the real problem are the elderly bastards like me that seem intent on proving their youth, despite the fact that a look at their unused provisional drivers' licence would confirm it to the world. 21 year-old men signing up to Ultimate Frisbee because they're self-conscious about not being teenagers. Pathetic.

And the sheer volume of utterly pointless toss you end up attending because you're too bewildered by the first week to beat back the arseholes touting them. A boat trip? Sounds like a recipe for ball-freezingly cold entertainment! A party where we dress up in school uniform despite having spent an entirely non-sexy seven years wearing them and whining about it? Absolutely fucking-lutely. I know! How about an ethnic food night where we can all embarrass ourselves by revealing the

extent of our slightly racist preconceptions about other cultures?

I mean, who dreams up this shit? Why does it appear entirely compulsory? When I arrived at Uni, the first thing I wanted to do – after the mandatory half-hour spent in the fetal position – was take a look around the city. I was going to spend four years staring into the hollow abyss of those mongoloid eyes anyway, I didn't need a pub quiz to ease me into the notion. My advice to all freshers – spend the week exploring King's Road, Hyde Park and Queensway. Plenty of time for head-hunting later in the year, because the odds of finding anyone sane in the people mashup you're about to enter are very small indeed.

I'll offer you this, though – whether you come from a wealthy family, or arrived in London with nothing more than your loan; whether English is your first language or your fourth; whether skyscrapers are familiar or frightening to you, you are about to embark on

the best years of your life so far. You've just been given carte blanche to reinvent yourself, and then placed in a city full of opportunity. Of course, you can choose to become shallow, predictable and selfish, and you'll find it both simple and rewarding. Or you can think hard about who it is you want to be, and let the experiences you're about to have inform, rather than control, who you become.

Most of you will choose the former. Many of you came here with exactly that intention. Over the coming weeks I'll be letting you know exactly what I think of that, along with Simon Cowell, staff at Caffè Nero, Nick Clegg, people who call me "Sir" whilst smirking, the old woman from Eggheads, and anyone who works in Canary Wharf and wears something from The North Face on their commute every day.

I am A. Geek. The A stands for a lot of things. Let me know how your first week treats you by emailing ananargygeek@googlemail.com.



Gilead Amit

Straight into the spirit of things. -ish

This is the moment I dread every week. This one. This precise, fleeting instant that will be gone by the time the unswerving laws of grammar compel my reluctant fingers to reach the next full stop. Because, you see, these are the five seconds I have in which to hook you into reading this article, and that sort of pressure always gets to me. All I can do at this stage is hope that you've reached this far already and, if you are still out there, I need to start making your reading time worthwhile. And fast.

The problem is that the pressure always arrives so suddenly. Here I am, taking a quiet break in an unobtrusive part of the newspaper when your gaze suddenly casts a brilliant spotlight over the page. The beam rushes madly from side to side before coming across the massive T typed above, singling me out to stand alone and quivering in the glare of your critical searchlight. 'Dance for me, clown. Make me laugh.' The pressure is stultifying. How would

you like it if I only gave you 163 words in which to prove your worth?

Drat. I've put my foot in it. Damn, damn, damn. Already. I knew I should have taken more time over this.

The fact is that I was trying to break something to you gently. Because – well, there is no easy way of saying this. You see, this week – and for this week only – I'm leading a double life. I'm cheating on you behind your back. Well, in front of your front, to be honest, because I'm being unfaithful right now; by attempting the impossible task of pleasing two readers at once. I don't actually mean that there are currently only two people casting their eyes over this page. No, that would be absurd. My readership is vast. Colossal. In fact, if all my readers were laid horizontally and placed head to toe, then the resulting chain would...er...well...um...look faintly ridiculous. But seriously, what I mean to say is that there are two distinct personae casting their eyes over this page. Two archetypes, if you will allow me to do to Jung what Oedipus

did to his mother for a moment. And being the lovely physicist that I am I will, in my lovely physicist way, refer to you two as Alice and Bob.

Now you, Alice, are a fresh-faced, rosy-limbed young fresher. Twinkly of eye, bushy of tail, supple of limb and smooth of skin, you are as attractive a corner of the readership market as one could hope to be writing for.

Bob, on the other hand, is entering yet another year at Imperial. The experiences of university life have irrevocably changed him into a sadder, yet wiser man. He's been around the block a few times, and the view has been so mind-numbingly depressing that he insists on returning here. Bob has heard it all before and, quite frankly, he's sick of hearing it again. With the majestic changing of the seasons, he has seen past issues of *felix* dissolve into compost, words that took weeks to put together ripped apart in seconds by the unforgiving elements and the most witty, engaging and challenging of columnists slowly fade away to be

replaced by people like me. With the maturity and cynicism born of years spent in this place, Bob has little patience for the frilly idealism and whimsical humour that might send Alice into giddy fits of exhilaration. Bob, in other words, has no Barack Obama sticker on his (clearly) Microsoft laptop.

And this, dearest Alice and Bob, is where the horns of the dilemma on which I am sitting start causing irreparable damage to my fleshy parts. How do I keep Alice entertained without causing Bob to foam at the mouth at my naive and optimistic pandering? And, no less importantly, how do I keep Alice from closing the paper in tears at the sight of the naked, unadulterated cynicism coursing through my veins?

Well, darling Alice and Bob, me ol' sweetheart, it looks like I won't have to answer that particular question today. The coward's way out, certainly, but 'he who writes and runs away should never ever end a comment piece on a pun that abysmally bad.'



Editor

Here we go...

Another year, another *felix*, another editor. To all of you who voted for me, a big thanks; to all of you who didn't, you've got me anyway; and for all of those who don't care or know who I am, oh well!

I am the new editor, and things are going to change. I will actually stick to my manifesto points and ensure that you guys get a fun yet highly informative paper. Yes, it sounds like a whole lot of crap, but I thought I might as well do my obligatory start of year editorial rant. Fair enough, I did say things are going to change, and as you may have noticed, I didn't mean visually.

So to all of you out there who are

wondering what exactly I am going to change, well, here it is. Work is already underway on creating a new *felix* archive. Come the new year, every issue of *felix* since the first one in 1949 will have been digitised and indexed, making it easier for you guys to search for exactly what you're looking for. Clubs and Societies will be able to look up their history and browse through photos from the past. Alumni will be able to read through news articles from the years they were at college, whilst the general population can just have a look at what we students have thought about college life for the past 59 years.

Coffee Break is back and although quite a few of you won't remember

what that is, you can probably guess that it's the section you're likely to read when having a break or just bored in lectures! Competitions will be run, and hopefully I'll be able to sort out some prizes. Page 3 will be made fun and slightly competitive, with the introduction of *Mr and Miss Imperial*. Basically, every week there will be a competition for the best-looking male and female from each department; with students then voting for their favourite and the winner being announced the next week. You can either submit your own photo or you can come in to the office and we'll arrange for one to be taken of you. Towards the end of the year we'll bring back all the winners and then

pick the eventual winner. The winners will receive £250 each!

Isis and *Phoenix* will be bigger and better than before and we are planning on bringing out two new magazines this year: *Another Castle*, which will be for all those gaming enthusiasts (read: geeks) out there, and a one-off sport magazine to come out after varsity for all the sporty types out there.

Lastly, the more serious side of the paper will remain. The news will be hard-hitting and to the point. I promise that we will not hide away from stories, if there is something out there that the student body deserves to hear, we will print it.

The cat, my friends, will be free!



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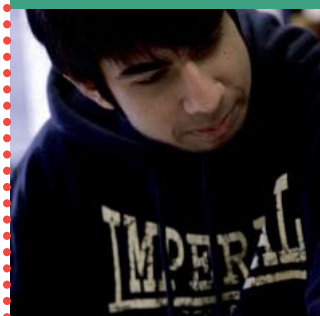
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Mico Tatalovic Science editor

Have you ever cheated on your boyfriend/girlfriend? If yes, you're not alone ... Depending on whose report you believe, anywhere between 20 to 44% of people admit to infidelity. How does infidelity make you feel, though? The recent Love and Sex series booklet, released by *The Independent*, focuses on infidelity and states "[that] guilt plays its damaging part - only a heel or a fool actually enjoys betraying someone else..." After cheating, feelings of guilt ensue. Biologically speaking, guilt has evolved to lubricate the complicated social lives of humans. In the case of the guilty pleasure that is infidelity; true feelings of guilt may act as signals to your partner that you are sorry and will not attempt to repeat the offence. This might then help re-build the trust and maintain the relationship.

A lot of research indicates that women are more jealous of their partner's emotional infidelity, and men of sexual infidelity. This makes evolutionary sense: a man's reproductive success (genetic interests) can easily be jeopardized by a woman's sexual infidelity: a single case of this and he could spend the rest of his life investing resources in raising someone else's offspring. This principle of paternal uncertainty affected evolution of much human behaviour, including jealousy. On the other hand, women traditionally depended on men for protection and resources and so a woman's mating strategy involves finding a mate that will invest time and resources into their relationship and children. If her mate gets emotionally involved with another woman, this may mean divergence of those investments away from her.

Following this line of reasoning, researchers from St. Mary's University, Canada, hypothesised that man should feel more guilt about their own emotional rather than sexual infidelity and that women should feel more guilt about their sexual rather than emotional infidelity. In both cases, people should feel guiltier about their own actions that reduce their partner's reproductive success more, since one of the functions of guilt is to stop people from damaging their social relationships by acting in undesirable ways. Results based on questionnaires filled by 130 men and women and published in the journal of *Evolutionary Psychology* are exactly the opposite of what the researchers expected.

What could be happening in our minds? Why do men feel more guilt over sexual and women over emotional infidelity? One possibility is that both sexes project their own values onto their partner; i.e. if sexual fidelity is really important to you as a man, you think it must also be important to a woman and so feel guiltier about that than about emotional infidelity, which you don't perceive as important. It is also possible that since men perceive their relationships more as sexual and women more as emotional, their guilt is also stronger in the domain which they perceive as important for their relationships. Finally, the guilt trip might actually be there to smooth out our relationship with the same-sex competitors; not our mates. So knowing that other men also get upset about sexual infidelity means that the stronger sense of guilt is there to minimize retribution from competing males.

Science

Science Editors – Daniel Burrows & Mico Tatalovic

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Our top 5 science podcasts

Perfect for that shiny new 3G iPhone.

The Naked Scientists



Tally-ho! It's the Naked Scientists – inuendo-laden metaphors aho – enlightening us with their take on the week's science-related news. Cambridge scientist Chris Smith and team discuss why voles are monogamous, and humans often aren't (it's all down to our vasopressin levels, apparently), and we learn how the current trend of human-caused extinctions is nothing new, and why for bats silence can be golden. Definitely one for the biologists, although a large part of this week's programme is devoted to the Large Hadron Collider with interviews with several of the scientists involved. The jury's still out on the 'kitchen science' segment – all a bit Blue Peter – and the rest of the programme left me cold. At times it feels like they are trying too hard to be funny and 'edgy', but end up sounding patronising and, dare I say it, plain boring.

www.thenakedscientists.com

Science with Dr Karl



This, on the other hand, is – in the words of the Fast Show – brilliant! Expectations were lowered beforehand when I found out that this is broadcast weekly on Radio 5 Live, home of angry middle-Englanders and Danny Baker. However Dr Karl himself, who sounds a bit like an Australian Robert Winston (and, I like to think, replete with bushy moustache) is a veritable mine of facts and witty anecdotes. The phone-in format of this LHC-special gives the good Doctor ample time to expound on the very meaning of life, the universe, and...Maggie Thatcher at Tory cocktail parties. His enthusiasm doesn't obscure the facts – he really knows his stuff – but as a populariser of difficult science Dr Karl is second-to-none, mixing quarks and strange matter with Kurt Vonnegut Jr. and the illegalities of sticking one's elbow out of a car window in Australia.

www.bbc.co.uk/radio/podcasts/drkarl

This Week in Science



THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE Once you get past the unadulterated 'Team USA' feel of this show, it is actually a treat to listen to. Kirsten Sanford and Justin Jackson make a great presenting combo, exuding enthusiasm and humour. The frat-house feel does occasionally get in the way of the science, but there

are plenty of serious points, such as the emotive use of animal testing by animal rights activists, and disagreements in the scientific literature over the seriousness of expected sea level rise due to climate change. Also in the news is a study on narcissism, water bears in space, getting girls into science, and – surprise – the LHC. The presenters bring a balanced and well-thought feel to proceedings, and one can only hope their mission to bring science to the masses succeeds.

www.twis.org

The Science Show



Another Antipodean offering, 'The Science Show' is broadcast on Australian national radio and is presented by Robyn Williams (no, not that one). Unsurprisingly this has a distinct down-under focus, with news of amphibian declines caused by chytrid fungus (did you know 2008 was the 'Year of the Frog?');

ciguatera poisoning in coral reefs and why you shouldn't be eating barracuda; and the killer Hendra (?) virus in bats, horses and people. As if that wasn't enough, we also hear about the Ebola virus decimating gorilla populations in Congo, and the palm-oil boom and its repercussions for orang-utans. It's not all bad news; there is an interview with a 16-year old girl with a NASA scholarship (although frustratingly we don't find out why people can't walk on the moon any more), and a fascinating feature on Henry Ford – industrial genius, reincarnation-believing mystic, peace activist, and anti-Semite – as the 100th anniversary of the Model T rolls around. Worth it just for the crackly recording at the end of Ford haranguing Thomas Edison in a public debate on the importance of a good work ethic.

www.abc.net.au/rn/scienceshow

Science in Action

A special edition of the BBC radio programme from Cern, the home of the LHC. Sue Broom interviews some of the physicists involved with the project, and there are some great insights. Who would've thought that things were sim-



pler now than in Democritus' time (the Greek philosopher who discovered the atom)? According to Cern Nobel Prize winner Stephen Weinberg, they are, and all because of commonality; instead of being made up of millions of different materials, everything we see can in fact be reduced to a collection of quarks and electrons. Reductionist, perhaps, but intriguing nonetheless. The Beeb really went all out promoting the LHC – not only this programme but Radio 4's Andrew Marr was there for the grand switch-on (allegations that Cern delayed the start date to coincide with Marr's holiday were denied) – and this manages to show us what goes on behind the scenes at the 'biggest experiment ever' as well as bringing to life a few of the thousands of people involved. The excitement in the control room when the first beam completes its circuit is nerdishly contagious, and the congratulations between scientists touchingly awkward.

www.bbc.co.uk/radio/podcasts/scia

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LHC in the Media: Black hole swallows reason?

Felix examines the media reports of the world's biggest experiment.

Felix Whitton
Science correspondent

The Large Hadron Collider: a brilliant example of collaborative science or a doomsday machine? If you were following the headlines in the days leading up to Wednesday, September 10 – the first attempt by physicists to circulate protons all the way around the 27km ring under the Franco-Swiss border – you may be forgiven for thinking the latter was true.

The Daily Mail certainly did; “Landmark experiment to unlock secrets of Big Bang could cause end of the world”, it screamed, before introducing us to the scientist responsible for switching on the LHC, Dr Lyn Evans – or “Evans the Atom”, the man who “will end the world on Wednesday.” “End of the world due in 9 days”, announced the Sun with alarming certainty. Read further, however, and it emerges that this is the view of Otto Rössler, an obscure German chemist (sorry, “boffin”) trying to halt the experiment in the European Court of Human Rights. After the case was thrown out as “overly speculative and not credible”, The Sun continued with its apocalyptic claims: “Boffins set to cause Big Bang” – “some experts fear...a huge black hole that swallows the planet and wipes out mankind.”

“The object of much scientific journalism seems to be to spread fear and mistruths.”

The broadsheets weren't much better. Here's a week in the life of a Guardian reader: “Is the end nigh?” (5/09); “Is this my last weekend ever?” (7/09); “Will the world end?” (8/09); “Is this the way the world ends?” (9/09). Yikes. The Independent and The Telegraph also asked if this was “the end of the



Will the LHC create a black hole that will swallow the Earth?
Image courtesy of Daniel Strange

world?”, while Simon Jenkins in The Times was left to grumble about more worldly matters, namely the £3bn of public money spent on the project, and to compare Cern – the European nuclear organisation in charge of the LHC – to the shadowy autocratic regime running the Olympics (that's the IOC, not China).

After all that, predictably, the great day came and went without a hitch, leading to a collective about-face (“Success! The world hasn't ended” etc...). The object, intentional or otherwise, of much scientific journalism seems to be to spread fear and mistruths. This isn't hyperbole; the results are clear to all. Readers of Ben Goldacre's Bad Science column in The Guardian will know about the fallout from the MMR scandal in the early 2000s. An anecdotal piece of research linking the MMR vaccine to childhood autism was picked up by the media and sensationally reported as fact. In 2002 it was the biggest story in the British press; by

2005 the vaccine uptake was so low that the UK was in a mumps epidemic, and by 2008 measles was declared endemic (persistent, continuous presence in a population) for the first time in 14 years. The truly sensational thing is that less than a third of the newspaper articles on MMR mentioned the fact that the scientific evidence was overwhelmingly against such a link and that many more people would doubtless be harmed if they did not get the vaccine.

This shows the effect irresponsible science reporting can have. It's almost impossible to know what drives the cycle; the public are hungry for bad news, and the press is only too happy to oblige and shift more copies. Why let the truth get in the way of a good story? Much ‘knee-jerk’ reporting of science fails to address the important questions. One example is the campaign against GM crops by The Mail, squeamish about “Frankenstein foods” and scientists “playing God”. These objections have held back a potentially vital technology

for feeding a growing world population faced with rapid environmental change, and more importantly diverted attention away from important issues concerning multinational companies (Monsanto et al.) who stand to profit most from gene patenting and terminator technology at the expense of the world's poorest.

What the LHC highlights is the point at which many of these issues converge. Professor Brian Cox of Manchester University, one of the project's lead physicists, said that anyone who thinks the world will end “is a twat” – proof that scientists do not have spin doctors – but brisk language notwithstanding, he was voicing the opinion of an overwhelming majority of experts. And yet this was overshadowed in the mainstream media by apocalyptic language from a clutch of crackpots. By the same token, we heard various estimates for the cost of the experiment – anywhere between £3bn and £5bn – along with much righteous indignation as to the immediate returns of the UK's £500m contribution, but almost nowhere

did we read about the joys of science for discovery's sake, unencumbered by utilitarian targets and cost-benefit analyses. Professor Stephen Hawking pointed out that the money spent on the LHC and the space race amounts to less than 0.1% of world GDP; “If the human race can't afford that, it doesn't deserve the epithet ‘human.’”

Update - since this article was written there has been a setback at CERN. A ‘quench’ occurred where one of the super-conducting magnets used to direct the particle beams failed. This caused a sudden 100°C rise in temperatures and a tonne of Helium to leak into the tunnel. Over the next few weeks the affected section will be warmed to room temperature so the area can be inspected for damage. The result is that the accelerator cannot be started again till spring, after the winter maintenance period.

Daniel's Unmissable Science Videos

Two towers of Ferro-liquid..... yes its a liquid.



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=me5Zm2TXh4>

Lab Bratz Episode #164 Fire!





A few essential home comforts

You've packed the duvet, purchased the saucepans. Doh! Someone's forgotten the Reggae Reggae Sauce?



ETHERNET CABLE: A must for connecting to the web from the comfort of your own room. Ravi's flogging them for a couple of quid (if you can find him).



UMBRELLA: We've had the wettest August ever on record. Unfortunately things aren't going to get any better. Expect some torrential downpours and some annoying drizzle in the upcoming months.



SHOT GLASSES: Dan came to Imperial with 25, and had as many new friends by the end of the first night. Coincidence? Probably.



EXTENSION LEAD: I know you were told not to bring one. But when the only socket in your room happens to be across the room from where you want to install your TV, there's no other way.



FISH FINGERS: Emergency food that's good to go in 10 minutes. Sandwich between some bread, squirt with ketchup and you've got your fill of Omega-3 for the week.



USB STICK: Indispensable. Don't get one where you can lose the cap, though. The Union shop sells them in different sizes.



OYSTER CARD: Don't bother travelling around London without one. Take it to a ticket booth at the tube station with your Young Person's Railcard and they'll put a cap on your day travelcards too.



WAITER'S FRIEND: It's not clever to crack bottles open with your teeth- the waiter's friend has everything you need whilst keeping your enamels intact. It can handle wine bottles and stubbies. Useful.



WATER BOTTLE: Embrace the inner geek who misses their mum. Don't splash out on £1 bottles of water in college when you can fill up at home for a fraction of the price. Normal bottles leach nasty stuff if you fill them up too many times.



REGGAE REGGAE SAUCE: No matter how disastrous your cooking attempts, a splash of this jerk sauce will make your pasta edible again. Use to liven up chicken, and even sandwiches.



FEBREZE: Some of your rooms might smell a bit funky when you arrive. Febreze is a god-send for stagnant mattresses, stinky trainers and jackets you can't be bothered to take to the dry cleaners.



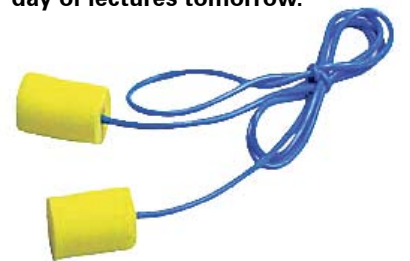
LOO ROLL: Never underestimate the usefulness of a spare roll.

BAG FOR LIFE: Plastic bags have bad press for all the right reasons. Pack away a cotton or supermarket bag for life in the bottom of your bag every day so you're not caught off-guard by an impromptu shop in Tesco Metro.

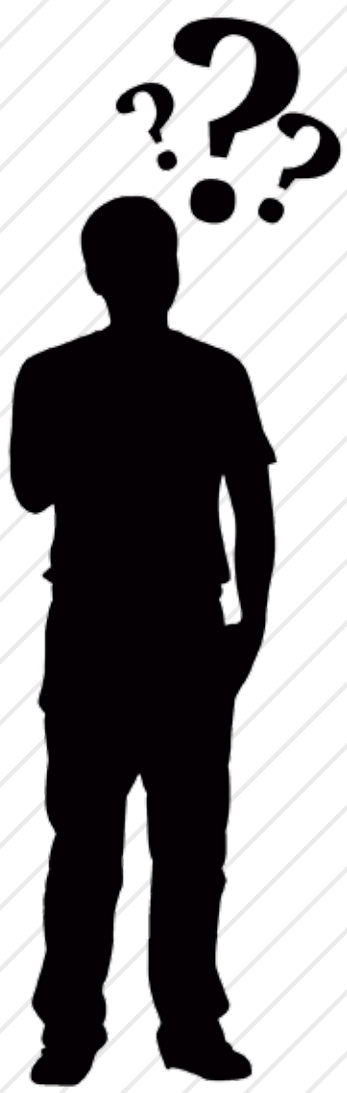



WARM COAT: Don't forget London can get bloody cold in the Winter Months. Throw in a scarf, some gloves and a woolly hat for the whole look and you're good to

EAR PLUGS: Snoring roommate? Neighbour has a fondness for Linkin Park? These mean you might get some sleep before the riveting day of lectures tomorrow.



imperialcollegeunion.org/advice

The Advice Centre

The Advice Centre is your free service for confidential, impartial, independent advice and information on academic appeals and complaints, debt advice, housing rights, employment rights, consumer rights, personal safety and international issues.

Contact: **Nigel Cooke**
Student Adviser
East Wing Basement, Beit Quad
t: 020 7594 8067
e: advice@imperial.ac.uk

Free. Impartial. Confidential.



Hannah Theodorou
Deputy President
Education & Welfare

I have to start by admitting that humour isn't my forte. While others thrive on making jibes about life at Imperial, I tend to focus on practicalities and how we can improve your time here. I know that boys outnumber girls 2:1, that the games section will get more readers than the fashion pages and that, come Easter, a seat in the library will become more elusive than Bigfoot. The following weeks are going to be a rollercoaster of ups and downs for most of you. The friends you make over the following year may turn out to be the ones that stay with you for all your life, so do everything you can to get out there and meet them!

If you're having personal problems or are struggling with your workload there's a number of people you can turn to. Let someone know you're struggling, be it friends, your personal tutor, one of the wardens in your halls or myself in the Union. We also have a dedicated Student Adviser, Nigel Cooke. He works in the Advice Centre in the East Wing of the Student Union

and specialises in the following areas of advice:

- Academic Appeals and Complaints
- Debt Advice
- Housing Rights
- Employment Rights
- Consumer Rights
- Personal Safety
- International Students Issues

Nigel also has links with all the College welfare services and also legal advice centres in the local community so if he can't help we can find someone who will be able to locally. We are also full members of Advice UK which is an agency which encourages good practice in advice centres around the country. The Advice Centre acts as an advocate for students; to College and also to outside organisations when we feel a student needs extra help to solve an issue, acting on your behalf with your permission.

Both Nigel and myself are in close contact with the College welfare services, including the Health Centre, Student Counselling Service, Careers Advisory Service and Disability Officer. Over the upcoming months there will be a number of articles and picture stories in this welfare section highlighting issues that may affect students during their time at Imperial.

Both of us will be at Freshers' Fair handing out our weight in condoms and other goodies, so if you have any questions or want to say hello, pop over and see us. I'll especially be focusing on distributing leaflets advising you on how to get exemptions from Prescription Charges if you are on a low income. They don't take your parent's income into account so that should include most of you...

On the left are a few of the items that you might not have packed, so get your parents to take you on one last shop to fill up your cupboards and then get on your way to the Union!

Imperial College London International Students

Orientation Workshops October 2008

Monday 13th October, 1-2pm SAF Building, Lecture Theatre 1 (room G16)
Personal Safety and Crime Prevention
Come along and meet our local Safer Neighbourhood Police Officers

Tuesday 14th October 1-2pm, Pippard Lecture Theatre
Immigration Issues for non-EU/EEA students
This workshop is essential for any student visa holders.

Wednesday 15th October, 1-2pm, Pippard Lecture Theatre
Postgraduate Life
How to make the most of your PG studies and succeed in your research

Thursday 16th October, 1-2pm, Pippard Lecture Theatre
Using your Money Wisely
The manager of our local Natwest Bank will offer money saving tips

Friday 17th October 1-2pm, SAF Building, Lecture Theatre 1 (room G16)
Student visa renewal
For students who have a student visa expiring in October 2008

Monday 20th October 1-2pm SALC, Room 2, Level 5 Sheffield Building
Adjusting to student life in London
How to cope with unexpected change when far from home

Tuesday 21st October, 12-1pm, Pippard Lecture Theatre
Working during and after your studies
For students who wish to work whilst studying or afterwards

Wednesday 22nd October 1-2pm, Pippard Lecture Theatre
Post Study Work
How to apply for permission to stay and work in the UK after your studies

Thursday 23rd October, 1-2pm, Pippard Lecture Theatre
Financial issues for international students
Including council tax, TV licences, financial assistance, and insurance

Friday 24th October, 1-2pm, SAF Building, Lecture Theatre 1 (room G16)
Student visa renewal
For students who have a student visa expiring in October 2008

Pippard Lecture Theatre = Level 5, Sheffield Building
SAF Building G16 = Level 1, Sir Alexander Fleming Building

Bookings for all sessions will open on **Wednesday 8th October**
contact: **Imperial College International Office**,
Level 1 Sheffield Building, South Kensington Campus
email: international@imperial.ac.uk t: +44 (0)20 7594 8040

Some workshops will be repeated at **Silwood Park Campus**, see our website for details: www.imperial.ac.uk/international



Freshers' Week 2008

4 - 10 October 2008

Saturday 4

THE MINGLE

The start of your time at university and the start of a phenomenal week of partying. You do not want to miss this. With our policy to only sell tickets to freshers, you know that this is the place to meet everyone!

Act. Normal.
(they won't suspect a thing)

Nick Grimshaw



Sunday 5

Ice Cream Sunday

Tuesday 7

Freshers' Fair Afterparty

Monday 6

JAZZ BIG BAND

Thursday 9

Cocktails and Chill Out

Wednesday 8



Me and Mr Jones DJ SET

**Sophie Ellis-Bextor &
Richard Jones (The Feeling)**

Friday 10

Freshers' Ball 2008

EDITH BOWMAN Radio 1
PRITCHARD vs DANTON
MTV's Dirty Sanchez & Wrecked

DJ HYPE
NICKY BLACKMARKET
RUSKO Dub Step

imperialcollegeunion.org

BBC
RADIO 1



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PULLOUT

The image is a dark, high-contrast silhouette illustration. It depicts a gnarled, leafless tree on the left side. A gallows is constructed from a branch of the tree, with a noose hanging from it. Three men in business suits and ties stand in a row in the foreground, facing forward. They are positioned in front of the tree. The background is a light, uniform color, creating a stark contrast with the dark silhouettes. The overall mood is somber and ominous.

Coffee Break Hangman

Imperial - Full of Freaks & Virgins

Coffee Break

coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Ravi Pall
Editor in Legend

A big welcome to the new year from myself. I am the Coffee Break Editor. At this point I would like to mention that I don't normally look like a pirate, although I'm starting to believe otherwise from all the comments I receive. I'm even thinking of taking off the eye patch after ten months.

This year I hope to bring to you a different side to felix. Coffee Break has been given a budget of £1 bajillion so you can expect lots of light humour, competitions and light reading articles that'll bring a smile to your face (results may vary). For those of you who remember Coffee Break... forget it. The only thing I can see returning is the FUCWIT league and the competitions. Admittedly that is all Coffee Break was before, but it's different this time. That's right; no more David Hasslehoff, Chuck Norris or competent editing. Come on, did you really think they were good role models for the average Imperial student? No. They were way too homoerotic. However, there will be some new characters that some would say are more student targeted.... Sikh MC comes to mind. That's right, I'm Indian, and the first thing I introduce is an Punjabi gangster rapper. Also look out for Snakey B, the pint of snake bite with a pint and a half of uncommon sense. This totally had nothing to do with being so drunk you think your pint is talking to you. We've all been there. We've all done it.

What am I currently doing for you, the eager, loyal Imperial College wasters? Well first off I made this super pullout with the Hangman Team. It was hard work, but I can already tell you guys 'n' gals will love it. It is with great modesty I claim that this pullout is the greatest thing this newspaper has ever seen. Too bad some editors didn't make the effort; resulting in the welfare page. Well thats enough on boosting my ego. What else will I be doing for you? How about iPods. As mentioned before we have a budget this year. Money = Prizes. Currently I'm tring to haggle as many iPods as I can for you music lovin' peeps to win in the aforementioned FUCKWIT league. Not only iPods, video games aswell. Courtesy of Gamestation Hounslow, video games should be on the way. What games? Who knows, but it's free. That's all we students care about really. It's like Yogi Bear and picnic baskets.

BTW if you like/dislike anything you read on these pages, tough. I have no control over Hangman. It's purely coincidental that we're in the same section.

Photoshop Competition !!!



Think you got mad skillz?? Own an Apple Mac? Are you that guy who painted the Mona Lisa in MS Paint? If so, join the Coffee Break Photoshop Competition. If you think you can outdo ol' Reggie (our resident Photoshop expert) then email us your entry. The high res picture can be found online at www.felixonline.co.uk. The pictures will be judged on content, talent and humor. This marks the beginning of the FUCWIT league. Submit your team name with your photo and you'll be entered. The team with the most points at the end of each term will win a fabulous prize..... ahem iPod ahem..... Email your entry to coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk

WIN

Stuff IC Students Like!?! :)

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = F(b) - F(a)$$

1. Calculus:

Mention Calculus to any normal guy and they'll shiver as bad as felix cat submerged in a bucket of ice. Students of Imperial College, however, are not normal. It may have something to do with the high percentage of overseas students, but isn't it more likely due to the hours of fun one can have integrating spherical polar co-ordinates? Don't kid yourself by saying you don't know what that means... you do! and you like it.

I've see many an IC student make the log cabin joke, and even more students laughing back. This merely validates this week's entry to the "Stuff IC Students Like" list. Excuse the cliché, but "Only at Imperial" do the words "let's perform calculus in Covent Garden to raise money" get spoken.

Let's face it, even the chatup lines involve calculus. Ever heard "I wish I were your differential so I could lay tangent to your curves" before? No? Yeah?.... Yeah you have.

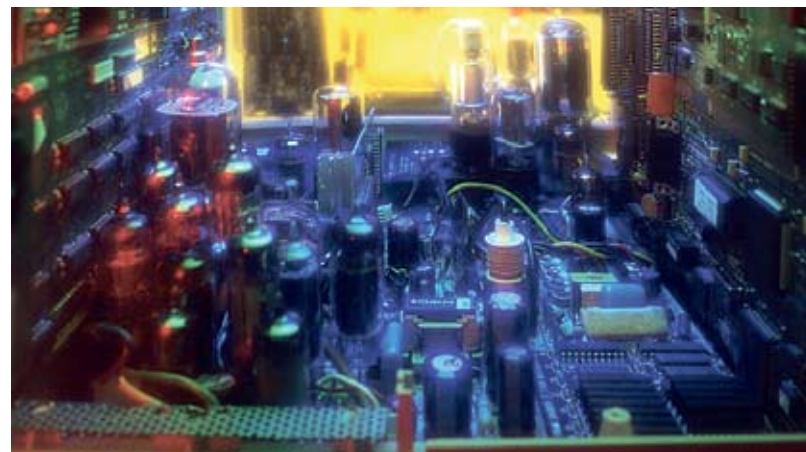
2. pr0n:

There is a very sound reason Imperial kids are enamored with pornography. Apart from an unhealthy obsession with all things nerdy, porn is the one element that brings all Imperial guys together. Bashing the bishop over some rotter being pounded to an inch of her life is only bettered by the super-fast T1, designed for education, internet connection in your halls.

You see, in a College of only 8 girls that aren't uglier than Ann Widecombe the lonely male student will

quickly turn to massivehooters.com to quell those desires that haunt us all. Personally I like the more camp websites like nakedboysinhats.org and nodaddynotthathard.co.uk.

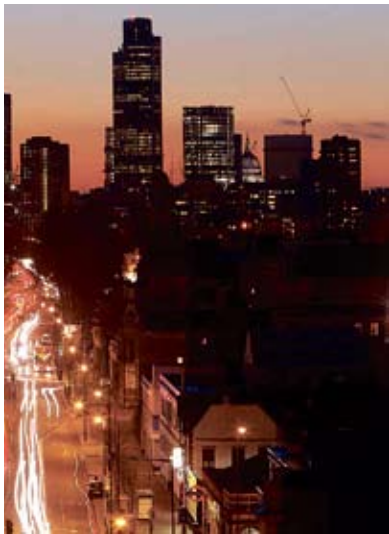
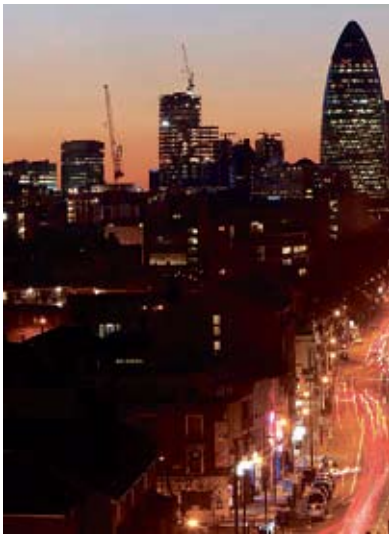
Please note, though, that College ICT may get annoyed if they find you have been downloading enough porn to shock Ted Bundy. If this does happen, your internet access may be banned for a short time and you may have to resort to stealing Wi-Fi off the Church next door. In case you were wondering, the password is "isome-timesfucknuns". Super.





hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk

London is too cool for You



Hangman
Reporting from Iraq

Oh hai! Do not mistake my friendliness for respect. I have nothing but the highest level of disdain for all my peers, especially you filthy freshers.

No, I was never a fresher. I started university as a final year student because I have an IQ of 205 and a rich father. Needless to say, I am better at Maths, Engineering and getting chicks into the 69 position than you.

Maybe the Hangman section is 'silly' or 'a waste of time' and just maybe you won't get half the jokes that I make. But maybe, just maybe I fucked your mom. If you didn't like that little quip, you won't like many of my humorous jibes. Every now and again I may offer some useful advice or maybe you'll understand what I'm saying to you. These moments will be few and far between so savour them.

This issue, worryingly enough, contains a number of these moments. If you're bored you can try checking out some of the places we've recommended (see left) or if you're struggling to pull members of the opposite sex (guaranteed) try out some of the chat-up lines we've proffered for you.

It's very likely that as a female reading the Hangman section, you will feel excluded, insulted and a general distaste in the back of your mouth. I'll let you figure out what the next joke should be. You can't figure it out? Idiot, it's SPERM! To get back to what I was meaning to say, we don't get much daylight in the *felix* office or female interaction (sometimes Hannah Theodorou visits but she doesn't count; if you ever meet the DPEW, you'll realise why). So if you are a female Imperial student, come on down to the Felix office, or look for our stall at Freshers Fair, and join our team. You can help us add some misandry to this misogynistic and misanthropic section of the awesome *felix*.

I bet you fucking freshers got scared by the big words didn't you? FAIL.

Ross Goldberg
Really Fat Dead Guy

Are you 18 or 19? Do you like to party? Are you ready to rock London to its foundations? Yeah? Sorry no.

Unfortunately you are simply not cool enough for London. In terms of coolness, the bar is about 6ft 3 high and you've barely hit 2. Confused? Let me break it down.

The first thing that makes you uncool is your choice of university. You did one of two things. You either applied to Oxbridge and got rejected and rejects are definitely not cool. Or you actually put Imperial as your first choice... oh dear.

The second thing that makes you uncool is your face... sorry that's immature. The actual second reason is your mom. Anyway, if you are anything like every other Imperial student you do not know how to dress. This is not a

good thing in London.

Whether you are in Oxford Street, Shoreditch, Southbank or on the Kings Road you will notice that people actually make an attempt to co-ordinate, accessorise and generally wash. You would do well to take note of this behaviour; especially the washing. I know it's hard to keep track of personal hygiene when gaming, but make an effort. To summarise: people can still smell you through your Trackies and hoodies (which you shouldn't be wear-

ing anyway)

The third reason that you fail to live up to the ridiculously high level of coolness that we Londoners have established is because you don't own a fedora hat. You are literally not allowed to register to vote in London until you purchase a fedora. That's right, Ken Livingstone lost because lefties are uncool and the famous 'BJ fedora' picture, seen above. If you have never seen this picture before it's because, like the title suggests, you are mega lame.

Places to go – Hangman recommends

Leroy's Café and Bar – 50s style diner playing funky jazz and 80's Brooklyn soul. Cheap and open 24hrs. 498 Gloucester Road.

Artemis – Techno club. Open Tuesday nights 11:00pm until 4:00am. Dress code – think 20s – 30s funky fresh and iced to the roof. £6 entry. 65 Portobello Road.



Kensington Jazz Grotto – very exclusive lounge which regularly hosts big names in jazz like Smokey P and Rockin James.

The entry fee is £40 so start saving now to avoid disappointment. 7:00pm until 2:00 am.

Saleem's Go-Karting Haven and genuine Turkish restaurant – A little further out, in Chiswick, Saleem's combines the best of Turkish cuisine with high-speed racing. In addition they have ice-skating! Saleem's is the best ethnic, ice-adventure, go-karting restaurant in London. For a little extra, you can have a shisha pipe in your go-kart. Open every weekday 10:00am to 5:00pm. £20 per person. Not only that, if you book in advance you get a free lollipop and a condom. Now that's what we call service.



Some old folks enjoying Saleem's Go-Karting Haven.

Sexy chat up lines for Freshers

They worked ON us, now they'll work FOR us.

"I SWEAR, I'm bigger in the metric system"

"I'll give you an A for HOT"

"There's a university in my pants, and you're accepted"

"What subject do you do? It doesn't matter, get naked and look at my long Int type"



Add Felix Hangman on facebook now. You know you want to do it, you'll be the envy of all your friends. Add us and we promise to perhaps sometimes entertain you with comical status updates, photo raping and much much (read much less) more. You might even get spammed with lots of invites to awesome Felix Hangman events...

Hangman

hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Don't ever do badly-dressed girls



Haxz0rMcRandy_1
L33t interweb Haxz0r

If you are reading this, chances are you are a dude. If you are a dude, more likely than not, you have trouble getting laid. If you are a dude at Imperial, the outlook is even more grim and I highly doubt you will get any action whatsoever this year. This is mostly due to the fact that you study something incredibly lame like Geopetroleum Science, have long greasy black hair and look like more of a tool than your cousin who's ranked 7th in the county for Magic The Gathering. Yes you will hear this a lot but thats just because I have lots of sex and I like to rub it in.

If, for some odd reason, you managed to fall through the sieve and are not absurdly hideous, you may just have some luck with any of the 7 girls on campus. (I am sleeping with 3 out of 7 as I write this... just so you know

you'll be getting sloppy seconds).

So as the only man on campus who has other people to jack him off, let me give you some sock-rocking advice.

Do NOT have sex with girls wearing ordinary clothes. Period. By this, I mean shitty jeans from Topshop, dreadful Camden t-shirts and faded brown oversized pleather boots from "this really cute vintage place in Shoreditch".

You may be thinking you'll undress the bitch so fast it won't matter. Given your lack of expertise in the field, you are clearly wrong. Also an idiot. And also a failure at life, but that's beside point. If you take a girl up to the miniscule box you have christened a room, you will have to watch her take it all off, and because her clothes suck, it'll take forever. She'll undo her laces, remove her shoes and you will witness her ghastly white socks that have seen worse days than a Vietnamese hooker in central Hanoi. Her badly cut toenails will ensure you will lose any prospect of a boner for the next couple of years.

You see fashion is a great indication

of what the girl will be like. Horrible socks, horrible toe-nails. Terrible lipstick, terrible blow-jobs. Do you get what I'm saying?

The solution to this problem is Slutty underwear. You must at all times keep in your room trashy lingerie for potential female visitors (hopefully only those not related to you by blood). The second the subject walks in, you direct her to the bathroom and give her exactly 2 minutes to get changed into the corset and stockings. If she fails at this, it clearly means she is unable to follow directions and instruction from those in positions of authority. At this stage you must remember why the dominant alpha male has persistently been better at most stuff than XX chromosome beings and promptly kick her out of your room. No discussion, no moronic questions. By the way, all men at Imperial are badly dressed. Literally no exceptions. Except me.



Horoscopes. Abusive, sick & morbid. The way they should be.



Aquarius

This week you arrive at university full of life, ambition and good intentions. Too bad you're a CUNT! That's right, you

know it, the heavens know it and everyone else at IC knows it. Only one thing left for you to do; and that is to throw yourself from the top of the Beit compound. Imagine it now, your body splattered across the quad. Pidgeons feeding off your corpse.



Taurus

This week your friends have changed the language settings on Facebook to English (pirate). Not to feel

left out you promptly do the same. Too bad you don't have a fucking clue what anything means. While the other kids played pirate, you were playing merchant banker. Who's the wanker now? You! That's who! The gods do not favour you. Not at all.



Leo

You will die this week. I read it in my tea leaves. It was either death or lots of sex... followed by death. There's no

way out now. I see you doing something more meaningful with your time left. Something along the lines of helping children becoming terminally ill. I mean giving STD's to pristine freshers. I mean... I'm sorry I can't think of anything thats not offensive! Help me.



Scorpio

This week you and your partner will decide to take your relationship to the next level by being more

open with other people. Next time you meet a ridiculously handsome specimen of a man, who works in the Felix office and has a sick sense of humour, sleep with him. Take that chance. You won't regret it until the doctor tells you you're pregnant. Honest.



Pisces

This week, a blood test reveals high amounts of THC in your blood. This just confirms everyone's suspicions that

you're a drag on the economy and solely to blame for the current credit crisis. The former CEO of Lehman Brothers phones you up and curses to you to hell. Added to this, all Imperial students hate you because they won't get jobs as bankers anymore... lol



Gemini

Being a socially inept bastard has hardened you. This week you'll make millions by investing in the economy (no

seriously). Looks like being a wanker paid off. Unfortunately to get your funds you are forced to give your account details to a nigerian man called Lenard. He steals your money, sleeps with your wife and burns your house down. Serves you right for being successful.



Virgo

You get arrested for giving STD's to the Freshers. Why did you do it? You weren't actually dying this week.

You will now spend the rest of your life in prison, where it is shank or be shanked... in the ass. Don't worry though, you'll only have to drop the soap for another week; that is until you also die of internal bleeding. Mr Hands anyone???? 2 guys 1 horse, check it.



Sagittarius

This week you were working for Imperial College residences, making the Welcome Packs that all freshers find

in their room upon arrival at their halls. What nobody knows is that you used a needle to put holes in every single condom handed out to freshers. That's right, if you sleep with anyone you will become a parent. See, it's easy to find excuses to why you're not getting any.



Aries

This week the only people turning up to your funeral is your mother and your illegitimate child. I would use

the word funeral very loosely. A more accurate description is your body being buried at the bottom of a council dumpster. Don't worry; your after life won't get any worse. It won't get any better either. Fail.



Cancer

In a strange coincidence you have cancer. How funny. The doctors will tell you it had something to do

with spending all of your day in front of the computer. Jupiter demands you stop this right away. It's wrong to watch german scheize porn all day while you danger crank. Stop now and you'll be granted a swift but still painful death.



Libra

It will be a rather quiet week for you; an absence of bad influences provides a welcome break after the hectic,

roller-coaster ride that has been the last 2 drug-filled weeks. Make the most of it: Use the evenings for some chill-out time in order to indulge/pleasure yourself to The Best of Barry White.



Capricorn

This week you type the final words of the 1st edition of Felix 2008/2009. You tell yourself that you've done a good

job and that the Freshers will enjoy it and that they will join the team and continue to read Felix throughout the year. You tell yourself that if they don't you will take a knife and cut off their digits, slowly, one by one.

stand!

Council & Trustee Board Elections 2008

Places are available for both Undergraduate and Postgraduate positions from Engineering, Medicine & Natural Sciences faculties to be Ordinary Members of Union Council.

We are also looking for two student members of our Trustee Board.

Look online for more information at imperialcollegeunion.org/elections

Nominations open 00:01 Saturday 4 October

Nominations close 23:59 Sunday 19 October

What's this Trustee Board?

The Union Trustee Board is the governing body of the Union and consists of the President, Council Chair, Court Chair, 4 student trustees and 4 lay members who are not members of the Union but have expertise in areas such as health and safety, finance and management. The Trustee Board meets roughly six times per year to ensure that the Union is being run well and it does this by scrutinising the work of the Council and the Executive Committee.



Music

Music Editors – **Peter Sinclair** and **Susan Yu**

music.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Peter Sinclair
Music Editor

Hello, hola, bonjour, willkommen, ni hao, hi, you alright? So welcome to (or back to) Imperial College! I hope you're as pleased to be here as we are to have you here. This here's the music page, and I am one of the music editors, trusted to guide you through the adventure playground that is the London music scene, steering you towards a cooler and more healthy diet of awesome sounds, and away from that fucking Coldplay album. If you do own that album you are not allowed to read the music page.

Music is a huge part of the London student lifestyle. We are lucky enough to have wound up studying in one of the largest and most cosmopolitan cities in the world, and the music scene definitely reflects that. In London there is a community for practically every genre of music, from jazz to hip-hop to classical, and of course to dubstep. It is a 24-hour city where you can see/listen to/do/eat almost whatever you fancy, any time of night or day. A city that cultivates eclecticism and eccentricity in its individuals and in its thinkers – the saying: 'different strokes for different folks' extends to all six million Londoners. Because of this, getting out and getting involved in the music scene here is one of the most enriching, gratifying, mind-expanding and soul exploring things you can do while you're here. It's a way to find out what you really like and to really pursue it – like a vision quest without the peyote.

London is a mysterious city, only revealing as much as it thinks you should know, and always keeping surprises hidden to keep you interested. In my two years in the smoke I've accrued a small amount of knowledge which I feel I should pass down to the prospective music listener. It's by no means a comprehensive list – London has way too much going on to know everything, but here's four tips to steer you in the right direction:

1) If you're planning a big night, get a Time Out. £2.50 from every newsagent, but definitely worth the investment. It's got every music and club listing for the week, with information about the kind of music you can expect at all the clubs. It's a great way to find odd little spots that make you know you don't know your shit when you really don't.

2) Shoreditch is a fun place – check it out as soon as is convenient. Super-trendy but cheap because it's a bit of a shit-hole in places. The pubs are nice though.

3) Union nights are a great way to meet people in the first year, and a good way to get pissed up on the cheap too. But other than that, they're just NOT COOL. Yeah, I said it!

4) Never ever ever get a kebab in Leicester Square at night, even if it's the only way they'll let you use their toilet. It's just not worth it – find an alleyway.

That's it, that's the list. The fifth hidden tip is to email me (music.felix@gmail.com) and I will sort you out with free CDs and press passes to gigs in exchange for writing a couple of paragraphs about them. Rly.

Glastonbury Festival 2008

British summers are increasingly packed out by music festivals, Glastonbury being the most well-known. *Duncan Casey* travelled to Somerset to see what the fuss is about

After last year's washout, the omens weren't looking good for Glastonbury 2008. Slow ticket sales and controversy about Jay-Z's headline spot had kept the festival in the papers, but the publicity wasn't the sort that anyone wanted. Oh, and then it started to rain on the Thursday. Tell me again why I do this to myself every year?

Having sat out the obligatory monsoon with only a box of wine and a small bag of recreational narcotics for company, I emerged, bleary of eye and stubbly of face to start the festival proper. Breakfast was a rush – for reasons known only to themselves, the organisers had arranged for talent vacuum Kate Nash to open the billing, with her sub-Lily Allen (not something I say often) brand of noise, but after that things improved dramatically. While Glasto doesn't have the big-money pull of Reading or V, the advantage is that the people who do turn up to play do so because they want to, as opposed to some contractual obligation. A refreshing set by Hobo Jones and the Junkyard Dogs, (complete with silly outfits, washboards, percussion played on a guitar with spoons), banished the earlier memories, before the Alabama 3 brought the Jazz World stage to its feet with a blindingly good selection of their gospel-infused back-catalogue. Not bad for a band famous solely for the Sopranos' title music.

Surprise hit of the day, as well as coolest-named act of the festival was Lupe Fiasco – imagine Kanye West, but not shit – whose sample-driven



Knee deep in human excrement

hip-hop had a crowd of fifty thousand middle-class white people who had never heard of him jumping, gurning and pulling 'west-side' poses at each other. He was, for the record, significantly better than Jay-Z, and the truly epic nature of the Glastonbury sound systems meant that you could actually hear what he was saying, which was a novelty for a rap gig.



Jay-Z's set was mired with controversy, being the first hip-hop act to headline the traditionally indie festival

Fun Lovin' Criminals, The Fratellis and The Kings of Leon rounded out the scheduled bands for the day, at least for me – the Kings seem to have found a Bruce Springsteen-esque stadium rock sound, which is frankly a dramatic improvement on the four-boring-men-recording-generic-garage-rock-in-a-bucket sound of their first albums.

So, then the day really got underway.

One really stand-out thing that separates Glasto from, well, almost everything else in the country is the late-

"Shangri-La felt like a fairground as imagined by Rob Zombie, only with marginally less eating of brains"

night stuff. A lot of the fun doesn't even start until midnight, and with the replacement of the much-loved cabaret of weirdness that was Lost Vagueness with Trash City and the mysterious Shangri-La, no-one really knew what to expect. Shangri-La, as it turned out, felt like a fairground as imagined by Rob Zombie, only with marginally less eating of brains; Trash City was, however, easily the best thing at the festival. Imagine a post-apocalyptic Las Vegas, with barren, wrought-iron trees spewing smoke into a red-lit main strip, complete with lasers, screaming break-beat, flaming lanterns and dancers on stilts, surrounded by the ruined remains of casinos and strip joints. And then go and have a sit down for a while and try to work out what it is you must have just taken.

Of course, the only trouble with all

this fantastic late-night show is that no-one gets to bed until 6am, so the next day was a little slower... Fortunately, the good Mr Eavis knows that too, so we started the day with an ever-so-faintly surreal set from Shakin' Stevens. Yes, really. It was a day built for sprawling in the sunshine (yes, actual sunshine! At Glastonbury!) to the pleasant but not desperately challenging sounds of Martha Wainwright and Crowded House, with the blues guitar genius of Seasick Steve thrown in for good measure.

What can I say about Amy Winehouse? A testament to the power of the human liver, her show was superb until she tried to talk, at which point it became painfully apparent that she was only still upright due to some El Cid-style stick up her arse. She fell over, swore, spat and punched a fan or two, and in between occasionally belted out some of the hits that have made her the animated car crash she is today. Jay-Z started well, poking fun at such luminaries as the Pope, George Bush and Noel Gallagher, but to be honest

we got bored halfway through. Then my house-mate set himself on fire, so we decided to call it a night and go put him out. 3 litres of wine + 1 large garden candle = a whole bunch of pain.

"Then my housemate set himself on fire, so we decided to call it a night..."

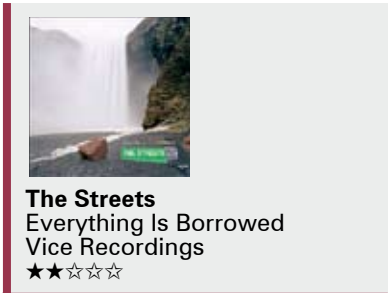
Let that be a lesson to you, kids.

Sunday was a bit truncated, as my gang were all off direct to Roskilde festival, which is very much a story for another day – the things we do for you! In any case, ignore the doom and gloom in the papers – Glasto tickets come out on October 5th this year, and you can register now at www.glastonburyfestivals.com. It's what your student loan is for!

Duncan Casey



New Album from The Streets



The Streets
Everything Is Borrowed
Vice Recordings
★★★★☆

Amongst other things, Mike Skinner's career is on borrowed time with this, his latest and most bewildering release to date, *Everything Is Borrowed*. Perhaps he spent the whole grand on fucking up his head, because the whole feel of this strange record is that of a new-age spiritualist cult service.

The theme of the album is summed up in the title - 'Everything is Borrowed', which refers to how we are born with nothing, die with nothing (except love, which Skinner points out), and everything in between is 'just borrowed'. Very deep, very nice, however that's just not what The Streets are about. This attempt at putting across a profound message just makes him sound like that pissed guy at the pub who sits at the bar and starts talking to you when you go up to get a drink and then won't leave you alone even when you're obviously patronising him.

There are some brief moments throughout this album where the charm of previous releases shines through, and without fail it's always where he drops the silliness of the amateur philosophising and just talks like himself. Like on the Dry Your Eyes-esque *I Love You More (Than You Like Me)* - "I drew a drawing of you after last time I saw you / I never thought to draw a picture like that before / I learnt a lot about myself drawing all morning / It was absolutely shit, I'm rubbish at drawing". It's almost like he realises how ridiculous the rest of it is and just takes the piss. The kind of cutting taking the piss that made his previous albums great. Only the butt of the joke is his own album. Ouch.

The name 'The Streets' alone guarantees this release a brief spell towards the top of the billboard charts, and some of the beats are probably good enough to make it linger a bit longer, but just as the weekender must eventually emerge from his or her stoned stupor and confront the harsh reality of Monday morning, so too will Streets fans eventually wake up, bleary-eyed, to Skinner's abysmal lyricism this time around and say: "Mike, what the fuck are you talking about?"

Peter Sinclair

Everything Is Borrowed is available on 07/10/08

Scotland's Glasto: T In The Park

'T' stands for Tenants. *Sarah-Emily Mutch* does her best to recall the weekend

It was sunny! Which for any event held in Scotland is cause for celebration. It only rained lightly once, at 3am. The line-up was being tipped as the best out of all the festivals this summer and it certainly racked up the famous names. Arriving fashionably late on Friday after some local decided it would be a laugh to move a signpost, we successfully managed to park the furthest away and dragged our supplies along the mud track to Ryanair's idea of a campsite that was so distant it never filled. Listening to the faint warble of The Verve drifting over from the main stage we set about watching a clued up friend erect the tent.

The line up may have been excellent but it was badly planned. It left us with an empty Saturday, and a Sunday that was so packed with jam that it made a mess of our tops. Trying to get my

very English friends to Ceilidh Dance and absentmindedly watching people fight over free t-shirts filled up the dead time between interesting sets though. We made the mistake of going to see Lightspeed Champion as The Pet Sounds Arena's sound quality was awful and Devonte Hynes sounded and looked like a silly hat singing slightly out of tune. Cajun Dance Party, a little bit of a guilty pleasure, had disappointingly typical stage personalities but I still really enjoyed The Flies Arrive - I love songs about being late, despite Amylase being risible. They certainly did GCSE biology.

The food was a pleasant surprise with "Healthy T" offering lamb, beef, oys-

ters, salmon and wild boar (all locally farmed) as well as about three stands selling risotto pitched at about the same prices as everywhere else selling the standard-shaped grease. Shame they didn't offer better beer. The climax of Saturday night for the rest of the group was Rage Against the Machine but never having been a fourteen year-old boy I wandered off to find my friends who were working at T.

We woke up bleary-eyed on Sunday to the sight of a row of men pissing on a chain-link fence 100 yards away. Even a few girls pissed in the corners, which began the unresolved argument of why

guys can piss wherever they want and girls cannot without the male populace reacting with disgust. Surely no one should get to piss where people can see?? Answers on a postcard. Dodging the suspect mud we set off and split up, squinting at our badly copied out programs. The 'Pet Sounds arena's sound quality still hadn't improved but Battles managed to raise up against the badly checked tent and play a short but sweet set. John Stanier, drummer, was awe inspiring to watch. Yeasayer was one of the best bands of the festival with their hauntingly happy sound hitting me like an Indian summer echoing through the an abandoned warehouse.

Time for the big headliners, but with R.E.M, Aphex Twin and The Prodigy all playing at the same time it was a hard

choice for many. R.E.M is my favourite band, meaning that despite what people say and some songs being mediocre I love them uncontrollably. I cannot review it with any sense of neutrality so I'm not going to pretend to try. The only downside of the amazing set was two girls from a certain city [Glasgow] who pushed their way forward and then shouted about their nail polish to each other for an hour! I mean what was the point? They didn't look like they were even enjoying the conversation. Afterwards we possibly headed towards some campsite entertainment.

Finally we were woken up at the ungodly hour of 7am but still managed to be practically last to leave, squelching through what the end of the world might look like if everyone died in a multi-coloured refugee camp. The wind tossed tents like tumbleweed and we felt fine.

Sarah-Emily Mutch



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*See website for details. Terms & conditions apply



Fashion

Fashion Editor – Daniel Wan

fashion.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Daniel Wan
Fashion Editor

As the new academic year dawns, I can only harbour a rank mix of envy and dread. The jealousy stems from the fact that whilst all you Freshers will be intoxicating your young, worthless bodies during the next week and beyond, I'll probably be laying a brick or two wondering how likely it is that I'll actually end up with a degree. Hence the dread.

I am ever the optimist, though the above paragraph suggests otherwise. As you probably read this half-trampled copy of Felix on the floor of Da Vinci's, you should come to the realisation that Felix will be your only salvation from the insanity that is Imperial College. In the almost incomprehensible words of one of my friends, the first year is "jokes as fucks." You heard him; and it will be.

Since you're going to be avoiding any real work this year, there's going to be plenty of time for exploration of the local area. When you're in London, though, your local area is the majority of London. A short tube or bus journey will unravel the semi-delights of this beautiful city, including all the shopping you ever even bothered to dream about.

So, when the money comes rolling in from Daddy or you've decided your student loan is far too big a sum of money to be just sitting in your bank account 'unused', you've got no other choice but to whip out a few bills and splash-da-cash on another pair of unneeded shoes. Or even that top you'd seen in a magazine once, but the village where you were born and (in)bred was too much of a Shitsville to actually have any decent shops.

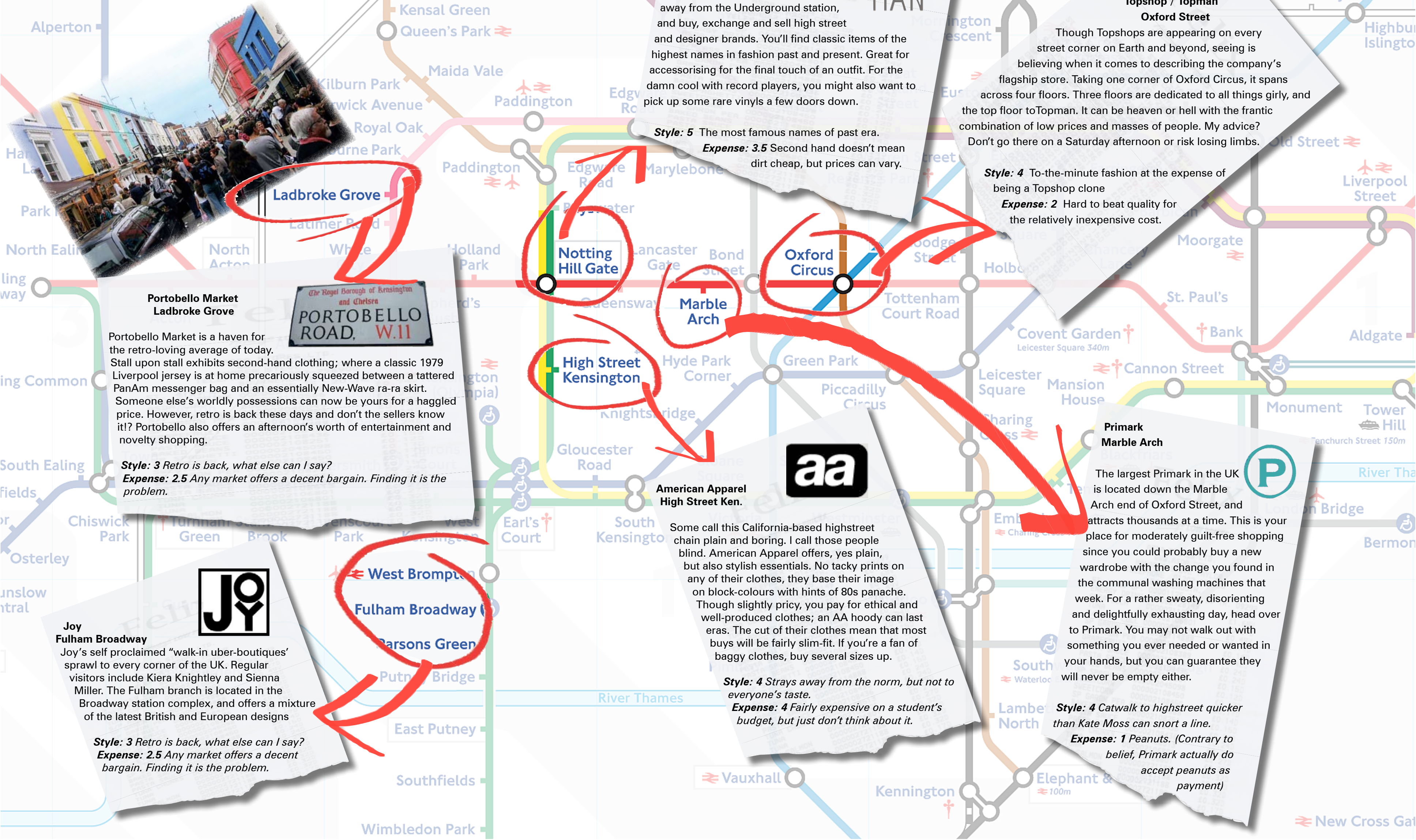
Hence I lay upon you the holy Felix Fashion guide to the freshest, sick-est, (insert another recent-era slang superlative) shops and boutiques within reachable distance. The ones that will provide you with the style that will last you throughout the next few years of your life here in South Kensington.

You may not be as ridiculously clever as the guy sitting in front of you; you may not be hard-working as the girl sitting behind you, but I'm going to make damn sure that out of the three, you're going to be the one that is looking the best. The Felix Fashion team also come wandering around college armed with a camera and a notebook, scouting for those of you that actually made an effort that morning to look like something other than a tramp on the street. We'll then nervously ask you if we can take a picture and ask what you're wearing, crawl back down into the dingy Felix basements and feature you in that week's issue. So be prepared. Don't let yourself look like a tramp. You dirty tramp.

On another note, if you're interested in fashion, and always wanted to write about it, there's only one obvious solution. Write for Felix Fashion. This year I'm look for fresh blood to stain the pages of upcoming issues. You'll get to know Felix's deepest and darkest secrets. Trust.

You don't need any food

Some places where you can blow your year's student loan in one day. Do it. I dare you.



Daniel Wan
Fashion Editor

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fashion.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Fashion

Retro Shop / Retro Man Notting Hill Gate

'Retro Man' and 'Retro Shop' are coupled shops, located seconds away from the Underground station, and buy, exchange and sell high street and designer brands. You'll find classic items of the highest names in fashion past and present. Great for accessorising for the final touch of an outfit. For the damn cool with record players, you might also want to pick up some rare vinyls a few doors down.

Style: 5 The most famous names of past era.
Expense: 3.5 Second hand doesn't mean dirt cheap, but prices can vary.

TOPSHOP Topshop / Topman Oxford Street

Though Topshops are appearing on every street corner on Earth and beyond, seeing is believing when it comes to describing the company's flagship store. Taking one corner of Oxford Circus, it spans across four floors. Three floors are dedicated to all things girly, and the top floor to Topman. It can be heaven or hell with the frantic combination of low prices and masses of people. My advice? Don't go there on a Saturday afternoon or risk losing limbs.

Style: 4 To-the-minute fashion at the expense of being a Topshop clone
Expense: 2 Hard to beat quality for the relatively inexpensive cost.

Portobello Market Ladbroke Grove

Portobello Market is a haven for the retro-loving average of today. Stall upon stall exhibits second-hand clothing; where a classic 1979 Liverpool jersey is at home precariously squeezed between a tattered PanAm messenger bag and an essentially New-Wave ra-ra skirt. Someone else's worldly possessions can now be yours for a haggled price. However, retro is back these days and don't the sellers know it!? Portobello also offers an afternoon's worth of entertainment and novelty shopping.

Style: 3 Retro is back, what else can I say?
Expense: 2.5 Any market offers a decent bargain. Finding it is the problem.

American Apparel High Street Ken.

Some call this California-based highstreet chain plain and boring. I call those people blind. American Apparel offers, yes plain, but also stylish essentials. No tacky prints on any of their clothes, they base their image on block-colours with hints of 80s panache. Though slightly pricy, you pay for ethical and well-produced clothes; an AA hoody can last eras. The cut of their clothes mean that most buys will be fairly slim-fit. If you're a fan of baggy clothes, buy several sizes up.

Style: 4 Strays away from the norm, but not to everyone's taste.
Expense: 4 Fairly expensive on a student's budget, but just don't think about it.

Primark Marble Arch

The largest Primark in the UK is located down the Marble Arch end of Oxford Street, and attracts thousands at a time. This is your place for moderately guilt-free shopping since you could probably buy a new wardrobe with the change you found in the communal washing machines that week. For a rather sweaty, disorienting and delightfully exhausting day, head over to Primark. You may not walk out with something you ever needed or wanted in your hands, but you can guarantee they will never be empty either.

Style: 4 Catwalk to highstreet quicker than Kate Moss can snort a line.
Expense: 1 Peanuts. (Contrary to belief, Primark actually do accept peanuts as payment)

Joy Fulham Broadway

Joy's self proclaimed "walk-in uber-boutiques" sprawl to every corner of the UK. Regular visitors include Kiera Knightley and Sienna Miller. The Fulham branch is located in the Broadway station complex, and offers a mixture of the latest British and European designs

Style: 3 Retro is back, what else can I say?
Expense: 2.5 Any market offers a decent bargain. Finding it is the problem.



Food

Food Editors – Afonso Campos & Rosie Grayburn

food.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Afonso Campos
Food Editor

Welcome to the newly reintroduced Food section. This year, it will be edited by the very lovely Ms Rosie Grayburn and myself. I did enjoy writing the business section last year, but I feel it's time for something a little bit more sinful. In a good way. Sometimes I'll do a whole issue, sometimes Rosie will; sometime we will collaborate. We want to keep it relatively funny.

While this section is primarily based around recipes and reviews of restaurants we believe students will get a kick out of, we want to add a bit of a twist this year. We will therefore be organising dinners, cooking parties, drinking evenings, tastings, visits to farmers' markets and organic farms – the works. Obviously we don't want to do this alone and we would absolutely love for our readers to join us; provided you are genuinely passionate about food and gastronomy and want to be around people who care about this stuff too.

We will not only be ranting about food, but also fine drink and the more technical and nerdy side of food. There will be obscure references to McGee's *On Food and Cooking*; known to enthusiasts of merrymaking as *The Bible*. I will also try to give some insight into the incredible world that is molecular gastronomy made famous (but not invented) by Heston Blumenthal and written about at length by Dr Charles Spence, the experimental psychologist and food enthusiast-in-chief at Oxford University.

Another goal of this section is to instill in you not only a passion, but more importantly the aptitude to become a confident and competent cook. I believe I started out on the wrong foot given that my first two recipes are not the simplest or the least pretentious to prepare. As pointed out to me by Gilead Amit, things need to be taken slowly. As of next week, therefore, that is how I will proceed. I will avoid patronising you and as such, will not be instructing you how to boil pasta or rice, but perhaps give you slight variations of the basics and hopefully make them less boring and uninteresting.

It would be fabulous if you, the reader, were to chip in with a recipe or a restaurant review once in a while. Just email it to us at food.felix@imperial.ac.uk. While we will be doing a lot of reviewing ourselves, there are just too many great places in London to visit, and while we'd adore eating at all of them, this is most likely not going to happen. We wouldn't mind that incredible recipe you got from your grandmother for a killer crab risotto.

Finally come see us at *felix's* Freshers' Fair stall. We're relatively nice and our bite is not too deep. All the sub-editors are there and even if you don't want to contribute to our section, you might see something that sparks your interest or may even have an idea for something completely new.

Going Dutch on King's Road

It's like pizza. But on a pancake, hence better. Ultimate comfort food close to Imperial.



The 1958 stands for the number of ingredients you chuck on the plate

My Old Dutch Chelsea ★★★★★

221 King's Road, SW3 5EJ
Price Per Person: £15
Best: £5 Pancakes all day
Monday
Worst: Long waits on Fridays and weekends

Afonso Campos

The place is far from fancy. The chairs are wooden, stupidly hard and not surprisingly, uncomfortable. The waitresses are not exceptionally nice and a lot more could be said for the ambience from the second you walk in. The lighting is somewhat harsh and on a Friday or Saturday, it gets loud. Very

loud. It is not the kind of mildly interesting noise you get at a Belgian beer house, but one more reminiscent of the dissonant waking call for an early morning hunt in the Paleolithic. The people stop being people and they become one thing only: incredibly powerful and driven eating machines, because it is in the food that the strength of this place lies. While it is not refined in the slightest, there is a kind of delicacy and frailness to it that makes it appealing despite the initially intimidating portion sizes.

Beginning where the beginning begins; drinks. The wine list is seemingly unconvincing, but there's actually a gem in there. I am not usually a fan of rosé and have trouble classifying it as a real wine, but their Domaine d'Astros

is nothing short of brilliant. I tried it last summer in Cannes and it is better than I remembered it to be. They also do some awesome thick milkshakes, albeit in a pitiful 3 flavours.

The starters list looks pretty decent, and if you're anything like me, you'll be pretty tempted to try the kaasbalen, deep-fried balls of mozzarella and cheddar, onion and breadcrumbs. They're not half-bad, but truth be told their nachos are clearly superior. They're just as cheesy as they need be and the home-made creams and sauces are brilliant.

You did not walk 25 minutes to Chelsea to have starters and drinks though. The pancakes are the appogee of this place. Imagine a pizza. Now, remove the soggy tomato sauce and replace the base with a scrumptious, massive pancake. Add bacon, cheese, chicken,

chives, olives, haloumi, sweetcorn, sundried tomato.... Drool. Eat. Continue eating. Possibly repeat. Any combination of ingredients is possible. Creative flairs are highly encouraged and strange concoctions are not frowned upon. If you can still stomach pudding after all of this, try somewhere else; desserts here are not the best.

Were I suggesting this restaurant to either one of my parents, I'd probably be rating it 2 stars; mostly due to less-than-ideal service and general feel of the place. Given the quality of the food, uniqueness, quantity and, most important for students, Price:Quality:Portion Size ratio, it provides absolutely unbeatable value. This is especially true on Mondays when all pancakes are reduced to £5. For most dishes, this is actually less than half price. I hope you enjoy our humble recommendation.



After the pancake... there are waffles. After waffles. There's other stuff.

Delicious calorie bomb puddings



PECAN SNOWDROPS

3/4 cup of butter at room temperature
1/3 cup of powdered sugar
1 tsp vanilla extract
a pinch of salt
1.5 cups of plain flour
3/4 cup finely chopped pecans
powdered sugar for dusting

Preheat the oven to 170C. Lightly grease baking trays or line with some sort of parchment.

In a large bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until it is lightly and totally fluffy. Now, add the vanilla salt, flour and nuts. Mix well. Roll the stuff into 3/4 inch balls and place them on a baking tray at least 1 inch apart; otherwise hell will break loose.

Bake the stuff for like 15 minutes or until they are kinda brown. Dust them with the powdered sugar while they're still warm and let them cool completely.

At this stage, you may want to spice things up. Just take the snowdrops and dip the bottom of each one into some melted milk chocolate and leave them on a flat, parchment cover to set. Offer them to your boyfriend/girlfriend to guarantee some cuddling.



CHOCOLATE TRUFFLES

1.25 cups heavy cream
handful of Earl/Lady Grey tea leaves
5 oz extra-dark chocolate, hella finely chopped
10 oz dark chocolate
cocoa powder

Bring the cream and tea leaves to a simmer in a small saucepan and let the mixture infuse for a couple of minutes over low heat. Remove from heat and leave to stand for a minute.

Place the extra-dark chocolate in a bowl and let it sit for a couple of minutes until the chocolate has melted. Stir the mixture gently until it's smooth and combined. Do not stir loads or the chocolate will separate. Cover the stuff and chill for at least 4 hours until set.

Melt the dark chocolate in a double boiler over low heat, then remove. Leave it to cool down a bit, so that it's still liquid. Using a fork, dip the truffles on by one into the chocolate and remove before the ganache melts. Immediately drop into sifted cocoa powder on a large, deep plate and roll gently. Leave the truffles in the cocoa powder until the chocolate has set. They're best served at room temperature but can be refrigerated to make them last longer.



again.
MY: • Yoga retreat (this might be code for a day at a spa). • Yoga in the park. • New club T shirts; they're really snazzy. Honestly.

2 Biggest events of the year

IBB: • BUCS knockout tournament. • This is the single biggest social event as the team organizes many informal dinners and outings.
IBC: • Annual Fresher's Toga Party. • Henley Royal Regatta.
IMC: • ULU cup. • Annual cricket Dinner.
IWC: • BUCS cricket matches. • International tour to somewhere tropical!
ID: • Inter Varsity Dance Competition. • ICU Dance Club Spring Ball.
IMF: • Wednesday matches. • Wednesday matchbox (both sports).
IWF: • Going to Switzerland for the IDEA league, playing beach football and winning the silver ball. • Hammy 10 pub crawl with the men's football club.
IG: • BUCS Championships, with the winner going on to play in the Trench Cup. • Club Tour 2009, location TBC. The possibility of a Gaelic Football 7's

tournament on the sunny beaches of Miami, watched by a crowd mostly in bikinis (I'm not even making that one up.) Fake 21+ ID's essential.
IH: • Varsity, a chance to show the medics who really owns them. • The annual dinner.
IIH: • Middlesex Knockout Cup. • Girl's and Boy's Paintballing.
IK: • Our internal beginners competition. • Christmas dinner.
IKB: • The holidays! Because there isn't any training. • The first session after the holidays!
IKF: • There are already rumours stirring about a big ice cream/pizza night sometime towards the end of November. • Three of the class' black belts will be defending their titles.
IN: • Varsity!! • Every Wednesday Sports Night is a big social event.
IMR: • Varsity. • Christmas Dinner.
IWR: • Tour will probably be the biggest event but the club is renowned for putting on a good show every sports night! • Every game is as important as the last, varsity is always a laugh and getting to the semi's/finals of anything.
ITT: • BUCS championships. • Christmas Dinner!
IT: • Christmas social. • Summer tour
IW: • BUCS nationals. • Dahab trip.
MA: • BUCS Outdoors event. • Bir-

mingham tour.
MB: • Our trip to the All England Badminton Championships. • Hopefully taking part in a National/International tournament...
MWH: • Varsity. • Oxford 'Tour'.
MN: • Varsity. • Sports dinner.
MR: • Varsity and UH Cup final. • Cornwall Tour
MY: • Every yoga class is an event in itself. • Yoga Christmas social.

1 Biggest Rival

IBB: • Royal Holloway Mens 1st
IBC: • At the end of the day your biggest rival will be yourself. The coaching and facilities ensure you will reach whatever goals you set yourself.
IMC: • You're probably looking for us to name-drop here, but we'll resist the

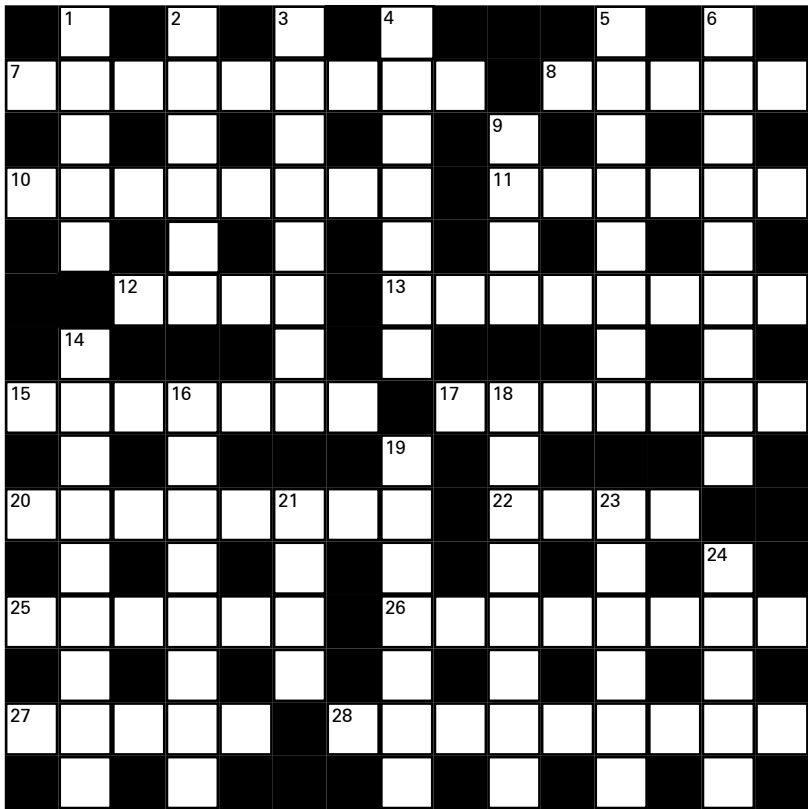
temptation. And, well, actually our biggest rivals are, er, the girls.
IWC: • I think part of the reason we have such success is that we have so much fun regardless of the opposition. So we don't really have rivals (although we really really like beating King's!).
ID: • Oxbridge!
IMF: • Injustice.
IWF: • IC Men's Football 5th Team.
IG: • Any of the clubs that put in a good performance on the ACC bar nights!
IH: • Simple – The Medics!
IIH: • Teddington!
IK: • The mainstream sports, because they're getting all the airtime. And those crazy guys from UCL, of course.
IKB: • Kings College.
IKF: • There's a friendly competitive atmosphere, especially with the senior belts.
IN: • UCL. They don't deserve an

explanation.
IMR: • Medic Scum.
IWR: • The Vets and Royal Holloway, but we enjoy a healthy rivalry with any team fatter than us - so most of them!!!
ITT: • Too nice to have any rivals!
IT: • We are unrivalled, except for Women's Netball who stole our match courts last year at Holland Park...
IW: • Kitesurfers!
MA: • The British Olympics Athletics Squad
MB: • IC Badminton of course! But we love them really.
MWH: • Essex (they're chavs).
MN: • The traditional medic rivals; IC, GKT but this year it has to be St Georges.
MR: • The infidels from south of the river (GKT) and Imperial College.
MY: • Pilates. It's much easier than yoga, you don't need a soul to do it.



Crossword No. 1,409

Answers to: sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk



ACROSS

- 7 Hurricanes are moored in a place like this (9)
- 8 Centre of public debate for expressing uncertainty (5)
- 10 Weapon of war cuts short ill-conceived armistice (8)
- 11 Neutron without charge in its constituent bits can get you excited (4-2)
- 12 Slowly cover ground in Switzerland (4)
- 13 A philosopher boxes in this manner to get placed first (8)
- 15 Shorten a regular journey (7)
- 17 Hollow drain-pipes burst to reveal small fish (7)
- 20 Cause grief and give rage in a single word (8)
- 22 German or Polish river (4)
- 25 Pen with lustrous tip can be used to write on screens (6)
- 26 Where short ideas are sent. Hull? Not quite (8)
- 27 Capital 'I' followed by an 'S' (5)
- 28 I, of course, can be quite vicious (11)

DOWN

- 1 Carefully look at how to reroute a choo-choo train (5)
- 2 Christian man back in the moon (6)
- 3 Note the 't' in 'knit' (8)
- 4 Incoherent promises, having lost that empty ring, leave a deep effect (7)
- 5 Undergoing two revolutions a day... (4,4)
- 6 ...makes of one pure as those living on the Continent (9)
- 9 Not a pal from the olden days? (4)
- 14 Hugo tried to become braver (9)
- 16 The process of adding streaks can damage jewellery (8)
- 18 Making one's own choice after recent years (8)
- 19 Wind renamed in an unusual way... (7)
- 21 ...other than in Chelsea (4)
- 23 Regional conflict in the Colombian capital (6)
- 24 Pay no attention to French thug (5)

Greetings. Salutations. Hello. The first week of your academic year is set to begin any second, and I hope that this small monochrome offering will be able to help you get through it.
Over the coming year, with any luck, I should be able to tease and torment you, elicit satisfaction and frustration, and provide you with some moments of joy to illuminate the sea of pain we inhabit. Sorry; black and white squares bring out the existentialist in me.
Send your answers to sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk to have your name published in this space next week - the most coveted square inches in the paper. There are no prizes for correct answers as yet, but that may change as the year progresses.
For those of you who are too 21st Century for good old-fashioned pen and paper, fear not. The crossword is perfectly adaptable to new technologies. Just go to www.felixonline.co.uk/sections/crossword and follow the link to have a fully interactive version, with regularly updated solutions.
Enjoy!



IBB = IC Basketball
IBC = IC Boat Club
IMC = IC Men's Cricket
IWC = IC Women's Cricket
ID = IC Dance
IMF = IC Men's Football
IWF = IC Women's Football

IG = IC Gaelic Football
IH = IC Hockey
IIH = IC Indoor Hockey
IJT = IC Jov Tossing
IK = IC Kendo
IKB = IC Kick Boxing
IKF = IC Kung Fu

ILDS = IC Long Distance Spitting
IN = IC Netball
IMR = IC Men's Rugby
IWR = IC Women's Rugby
ITT = IC Table Tennis
IT = IC Tennis
IW = IC Windsurfing

MA = ICSM Athletics
MB = ICSM Badminton
MWH = ICSM Women's Hockey
MN = ICSM Netball
MR = ICSM Rugby
MT = ICSM Tiddlywinks
MY = ICSM Yoga

5 Highlights from last year?

IBB: • The Women's Team winning ULU Division 1. • Thrashing the Medics with both teams winning by more than 60 points. • Aleks Ponjavic bringing some quality Swedish women to watch our games. • Being given the name Imperial Vectors... Coach Frank asking "What the Fuck is a Vector?" • Devon using one of the basketballs to cover his manhood for a modelling shoot.

IBC: • Eight's Head of the River Race - coming second to a crew of internationals. • Training Camp. The entire club packed their lycra and headed for the sunny south of France. • BUSA Championships. Overall ICBC came first in 6 categories, 2nd in four categories and 3rd in 5 categories. This took our medal tally to a whopping 41. • GB World Championships. Adam Freeman-Pask and Mathilde Pauls were selected to represent GB. • EUSA Championships. Victory came in the form of silver medals for the lightweight quadruple sculls (4x) and a bronze medal for the pair (2-).

up a storm at four major Inter-Varsity dance competitions becoming one of the UK's Top 3 teams.

IMF: • Consistent champagne football. • ULU cup final. • Varsity. • Retaining Varsity. • Founding "West Belfast", the famous 5 man Sports Cafe boat race champions 2007/08.

IWF: • Reaching the semi-finals in the ULU Cup • Winning matches with seven players on the pitch • A Goldsmiths player inappropriately propositioning an IC player during a match • Dressing up as divas for a karaoke social. • Getting free tickets to watch QPR play.

IG: • Founded in January 2008. • Becoming 1 of only 3 universities to independently own its pitch. • Our inaugural match against Oxford. • Almost getting stranded on the motorway from Oxford.

IH: • Our epic tour to Berlin, lots of hockey and plenty of social events. • ULU Cup Finals Day. Contested three of the four matches! • Varsity and our continued domination over the Medics • Our Men's 1st XI made the semi-finals of a national cup competition. • The annual introductory freshers tour that takes place in the next few weeks.

IIH: • Coming runners up in the wom-



year training in the Himalayans to master the five point star exploding heart technique. • One of our existing black belts successfully graded for his second dan.

IN: • The mini-tour to Brighton. En- sue chaos involving lots of cider, cats and pink. • Pub golf where all of us [just about] made it round 9 watering holes of South Kensington. • The 1st team won BUSA league undefeated. • Xmas ACC Bar Night when we had the best fancy dress theme ever of Nativity. • Stripping off in Kensington Gardens for the Felix Centrefold.

IMR: • ACC Bar nights. • Curry Nights. • Opal. • The Christmas Dinner. • The Annual Dinner.

IWR: • Being unbeaten until Christmas. • 2nd Place in BUSA and ULU. • Winning the UH cup (again!) • Some amazing Victories with huge points differences of over 50.

• Loads of things from nights out that probably shouldn't be mentioned here.

ITT: • Freshers Fair. Michael & Will wheeling a table from the union to the muddy Queens Lawn in the rain. • Everyone giving their all in the BUSA leagues and championships. • Seeing the Masters at the Royal Albert Hall • Success in the Central London League winning division 2 and runners up in division 3. • The election for our new committee, our highest turnout ever (not!).

IT: • Men's 2nd team winning their BUSA league and getting promoted. • Women's 1st team winning their league and narrowly missing out on promotion to the premier league • The trip to Zurich to compete in the IDEA sports league!

IW: • London point break - The club hosted an incredible weekend event, with well over a 100 windsurfers attending. • Beginner taster days - we organized two windsurf trips at the start of the year dedicated to training absolute beginners. • End of year dinner, which ended in chaos. • Aussie kiss 6 - Over 1000 student windsurfers from around the country descended on Cornwall for a massive weekend. • Dahab trip - We spent a week at a great windsurf location in Egypt!

MA: • Winning everything!

MB: • The ladies team kicking ass in

the BUSA League • The mixed team moving up to the *premier* league • Raving on the table dressed as life- guards for our Baywatch themed sports night. • Playing 'confessions' on the way to the Yonex Badminton. • Watching our men's captain Bob eat his first ever curry... and his last.

MWH: • Oxford Tour usual fun and shenanigans. • 'The Wedding' Circle. We were pleased to be present for the holy matrimony of our club captain to a fellow team-mate. • Christmas Dinner. Elves, Mrs Clause and angels join in a gangster rap. • Alumni day. • End

MR: • Tour of South Africa and Swazi- land - a 100% playing record, shark diving, superhero safaris and much more. • Winning UH and Varsity again!

MY: • The arrival of our new teacher, Sima: yoga teacher and Reiki healer. • First male on the committee... ever. • Nearly all club members being able to get their legs behind their head. • Club members being pleasantly surprised at the stealth emergence of tight abs. • Cries of 'Where did you learn to do that?!!' from stunned club members' partners.

4 Reasons to join your club

IBB: • Competitive 15 game regular season with 2 annual knockout tournaments. • Get to travel around UK. • Quality coaching from Coach Frank. • Get really fit because in trainings, we really RUN.

IBC: • To make new friends. • To cut all ties with your loved ones. • To see the world (going backwards). • To un- leash hell and get praise for it (coxing).

IMC: • Where else can you find more than 100 cricketers on your doorstep? • How are you going to get access to both Lords and Oval indoor schools? • Who else offers *FREE* video performance analysis? • Which other cricket club do you know that last year toured Thai- land, won the ULU cup and rounded it all off which a cordial dinner at the East India Club?

IWC: • Women's cricket is a new sport to Imperial. Because of this we are very welcoming of beginners. • You don't need to have ever picked up a bat or a ball and it's incredibly affordable. • It's your chance to do something incred-



IMC: • ICUC 2nd XI team finally managing to win the ULU cup final with a 2-run victory. • Our inaugural dinner at the East India Club, not to mention the after party held at Tiger-Tiger. • Purchase of a video camera allowed us to provide performance analysis to our members. • Last year, the club went on an action packed tour to Wales. • The Easter before we toured Thailand, where we competed in an International Sixes tournament.

IWC: • We were runners-up in the BUSA league, and then finished in the top 16 teams in the national championships, in our first ever season! • We had lots of social events, the best probably being the Annual Cricket Dinner.

ID: • Freshers Fair - remember the dancers clad in elegant dance costumes walking around college. • Regular socials held throughout term. • A spread of classes (Latin, Ballroom and Salsa) across varying difficulties catered for everyone. • Imperial Team dancing

en's league • Reaching the quarter finals of the Middlesex Knockout Cup • Getting medics and non-medics playing on a pitch together! • John Innverdale watching us play! • All the amazing goals.

IK: • Celebrating our 10th anniversary with a big kendo competition, a gala dinner and lots of free food & drinks. • The British national coach ran a seminar for our club. • We were visited by Japanese university students and high grading Japanese instructors. • Our teams did well in the University championship and were beaten up by the Spanish national team.

IKB: • Training nearly every Wednesday! • The fights against the Kings College Club! • Training in Hyde Park when it was sunny and hot! • Having a hot shower after training! • Drinking water after training!

IKF: • Last year two members of the club successfully attempted the black belt grading in June having spent one



of season dinner.

MN: • Our first team came 3rd in BUSA 1A. • The first ever Medic Sports Personality of the Year was awarded to our outgoing Club Captain Cat. • Yet another clean sweep victory over IC in Varsity. • 2nd team becoming "felix team of the week". • Netball & Football tour. Last year we hit Bristol.

ibly English! • We have cricket nets at Lords and the Oval.

ID: • You don't need a partner to start dancing. • It is highly attractive with the most balanced male: female ratio you can get at Imperial. • We offer a broad range of social and team classes. • It's a good chance to shed some weight.

...in 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 Imperial are back!

After being ranked 22nd in the UK for sports, Imperial teams are on a high but who will you join?

IMF: • The Beautiful Game. • The social side. • 150 likeminded members. • Because otherwise your course will bore you to death and you'll regret missing out on the best club at Imperial.

IWF: • We can win matches with seven players on the pitch. • There are no trials and we welcome everyone. • We're incredibly fun and have many social events.

IG: • Opportunity to play the newest

you to hit people with a stick.

IKB: • Kick/Thai boxing is the best way to become fit. • One of the most effective techniques for self defence. • Abs! • Because you will regret it if you don't!

IKF: • We practice a modernised form of Chinese kickboxing called Wu Shu Kwan. • It is suitable for both beginners and experienced practitioners. • The club has been running for well over twenty years now and still enjoys a

You have a free social tennis session every week. • Get into a team and you will be able to practice once a week at the prestigious Queens Club.

IW: • We provide training, competitions and kit for everyone. • More experienced windsurfers take part in competitive racing, freestyle and wave competitions. • Tour the UK. • An awesome group of mates that will change your Imperial experience!

MA: • Like winning? • Like fun? • Like Pimm's in the sun. • (Like Athletics?)

MB: • Our club is open to anyone of any standard. • We hold regular social events, and even the Medic football team were impressed at our drinking circle. • Our mixed and ladies teams are in the top leagues for their regions. • We welcome both medics and non-medics.

MWH: • Opportunity to participate in sport at any level. • Enough social events to wear you out. • Unbeatable friendships. • A chance to meet some HOT hockey boys (not).

MN: • Netball is awesome!! • Besides our weekly sports night on a Wednesday we hold lots of social events throughout the year. • Everybody is welcome at the club. • We are the fittest club at ICSM (allegedly).

MR: • We are the premier club in the Medical School. • Over 75 members playing rugby at all standards. • We also love to tour and socialise, going away at least twice a year. • If you are going to join just one club then join us!

MY: • Get flexible and tone up: • Improving your flexibility means you're less likely to injure yourself when playing other sports. • Cheap membership. • Nobody will make you down a dirty pint at the socials... unless you look up for it

3 Things to look forward to this year

IBB: • Winning the BUCS league and defending the ULU League for the 3rd year in a row. • The Women's Team being entered into the BUCS league alongside games in the ULU. • Socials and postgame celebrations at the Union, Onanon and other venues.

IBC: • The Support Team - Olympic Gold Medallist Steve Trapmore, MBE, assumed control of the helm mid-season last year. • Strutting around in Lycra (and looking good while doing it). • Being a member of ICBC ensures that at some point, you will win.

IMC: • Next year we're doing the sub-continent. • We're also repeating the mid-season dinner. • We have more training sessions than ever at Lord's and Oval.

IWC: • We will be playing in the BUCS indoor cricket league, as well as an outdoor league! • Hopefully promotion to the premier league! • We are hoping to have our first international tour.

ID: • Demonstrations by teachers and Team dancers at Fresher's Fair and After party. • Free lessons for all in the first week commencing 6th Oct 08! • Everyone who is interested can choose to compete under the Imperial banner!

IMF: • Beers. • "Box". • Banter.

IWF: • Winning the Division 1 Championship • The socials. • There could be a football tour this year...

IG: • The opening match on our new pitch. • Proving ourselves as the most promising Gaelic Football team in London.



sport at Imperial. • To Keep fit. • Meet new similar minded people. • Play a faster, harder and better sport than anything else the ACC offers.

IH: • We are the biggest mixed sports team at Imperial! • We are one of the most successful university hockey clubs in London. • We run social events throughout the year for all our teams, from curry nights to black tie dinners. • We train and play on a top of the range, newly installed pitch.

IIH: • Friendly, mixed club open to everyone. • Improve your fitness and skills for outdoor hockey. • Sunday mornings will never be the same. • You won't get cold or wet playing hockey.

IK: • Kendo is not just a sport; it's a culture, a worldwide community • A martial art full of character and beauty. • It also teaches you to yell and allows

large following. • A good fitness building workout and hangover cure.

IN: • One of the few places at Imperial where you can find lots of girls! • Our infamous baby pink hoodies. • We accommodate the complete range of skills. • We're big on sport and socialising.

IMR: • Automatically gains you at least 50 mates to have a good time with. All are welcome!

IWR: • Always attracts an amazing bunch of girls. • Great way to relieve stress! • Any shape or size can play. • Great for all levels of experience.

ITT: • One of the fastest ball games on the planet. • Players of all levels are welcome. • Friendly atmosphere, you will make new friends. • We are a large club, you'll find plenty of competition.

IT: • You can meet lots of students. •



• Devil/Demon-bites. Oh, now you're intrigued.

IH: • Our massive tour in the summer to an exotic destination. • President's day in the summer term. • The Christmas Dinner.

IIH: • Promotion in the women's league. • Lots of men's fixtures. • Well run, organised training sessions.

IK: • More members, socials, competitions, and generally more kendo than ever before! • At the end of the year we'll visit Japan.

a laugh!

ITT: • Welcoming new members with plenty of the enthusiasm left over from the Beijing Olympics. • More good performances in the BUCS league and championships. • More fun sessions!

IT: • Lots and lots of tennis and lots of great weather to play it in!

IW: • Aussie kiss 7- it gets better every year! • Beginner's day - great opportunity for newcomers to the sport. • All 4 of the SWA core events.

MA: • Tour, The Boys Boozy Bash, The



IKB: • Finally starting training after the long summer break! • Not being out of breath at the slightest exertion. • Learning what it means to use every muscle in your body!

IKF: • We'll now be training in the shiny Ethos sports hall, and have an added fitness class to help prepare our members for gradings. • The social side of the club has also seen a revival, with the majority of the class usually ending up in the bar after training.

IN: • Ann Summers Party on Friday 24th October • Netball Vs. Rugby – grudge match • Tour this year is going to be bigger, better, faster, stronger...

IMR: • Fancy Dress Karaoke. • The Annual Dinner and many more.

IWR: • Tours - probably Spain this year. Also look forward to smaller tours e.g. Southampton in November • The only club that can look forward to both Union and Reynolds fun! • Playing some really good rugby and generally having

Girls Slumber Party. • Sports dinner & Christmas dinner. • BUCS, Varsity, UL Athletics and more.

MB: • Social practices - a chance for beginners and improvers to get down on the courts. • Sports' nights, tournaments and a *secret*, unannounced, extra-special badminton event! • Team coaching and matches.

MWH: • Sports' Night - all the fancy dress a girl could ever need. • Hockey festivals: a bubble world of hockey, camping and alcohol. • International Tour. Next year's destination looks set to be 'far-flung'.

MN: • Woah we're going to Barbados!!! • Netball & Football tour is one of our most eagerly anticipated social events. • The 2nd and 3rds pushing for promotion and the 1sts hoping to maintain their extremely high standards.

MR: • Schools Tour, Cornwall Tour, Inter-Year. • Wednesday's in the Reynolds. • Winning Varsity and UH



The Countdown begins...



Sport at Imperial: fitness and fun all in one!



**Jack Cornish &
Mustapher Botchway**
Sports Editors

Welcome, freshers, to another year of sport at Imperial. After large-scale success in our sports over the past couple of years, the College has finally taken its rightful place as the best sporting

university in London. Officially. Last year we moved up 7 places in the BUCS (formally BUSA) overall sports points table to take 22nd place, a record. If we also add the significant contribution made by the Medical School's sports clubs, we ascend to 20th place. So you guys have a tough act to follow in replacing our recent graduates!

Sport will be bigger and better this year at Imperial. New sports such as Gaelic Football, Women's Cricket and Futsal are aiming to replicate the recent successes of the Rugby, Tennis, Fencing, Netball, Rowing, Squash, Badminton and Volleyball clubs. There are many opportunities to play sport at Imperial, and all of our clubs are more than happy to allow anyone at any

standard to play, so make sure you sign your name up for at least one sport at Freshers' Fair.

Along with the BUCS & ULU competitions, Varisty is the main inter-college sporting event where the College compete with the Medical School in a wide range of sports. *felix* will be covering this event in style in the weeks leading up to this flagship event so join a sport and keep your eyes peeled.

For some of you the prospect of hard training sessions and competitive matches every week may be a little daunting, although for some it may just be the start of a week filled of gym and running sessions! Each to their own, and you will soon see that the clubs will cater for all standards.

There is, however, another side to sporting life at Imperial... You are enrolling in a university steeped in tradition, fierce rivalries and bars that are home to 50+ sports clubs and hundreds of teams. Varsity, Bottle Match, Hyde Park Relays, ULU, BUCS and more are followed by song, games, tankards and celebration back at the home bar. A headache may follow but it is worth every painful lecture.

To be involved in a community of sportsmen and women who have represented the university and taking sport at Imperial to an all-time high is a great honour. We must celebrate in the appropriate manner and if you do you will find yourself with a whole host of comrades and a full social calendar.

The instant legend that is the Sports League will be back in *felix* this year once competitive matches commence in a few weeks time. Can you help push your sport's team to the top of the table?

Choosing a sport can be difficult at times, especially for beginners and those who have never played before, so carry on reading these pages for a brief introduction to some of our clubs and their highlights.

We were inundated with entries so we hope you can tolerate the text-heavy nature of this week's section. This will DEFINITELY not happen again.

Enjoy the read, find a club to join and with any luck it will be you making the back page next week!