



# felix

The award-winning student newspaper of Imperial College

"Keep The Cat Free"  
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05.03.10

# IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION ELECTIONS 2010

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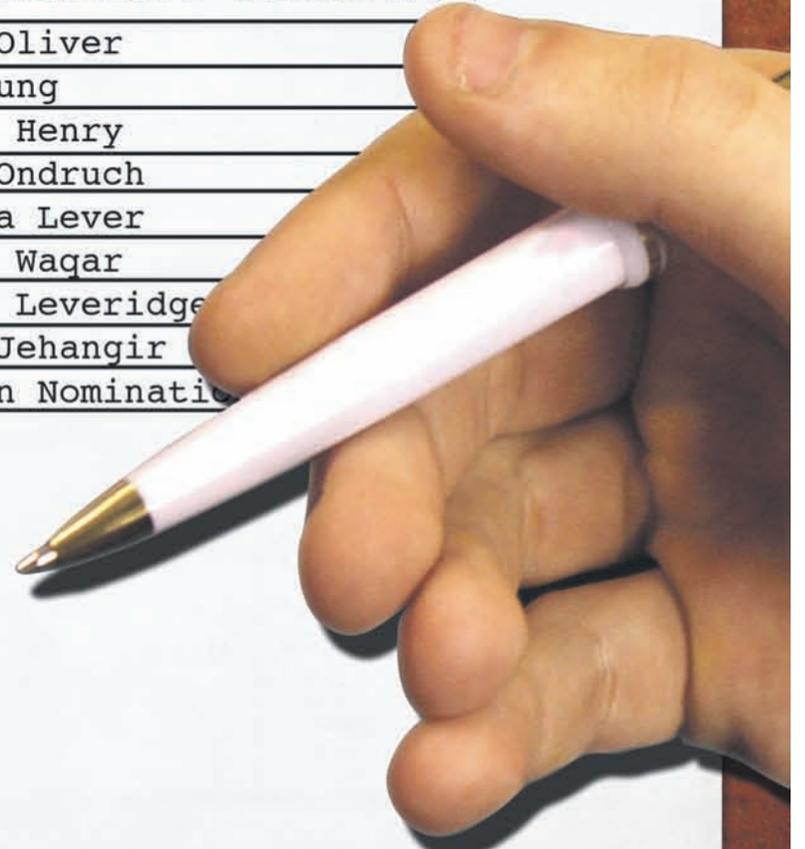
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Meera Ganeshadevan	
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## NEWS

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**Sabbatical  
Elections kick  
off this week.  
Who are you  
voting for?**

See page 4 and Elections Pull-out



**Congo: The world's  
forgotten war**

See page 10



**The likely and not-so-likely  
winners of The Oscars**

See page 28 and 29



**RSM vs Camborne:  
Could the Miners  
hold on to the  
Bottle?**

See page 10



# ArtsFest showcases at Imperial



Clockwise: Sheffield Building where anybody could colour in a sketch of the Queen's Tower, belly dancers at the final Showcase event, Leosoc and PhotoSoc's Blyth Gallery exhibition and committee member Adam Khamis.

## Rox Middleton

The hallowed week has come and gone; Artsfest, a week which saw a small squadron of highly motivated

organisers marshal every subsection of Imperial's art scene into a jam-packed schedule of shows and workshops, almost all for free.

Artsfest2010 has happened as you must all, no doubt, be aware, and was declared an unqualified success. The week-long extravaganza was very highly publicised this year which seemed to result in a much higher awareness of the events on campus, those eye-catching purple balloons were a strong feature.

Monday kicked off with a philosophical discussion at lunch and a new twist on busking; a parade, followed up in the evening with a Jazz&Rock night and later a MusicTech open session. These were even more popular than they've been in previous years due to the intense publicity build-up. On Tuesday there was a fabulous concert by the Sinfonietta in the Main Entrance, and the evening saw the opening of a joint exhibition of Leosoc and Photosoc (and, in fact, Knitsock contributed too) which ran for the rest of the week, which was highly praised by the gallery's curator.

Wednesday, traditionally left free for those who don't get their kicks on the playing field to enjoy a whole afternoon of getting stuck into artistic pursuits, was the fullest day. Not only was there a double concert by Windband and Classical Guitars at lunchtime but also three simultaneous workshops to choose from - Dramsoc, Belly dancing or singing with Imperial's popular a Capella male voice choir, The Tectonics. To round off,

a barn Dance was held in the Union Concert hall.

Thursday was reserved for the spectacular showcase featuring acts of all types but especially clubs who showed off an extra twist to their traditional repertoire like the string ensemble's video game-inspired music. Although the Showcase was definitely a success, it was deemed disappointing by organisers that fewer than 1000 people, from the entire university, turned out for the biggest arts' event of the year.

Finally, with the week roaring to a close, another joint lunchtime concert of the string ensemble (who had appeared naked in that morning's *felix*) and Musical Theatre Society. The evening ended with jamming and a music Tech night in dBs and an Indie disco.

Throughout the week, there was also a developing collage for all students to contribute to in the Sheffield building, and busking and flash-performances throughout campus. Contributors were no doubt pleased, not only to raise the profile of their enthusiasms and indeed talents, and also to begin the end of term concert season in style. The coming weeks will see numerous concerts, shows and even more workshops for anyone whose interest has been re-ignited.

Plans for Artsfest 2011 can now begin in earnest; the Showcase is already booked and elections for the committee start next week. Everyone who wants to form the next incarnation of the annual event is encouraged to stand and the outgoing committee is to be congratulated on their prominent success.

# felix 1,456

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26.02.10

# RAG Week a success

Alex Karapetian

RAG Week, which started on the first of March, has been pinned a success by the current RAG chair, Alexander Dahinten.

RAG is Imperial's Raising and Giving society, in which members playfully disrupt the boundaries of society for the greater good of raising money for charity. Charities involved include Barnardo's, Keep A Child Alive, The Children's Trust and Broadway Homelessness and Support.

RAG Week kicked off on Monday with the Cooking Society selling cakes and brownies in the JCR and the beginning of the Queen's Tower tours, which ran all week. This attracted many people on the first two days, and if you haven't already been, *felix* advises you to

do so, the magnificent view is enough to brighten anyone's day.

Wednesday saw the start of the infamous London Raid, where teams of students, sporting fancy dress, and bearing task lists with various challenges were set loose on the streets of London with collecting buckets. Tasks ranged from helping OAPs cross the road to serenading a random tourist.

The joint RCSU and UCL RAG Ball was at On Anon on Thursday, a black tie affair where UCL's historic RAG society attempted to teach ours a few tricks. Relations between us strengthened as a result, but our RAG society (naturally) reigns supreme.

Dahinten commented that: "It was great seeing so many new faces on the Raid this year! The first half of RAG Week has been a massive success; the groups truly enjoyed the events we of-

fered and a large sum of money was raised for worthy causes. That's what it's all about."

Today there will be a slave auction hosted by the CGCU at the Union, in which it has been rumoured that some sabbaticals and sports captains may be among those being sold. Ten kegs of beer and ample sambucca shots have been promised, and on Saturday there will be a late night football tournament where teams will compete for the RAG Cup 2010.



RAG Chair Alex Dahinten has remarked how pleased he was at RAG Week's proceedings



Teams met up for the RAG Raid in Beit Quad (top) at lunchtime and moved out into town haranguing Londoners and tourists alike for money, getting themselves some free rides along the way. RAG have also been running Queen's Tower tours all week at lunchtimes.

# The world beyond College walls



## Germany

German privacy and civil liberty advocates won a major battle in Germany's highest court on Tuesday.

The court struck down anti-terrorism legislation requiring that records on telephone, SMS, and internet access be held by service providers for six months. The German law was based on a European Union directive that is now likely to be revised. Six other members have already refused to implement the directive. 35,000 plaintiffs issued the complaint against the legislation, which the high court deemed to be incompatible with Germany's constitution and ordered the deletion of any current records. The court called the law a "grave intrusion" into privacy that did not find a correct balance between safety and privacy. The ruling left room open for the law to be more specifically defined both in purpose and scope.



## Chile

Chile experienced an earthquake rating 8.8 on the moment magnitude scale.

The epicentre was five miles off the coast of the Maule region.

Seismologists are estimating that the earthquake shifted the Earth's axis of rotation by three inches, reducing the length of each day by 1.26 microseconds. One hundred aftershocks were reported, eight of which were greater than 6.0 and seiches were observed as far away as Louisiana. The death toll has reached over 800 and is expected to grow. 1.5 million people are displaced from their homes. Dawn to dusk curfews have been put in place and in Concepcion, one of the worst hit cities, army troops clashed with looters. Discontent with the government's handling of the situation seems to be growing, especially amongst those worst hit. In particular, food supplies seem to be erratic or non-existent in many places. The Chilean government is now estimating that the damage's value is nearly \$30 billion USD.



## Spain

Spanish police arrested three men who are accused of spreading a virus to 13 million PCs that stole credit card numbers from its victims.

Mariposa, which means butterfly in Spanish, botnet is one of the largest in existence and evaded antivirus software because its designers would change its software every 48 hours, making fingerprinting difficult for the antivirus firms. The virus targeted vulnerabilities in Microsoft Internet Explorer, MSN instant messenger, and installed itself onto USB keys attached to afflicted computers. Once installed on a victims' machine, Mariposa would run as a keylogger, sending victims' keystrokes to the hackers. One of the three suspects was apparently found to have the personal information of 800,000 individuals. In addition to stealing personal information, the attackers also rented access to the infected machines to other hackers, often for use in denial of service attacks. Individuals, large corporations, and governments have all been infected by Mariposa. Forty different banks have been affected. Microsoft has reportedly denied to comment on the story.

By Tom Greany

# It's go go go for Elections 2010!

As a record number of candidates stand for next year's sabbatical positions, Dan Wan reports on how the Union's biggest elections of the year are shaping up so far

Sabbatical Elections 2010 has kicked off with a record number of 23 candidates standing for six positions this week.

The nominations window, which allowed students to put themselves up for a position, closed this past Tuesday leaving every position contested by at least three people. Campaigning has started already with Tuesday's Candidate's Meeting; Returning Officer Daniel Hill gathered all the potential sabbaticals to inform them of this year's electoral proceedings.

The voting for President, four Deputy Presidents, Felix Editor and four Student Trustees will open next Tuesday (9th March) and signs point to an intense period until voting closes on the 13th of March.

The most fought-over election will be for the Presidency of the Union

with eight candidates currently in the running. Familiar names such as ex-CGCU President Mark Mearing-Smith appear alongside fresh blood. 2nd year Chris Darby looks to become one of the youngest Presidents the Union has had in recent years unless Biologist Alex Kendall can use his position as a Union favourite to his advantage and pip Darby to the post.

Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) is being contested between six candidates and the list has drawn some surprised reactions. The shock nomination of Adam Gill has been said to be dismissed as another hoax, after Gill's 'joke' campaigns in previous elections. Question marks are also hovering above Heather Jones' head as she's reported to not be in the country during the elections. Whether a campaign team will assemble on her behalf is yet to be seen.

Felix Editor looks to be run uncontested by 3rd year Physicist Kadhim Shubber despite last year's race for this position tallying record voting numbers for an Imperial College Union election. Kang is expected to be running a dead campaign. Shubber himself partly contributed to the three-way race between himself, Zoe Dobell and Dan Wan.

Manifestos for all the candidates are featured in the Sabbatical Election 2010 pullout in this issue of felix. Any student at Imperial College will be eligible to vote from the 9th of March 2010 on [imperialcollegeunion.org/vote](http://imperialcollegeunion.org/vote).

This year's Union Elec-

tions have been scaled down from previous years, due to the tightening of budgets that the Union has come under this past year. Candidates were previously allowed £200 on their campaign, but are now limited to £150. Most of the money goes towards campaign paraphernalia such as sweets and pens which are given out to voters during the duration of campaigning. Subsequently, the campaigning period before the voting window opens has been shortened by several days to around a week.

Hustings have also changed this year. In previous

years, a question and answer session has been held in the JCR at lunchtimes during the campaigning period. This year it will take place in the Southside Social Space where voters will be able to ask questions one-on-one with candidates. The traditional Hustings took place in da Vinci's on Thursday this week, whilst the Southside Social Space hustings will take place on Tuesday the 9th of March.

Despite the cutbacks this election has seen, the sheer number of candidates means



Candidate Meeting last Tuesday saw Returning Officer Daniel Hill run through the rules and regulations of the three-week elections period

**SABBATICAL ELECTIONS 2010**

**PRESIDENT**  
ALEX KENDALL  
CHRIS DARBY  
SERGE VASYLECHKO  
STANISLAV TARASOV

**DEPUTY PRESIDENT (CLUBS & SOCS)**  
ALEX KENDALL  
EMMA BERESFORD  
HEATHER JONES  
PAAVO SHAFER  
JOEY RA

**DEPUTY PRESIDENT (FINANCE & SERVICES)**  
ANDREW BROMFIELD  
RAVI PALL

**DEPUTY PRESIDENT (WELFARE)**  
ALEXANDER NORMAN  
MICHAEL RICHARDS  
VICTORIA MASDING

**DEPUTY PRESIDENT (EDUCATION)**  
BENJAMIN STUBBENS  
MEERA GANESHADEVAN

**FELIX EDITOR**  
KADHIM SHUBBER  
ESTHER KANG

**OR VOTE RON (RE-OPEN NOMINATIONS)**

**VOTE**



Imperial College  
London

Wednesday 17 March

# Varsity 2010

sport Imperial

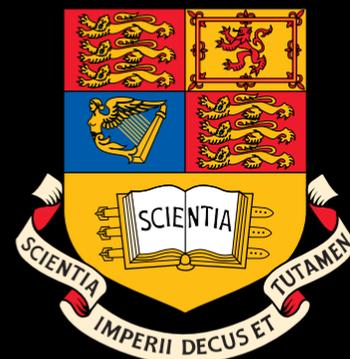
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## The Union have got it all wrong

Dan Wan Editor-in-Chief

In last week's issue, *felix* announced the bar names that won the online polls set up to find names for the newly renovated bar and nightclub next year. The Union wanted to ensure that Phase 3 was student-led from the very beginning. They made this very clear; from discussion groups to name suggesting, they were keen to give this final stage of redevelopments in Beit Quad over to the people that will be using it.

Student apathy has long been a problem at Imperial. People either care too much or too little, and that's a major problem. As a result, instead of celebrating the fact the students have both hands firmly on the Phase 3 steering wheel, there is a sense of a 'don't say we didn't ask' attitude seeping from the Union offices.

It was all going as well as the Union could hope for, until last week's last minute decision to not use the winning name of the new bar. Despite putting the name 'Library' on the shortlist, fears in the Union offices grew as

quickly as its lead did in the polls. If they didn't think it was suitable, they shouldn't have placed it on the shortlist of four from the start.

The name 'Consort' made a late surge the night before voting closed and ended up as the most popular name, albeit by only three votes. However, come Wednesday when the names were due to be announced in Friday's *felix*, indecision brought to light plenty of issues that just need to be mentioned.

The final solution President Ashley Brown and Deputy President (Finance & Services) Daniel Hill ended up with was to scrap the least popular name on the poll, 'Crown & Shield', and re-open the poll with another suggested name to replace it. No specific time-scale was given on when and how the new name will make it to the poll, and indeed when the poll will actually become live. There are mutterings it will be in the Summer Term, and this is the term most College students have exams or end-of-degree research projects to be completing. The students suggested

a total of 150 names for both bar and nightclub, and who says they're going to have any more time or inspiration in the Summer term to come up with anything that beats what was judged the best and most suitable four names originally shortlisted.

The Union claim to be listening to the student body by holding off on a new name for the bar. What they've read is the 50-odd blog replies on their website where the online polls were located. With around 900 votes cast across both polls and about 50 people complaining, that's around 6% dissatisfaction.

The people who don't mind the names, or, dare I say it, like the names, have voted and voiced their opinion. Yet apparently the 131 people who wanted Consort as the new bar name have been ignored, alongside the 127 people who wanted Quad, and the further 126 people who preferred Library. Below is a sample of the complaints that can be seen online. I've been slow-clapping at my laptop for a good two

hours now just reading some of the comments.

"Consort (again, unimaginative, esp with Prince Consort Road right around the corner..I'd like to know whether the person who suggested such a name knew the meaning of it?)"

Buddy, I think the idea of 'Consort' stemmed very clearly from the fact Beit Quad lies on Prince Consort Road. *Ain't those Manchester United lads so bloody unoriginal naming their stadium Old Trafford?! It's not like it's in a place called Trafford or nuffink!*

The students picked the original 150 names, and the only discrepancy of the process has been how the shortlist was made. The committee who took down the 150 names to two short lists of five and four for the nightclub and bar respectively wasn't entirely student-led. It had one student, three student-sabbaticals and three members of staff present.

There should have been more ordinary students invited to the meeting, but of course any combination of

names picked from the original 150 names would have angered someone. This process was never going to please everybody and the Union have folded under the slightest of pressures of about 50 people's displeasure at the both the bar and nightclub names.

There are plenty of people calling the name 'Metric' "embarrassing" on the Union website also, but this name apparently still remains 'usable'.

Whenever the Union do decide to re-open the poll with new suggestions for the bar, they better tread carefully. At the same time, however, they need to be bullish enough to make a final decision. They have been guilty of doing neither this time around. Although, don't you just see the same thing unfolding all over again, but this time with even fewer people in favour and against the new shortlist?

What a mess the Union finds itself in. The Union has been run without any major hiccups so far this year, but after this fiasco, it looks like it's starting to choke.

## Alex Kendall defends the Union refurbishment



"There should be a place for everyone, from hardcore drinkers to those who just want to be social."

In last week's edition of *felix*, Colin Hill outlined his opposition to the Beit redevelopment. He believes the £2.4m would be better spent elsewhere and that da Vinci's and dB's are fine as they are. In his defence, putting some of this money back into Clubs and Societies seems like a good idea. After all they are definitely facing budget cuts next year and most Clubs have a good attendance.

However, I think a good indicator of future renovations are those that have already occurred. As anyone involved in Clubs and Societies will hopefully tell you, the new SAC has been a God-send. It has more computers,

more space, a good layout and feels like somewhere where Presidents and Treasurers of the various clubs and CSBs can sort out their paperwork. The staff offices and SAC are now together. Previously the offices were closed-plan and the SAC was in the basement. The renewal makes clubs better, far more than spreading the money the SAC redevelopment cost around the various clubs would have done.

So is spending any money on a new club and bar really unnecessary? In writing this I think you can guess that I do not think so. Colin (can I call you Colin? I'm going to assume so since you haven't replied to my email) makes the point that Cheapskates (a pretty

rank club in central London) gets plenty of attendance even though the decor is minimal because of the cheap drinks. I agree that it is the people not the place that makes a night out good, but I don't think that is a good reason for letting the Union's interior decoration rot even further.

And then of course there is the example of the Reynolds, which up until its renovation was making losses of up to £9000 per year. For the first time last year it broke even. This is the perfect example showing how renovation improves the desirability of a place to go drinking.

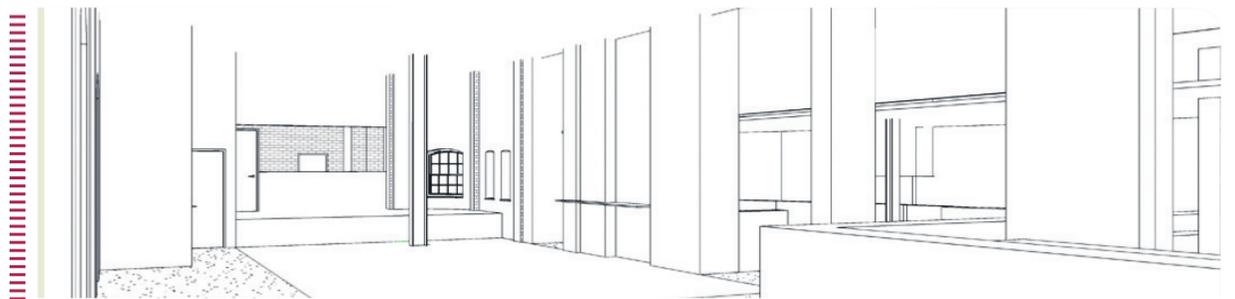
We are, after all, trying to attract more people than those who want to

get completely drunk on cheap drinks. There should be a place for everyone, from hardcore drinkers to those who just want to be social. That is why the Union Bar is popular; it is a comfortable environment with an atmosphere of its own. The massive tables in da Vinci's and the rather strange black and white paint do little to make it attractive for small social gatherings. And dB's with its bizarre floor colourings, tiny distant bar and fluorescent lighting when used as a da Vinci's overflow room gives possibly the worst welcome I have ever seen. Regardless of who I sit in there with it does not feel relaxing but more like a hospital reception. The seating is completely

wrong for a club and there aren't even lights at the back.

If you have even the smallest vision of what the bar and club could be like, think of it as not just remodelling with a new paint job, but the attempt to create a new atmosphere where people want to drink or relax or dance. It is a credit to the people who have put these plans together that it can be paid for with no overt cut to Clubs and Societies funding. Phases 1 and 2 have worked extremely well and so will Phase 3.

People do come first, but place comes second. Paying for people is probably illegal, and pretty sleazy; paying for place is something we can do.



# Rhys Davies is living life in the fast lane



"I've heard it said that Life isn't a hundred metre sprint, and, unless you're Usain Bolt, that's true."



If God had wanted us to walk, he would have given us legs. Given the evidence, I guess he actually does.

I say this because I'm quite a fan of walking. It gets you from A to B, and even C if you're lucky. It's sometimes faster than public transport and is always cheaper. I am often pleasantly surprised at where I end up when I just sit back and let my legs get on with it. The scientists say that it's good for you too, so all is well.

Now, I've been walking for as long as I can remember, and quite possible longer. It's a fine way to travel and has always come naturally to me. Trundling along at four kilometres an hour was just fine for me. Ok, so I wore out my trainers a few times, and no-one could stand near me in an unventilated room, and sometimes I got blisters that could block out the sun,

but it was a small price to pay for my perambulations.

But recently, I've discovered something better. It's like walking on fast-forward. It's walking-X, walking2.0. It's the greatest innovation in the forward gait since the odour-eater.

I've discovered running.

With no previous experience, I was relieved to find that the method was remarkably similar to walking: put one foot in front of the other and repeat until you hit something. Admittedly, it's faster – quite a bit faster. The bonerattling, bladder-busting break-neck speeds of twelve kilometres an hour! I'm surprised that this extreme sport doesn't come with a safety helmet – someone might get hurt.

Running holds many advantages over its tamer cousin, walking. For one, as I've said, it's faster. This means you get places quicker. Which is rather use-

ful when you're pressed for time and other abstract commodities. You can even rival the lightning-fast might of the London Underground. Take that, Boris Johnson! Furthermore, you often work up a sweat doing so. And, as many leading scientists tell me, this is part of a phenomenon known as "exercise" which, for some strange reason, is good for you. In fact, they tell me that the more you exercise, the better you get at it. This means you can run even faster. Wahey! This means, given enough time, you can eventually run faster than the speed of light. I'm quite sure that's how Physics works.

However, running does have its downsides. You sweat, like I just said. This has the unfortunate consequence of making your whole body smell like a bull elephant's armpit. Most people don't find this terribly endearing and you probably want to avoid those that

do – zoo keepers and other undesirables. Also, just like more people are injured in rugby (and other real sports) than in football, running takes a heavier toll on the body than the more august walking. My father has been running for much longer than I have since he is, so it happens, quite a bit older than myself. After, I assume, centuries of chasing after schoolchildren (It's all right – he's a PE teacher), his knees have turned to dust. When the surgeons replaced them, it was akin to pouring sand out of your plimsoll after a day at the beach. If God had wanted us to run, he wouldn't have invented arthritis.

But ending my days in a wheelchair wouldn't be so bad. Stephen Hawking uses a wheelchair, as does Professor Xavier, and they both seem like pretty groovy fellows. Who knows? By the time my legs finally clap out, we

may have perfected robotic leg technology; I could run even faster – and fire rockets at the same time! I must start making ties within the MechEng department.

People started running as a means of escaping furry things with large teeth – like leopards. They kept on running when they realised the heady thrill of overtaking other people. They're still running now, to that elusive bus in the morning rush-hour, or from a very persistent leopard. And I predict people will be running for a long time to come – so long as we still have buses and leopards.

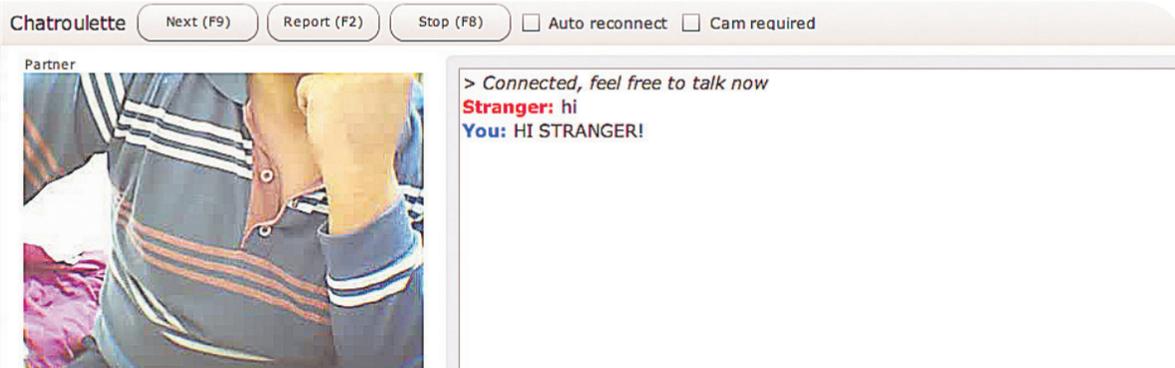
I've heard it said that Life isn't a hundred metre sprint, and, unless you're Usain Bolt, that's probably true. So walk, take your time, stop to smell the roses. Just one word of warning:

Watch out for when I smoke you in my running shoes!

# Angry Geek shows his all on ChatRoulette



"It really does let the full horror of the Internet out, resulting in Schrodinger's cat placed inside Pandora's box"



I discovered the online analogy for human suffering that is ChatRoulette this week. For those who haven't been scarred for life by the experience – you know what the Daily Mail claims the Internet is like? ChatRoulette is like that. It starts off pretty well – you log in and it displays a cheery welcome message and two little mini-screens. One is 'You' and the other is 'Stranger', a word that has never been so appropriate in so many simultaneous yet distinct ways. There's a friendly "Start" button, which immediately triggers a Pavlovian response you inherited from a childhood spent playing Super Mario Bros. so you click it. ChatRoulette then randomly selects someone else connected to their site, and displays their webcam

feed in the box.

"Random", "Display" and "Webcam" are the key three words here, although the key three words shortly become "Wanking", "Hairy" and "Freudian". Both parties have a 'Skip' button which autoconnects them to another user, but the man dressed as spiderman attempting to have sex with a melon is a bit too busy to press any buttons other than his own perverted ones, and frankly the act of you pressing skip is pretty futile unless you want to rejig the scene and see a man dressed as a melon having sex with a spiderman doll, or something equally surreal.

It really does let the full horror of the Internet out, resulting in something a bit like Schrodinger's cat placed inside Pandora's box; the next webcam both

does and doesn't include a man indulging his genitalia, but the act of observing is seriously fucking discouraged. And I really do mean discouraged – the most distasteful cameras involved faked suicide scenes piped into the webcam feed from a movie file and set to loop. Then you skip to the next camera and find a mother and father sitting down with their six year-old son, browsing the site, and you despair for the human race.

But thinking about it awhile, I think it may have its uses. See, I reckon it's a good way to weed out the weaker candidates for the sabbatical positions this year. What you do is, you sit every Imperial student down in front of a webcam, and get the would-be President to skip through each and every one of

the cretinous, bellowing arseholes that inhabit the majority of this institution. If, after the first three thousand or so, the candidate still gives a venti skimmed-milk toss about the welfare of the student body, then they deserve the position, right then and there. My guess is you'd be without a Union team for a good half-decade, but it'd still be a worthy selection process.

Or better still, use ChatRoulette as a 'replacement' for the Union team. Think about it – need someone to make a policy decision about the future of Imperial's ten thousand gurning formula chuffers? Log onto ChatRoulette and bing! Instant Union President. You might think that the guy who's blacked up and is in the process of making a smoothie in the nude whilst sing-

ing Sheena Easton songs might not have much to say on the topic of the NUS, but I managed a perfectly cogent conversation with him. It just mostly involved questions about my sexual preferences, and there's nothing wrong with that. I'm sure Ashley Brown opens most Union meetings with a quick enquiry about whether anyone's ever copulated with their own siblings.

The way I see it is, the elections as they exist today are functionally equivalent to ChatRoulette anyway. You log onto a website, click through a bunch of gurning faces that you'll never see ever again, and choose to give your time to the one who disgusts you least. Why not just save everyone the misery of pretending to care at Hustings and just take the next logical step?



# What has happened to Class Warfare?

Balancing recent articles in this section, **Philip Avraam** argues for expanding government intervention

The issue of 'class war' briefly arose in our nation's politics a few weeks ago after Gordon Brown commented in December that Conservative Party policy had been "dreamed up on the playing fields of Eton". As usual, the real issues of class and class conflict were carefully avoided, in favour of a slugging match between politicians about who went to which elite public school. The only noteworthy point to come out of the whole fiasco, only because of what it shows about the people involved, was the complete denial even of the existence of social classes by some Conservative Party spokespeople – most notably, Kenneth Clarke (shadow business secretary) on the BBC's Question Time that week, a point on which he stood in splendid isolation among those on the panel.

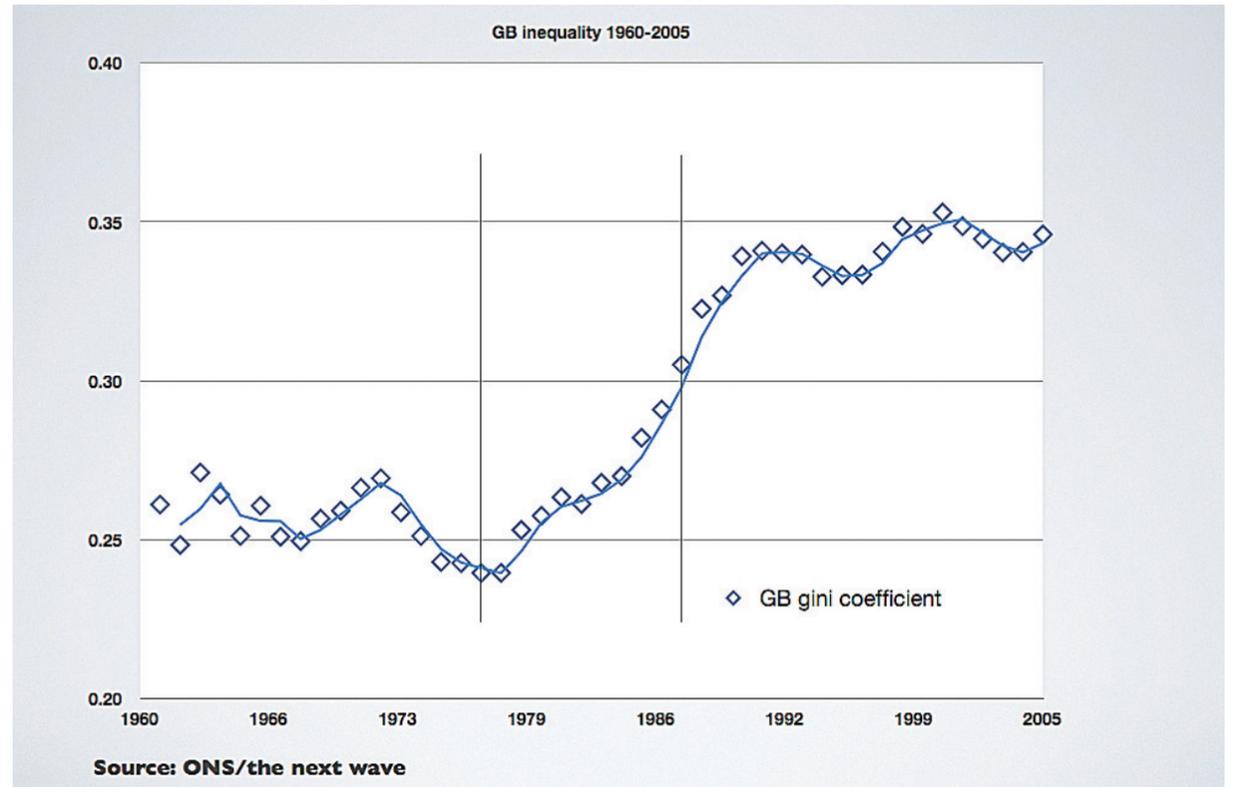
Meanwhile, in the real world, the last few weeks and months have seen an increase in industrial action across Europe. Workers have been told by their superiors that they must accept pay-cuts and layoffs as part of the "necessary savings" that companies and governments are seeking to make, so that they can get safely through the recession. At the same time, an annual survey of boardroom pay run by the Guardian revealed in September that executive salaries had actually increased by more than twice the rate of inflation in the UK last year (2008/9), more than three times the rate of the average worker, although bonus payments had seen a reduction.

To cite examples of the disproportionate impact of the recession on the poor is misleading because the phenomenon is universal. "Unemployment hurts normal workers who do not have the golden parachutes the folks at the top have", commented Harvard economist Richard Freeman, referring to the US economy.

This recent wave of wage cuts and layoffs for the poorest, must be placed in its proper historical context – that of a 30 year long assault on workers' incomes, and sky-rocketing inequality. A study from the National Equality Panel published in January is the most recent to reveal this trend. Income inequality has been rising ever since the late-1970's, with an accelerated rate of increase during the 1980s. Real-term wage growth for lower-income workers has stagnated, and has occasionally declined over the period – despite the (rather tepid, by post-war standards) economic growth. Put another way, the extra income resulting from the economic growth of the past 30 years has gone almost entirely to those in the highest income brackets.

**"wage cuts and layoffs must be placed in proper historical context – a 30 year long assault on worker's incomes"**

What has happened in the last 30 years? With the election of Thatcher in the UK in 1979 and Reagan in the US dawned the era of a new economic ideology which has been operative all the way up to the present, loosely known as neo-liberalism (or sometimes, neo-liberal globalisation), which Nobel Prize winning economist Joseph Stiglitz has characterised as "that grab-bag of ideas based on the fundamentalist notion that markets are self-correcting, allocate resources efficiently, and serve



The Gini Coefficient is a standard measure of variance in incomes. The scale is from zero (everyone earns the same) to 1 (one person earns everything). This graph for the UK is typical of the developed world over the timeframe shown.

the public well. [...] [It favours] privatization, liberalization, and independent central banks focused single-mindedly on inflation".

These policies have been enthusiastically supported by most western governments and their extremely happy corporate sponsors, and have been cited by many leading economists as the reason for rising inequality, as well as the increased depth and frequency of financial crises over this period.

When governments, with enthusiastic support and sponsorship from big business, implement policies that favour the interests of business elites over those of the ordinary worker, there can be no mistaking this as anything other than a thirty year long class assault, against which there has been little retaliation.

Given this sombre reality, why doesn't the government implement policies to ensure that those "folks at the top" with their "golden parachutes" bare a larger share of the burden? The answer was explained by economist Michael Porter of Harvard Business School at a London conference of 250 global investors this month where, in reference to the 50p income tax rate due in April for those earning more than £150,000, he told the FT, "If it goes any higher than that, and if that is perceived as being a long-term policy, then I think that's going to create some real problems in the long run", to which chief economist at the Institute of Directors added, "... we need to get the tax burden down to attract foreign investors. [...] If other countries are cheaper, they win".

What this shows is that in our liberalised global economy, governments are extremely restricted in what they can do, because of the increased power

of international capital. A government with ambitions to implement a redistributive tax which might benefit the poor, for example, can be, and often has been, disciplined by international capital through devices such as the threat of capital flight and subsequent speculation on currency. A 2006 article in the Washington Post estimated that although France's 'wealth tax' has raised \$2.6bn a year for the government, it has cost the country more

**"A drive towards lower taxes for the rich, lower wages for the poor"**

than \$125bn since 1998 as a result of capital flight. Capital flight and currency speculation have been cited as major contributors to the Asian crisis of the 1990s and various recent crises in Latin American countries around the turn of the century.

The increased power of international corporations within a deregulated global system has led to a tendency for governments to compete against each other to create the most favourable investment conditions possible in an attempt to lure in big business – meaning a drive towards lower taxes for the rich, and lower wages for the poor, an international tendency which radical economist Robin Hahnel calls a "race to the bottom".

Things weren't always like this. From the end of WWII until the 1970s the Bretton-Woods international regulatory system restricted capital flight

and currency speculation (among other regulatory arrangements), giving governments a certain space in which they could implement social-democratic policies, leading to the creation of things like the modern welfare-state, which has benefited so many. This period, often referred to as the 'golden age' of capitalism, also saw, at the same time, much higher rates of taxation for the rich, and much higher economic growth than has been seen in the last 30 years. High-levels of taxation and economic growth are not at all mutually exclusive, as we would be forgiven for believing if we listened only to the economists representing the 250 largest global investors at the London conference this month. Furthermore, the growth seen during this period was relatively egalitarian – the income inequality gap reduced substantially.

The central problem of our time, then, for those of us who still value democracy, is the centralisation of economic power in the hands of unelected, largely unregulated private corporations, and their ability to sometimes undermine, and other times sponsor the policies of governments by their decisions about where and when to invest or de-vest. It is the responsibility of the powerful to negotiate a new international regulatory framework which restricts the power of private capital, and goes some way towards returning power to democratically elected bodies. Workers need not and should not accept the dictates of an international system in which they have little democratic representation. They have good reason to be angry, they have good reason to protest and good reason to strike.



**felix** writers are regularly beaten up by editor Dan Wan (third from left) and his goons. Kadhim Shubber has promised to end the practice if elected Editor.



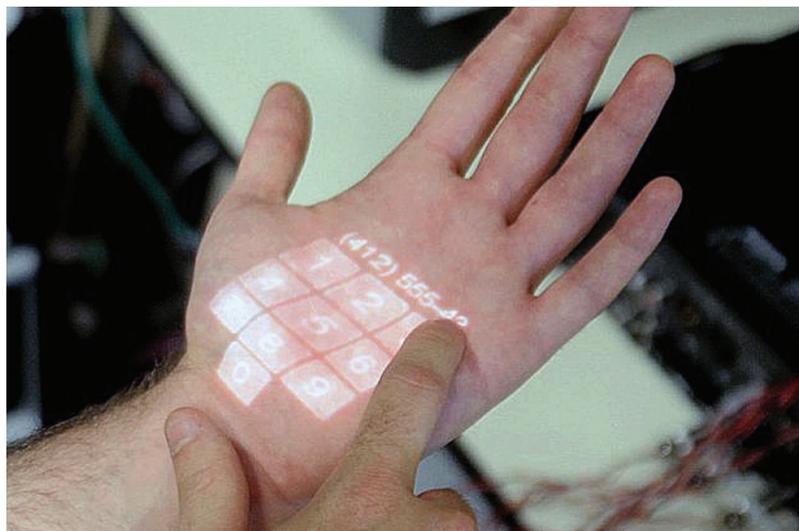
# Is this a vision of the future?

**James Goldsack** Science Editor

A new 'skinput' device is being developed by Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and researchers in Microsoft's research lab in Redmond, Washington.

It involves a combination of a microchip sized pico-projector (which creates the changing display) and a sensor that

parent desire for people not to have to carry around extra surfaces with them, especially for inputs. The skinput device takes this idea and harnesses the intrinsic benefit of our own obligation to carry arms around with us. This being said, the prototype requires the user to wear an armband. However the hope is that the system could use wireless bluetooth technology to transmit the commands to many types of devices



A video showing how 'skinput' can recognise a telephone number input

can tell which part of your body your arm is tapping. This is based on the idea that different skin locations are acoustically distinct due to bone density and a filtering effect from soft tissues and joints. Software is then used to match sound frequencies (the complex longitudinal waveforms) to specific locations on the skin. Different interactive capabilities can be bound to different locations, and so you have a fully fledged sensor.

The idea behind this device is the ap-

parent desire for people not to have to carry around extra surfaces with them, especially for inputs.

Accuracies as high as 95.5% were able to be achieved at five different skin locations, which would supposedly be enough for several smartphone applications.

This would, however, need to be improved to be able to feasibly go to market.

Twenty volunteers tested the system and reported that it was easy to navigate through icons on the forearm and by tapping fingers to execute commands.

# A step closer for nuclear fusion

A record-breaking experiment at the National Ignition Facility restores faith in nuclear fusion through inertial confinement

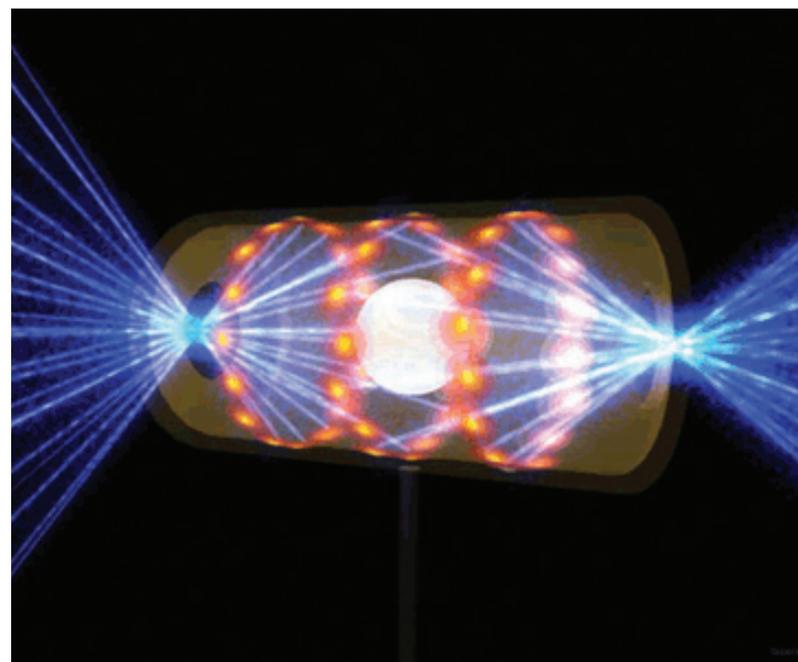
**James Goldsack**

Fusion energy production has got a step closer according to new research recently published. The controlled fusion of atoms has long been considered a possible revolutionary energy source. However, doubts have been raised about the use of high energy lasers to obtain this due to the plasma they create. The fear is that this plasma could interrupt the fusion. An article published in Science has shown that plasma is far less of a problem than expected.

The report is based upon initial experiments from the National Ignition Facility in the US, using all 192 of its laser beams. The experiments also broke the record for the highest energy from a laser by a factor of 20. The facility at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory took 12 years to construct and was only completed in May 2009. In contrast to current nuclear power – fission – the facility's goal is the creation of a controlled thermonuclear explosion by harnessing the power of the largest laser ever built.

Proving that a fusion reaction in the lab can release more energy than is required for ignition could usher in a new era of large-scale energy production. NIF uses a technique called inertial confinement fusion where the target is a centimetre-scale cylinder of gold called a hohlraum. This contains a pellet of fuel made from deuterium. The plasma that lasers will create in the hohlraum was one potential hurdle to the success of the process. The fear was that the plasma would interrupt the absorption of energy by the target and disturb the uniform funnelling of this energy, compressing and igniting the target.

Siegfried Glenzer led a team to test this theory. "We hit it with 669 kilojoules – 20 times more than any pre-



192 lasers bombarded a small pellet of deuterium fuel with an energy twenty times that of any previous experiment.

vious laser facility". The experiments provided proof that the plasma did not disrupt the process, with about 95% of incident laser light being absorbed by the hohlraum. Furthermore, Dr Glenzer's team discovered that the plasma can be carefully manipulated to increase the uniformity of the compression – a key component for achieving ignition.

"For the first time ever in the 50-year journey of laser fusion, these laser-plasma interactions have been shown to be less of a problem than predicted, not more," said Mike Dunne, director of the UK's Central Laser Facility and leader of the European laser fusion effort, HiPER. "I can't overstate how dramatic a step that is," he said. "Many people a year ago were saying the project would be dead by now."

Since the publication in Science, the pulse energy has been increased to one megajoule onto the target, a further increase of 50%. The latest calculations show that about 1.2 megajoules of energy will be enough to cause ignition and NIF has the capability to run up to 1.8 megajoules.

Dr Glenzer said that experiments using slightly larger hohlraums with fuel pellets, including a mix of the hydrogen isotopes deuterium as well as tritium, should commence before May before increasing the power gradually to 1.2 megajoules. "The bottom line is that we can extrapolate those data to the experiments we are planning this year and the results show that we will be able to drive the capsule towards ignition," said Dr Glenzer. "It's going to happen this year."

## In brief

### The naming of $10^{27}$

Austin Sendek, a student at the University of California has started a campaign to create a new prefix for describing quantities with a magnitude in the range of  $10^{27}$ . His online petition to call to allocate a prefix of 'hella' to this figure already has the signatures of 20,000 scientists and members of the public. If introduced, it would be the first new prefix brought in to use since 1991 when zetta and yotta became the official prefixes for  $10^{21}$  and  $10^{24}$  respectively. Professor Mills of the University of Reading has promised to raise the petition at the next meeting of the Consultative Committee for Units but in a letter to Sendek said "I'm sure it will be received with smiles – but I doubt it will go further." The main reason the name is likely to be rejected is that prefixes such as zetta and yotta, brought in nearly 20 years ago, are still not in common use and a new prefix at this stage will only add to further confusion. Also, most prefixes stem from a Latin or Greek origin – rather than North Californian slang for 'a-lot-of.'

### Waste heat solution

If a new report from Imperial College and the University of Surrey is to be believed, when it comes to achieving a carbon-free UK, relying on 'clean' electricity is not the answer. According to the report, the quest for clean electricity is likely to face 'critical challenges' as we see a switch from the use of fossil fuels to electricity in areas such as transport. The demand for electricity has the potential to double over the coming years meaning a significant increase in the number of low-emission power stations being built. A 'combined heat and power' approach has the potential to reduce electricity demand by 13% and cut fossil fuel consumption by 5%, the report estimates.



### Coffee protects heart

Scientists have now decided that a strong cup of coffee could save a life, after finding out that it can protect the heart. This is the finding from US medical giant Kaiser Permanente's Division of Research in California, and it has found that coffee in all doses can protect from heart disease. The study followed 130,054 men and women between the ages of 18 and 90 and found that those who drank four or more cups of coffee per day had an 18% lower risk of hospitalisation for heart rhythm disturbances. This however isn't good enough to prove cause and effect, even though it may offer some reassurance to people. A similar study from the Universidad Autonoma de Madrid in Spain showed similar results in that drinking three cups of coffee a day could reduce the risk of women dying from heart disease by a quarter.





# The current plight of women in Congo

Rory Fenton

This year Imperial saw Gender Equality Day around campus, as part of the Union's One World Week. This admirably focused on the position of women in science, posing the rhetorical question, "Does science have a gender?" In so male dominated a field as science, the position of women is rightly of concern with a minority voice which can be easily drowned out. It is something to be proud of that in our country, in our university, we believe in the equality of women with men. But if the cry for women's rights must at times fight to be heard even here, in the Democratic Republic of Congo it reaches barely a strangled whisper in the midst of the deadliest conflict since World War Two, which engulfs a shattered and forgotten nation.

In the grip of a vicious civil war, the statistics on the region can be overwhelming – 5 million have lost their lives since 1998 and many millions

more have been displaced in a conflict which is still ongoing. But one of the greatest tragedies in the country has been the intense, almost scientific assault on the rights of

There have been 2,000 reported (not to speak of the many more unreported) cases of women being kept as domestic and sex slaves for up to two years.

With utter disregard and disgust for women, rebel forces have become increasingly violent with their reprisals, resulting in a horrific recent trend and deliberate form of ethnic cleansing when the rebels find a pregnant woman. Taking bets on the sex of the foetus, they slice the woman open, killing mother and child, thus deciding the winner.

This is, without doubt, the world's forgotten war. The UN has called for peace keeping troops but has found countries unwilling to contribute. The distance from one side

of the country to the other is greater than the distance from London to Moscow and yet the country has just 20,000 UN troops leaving the task of patrolling one of the worst hit regions, South Kivu, the equivalent to a single police officer patrolling Paris and Brussels combined.

The failure of the poorly trained UN force is undeniable, with many of the troops being accused of rape themselves. And yet when Ban Ki Moon called on Europe to send its own forces, we looked away. Without professional, unbiased troops protecting their villages, the Congolese women simply don't stand a chance.

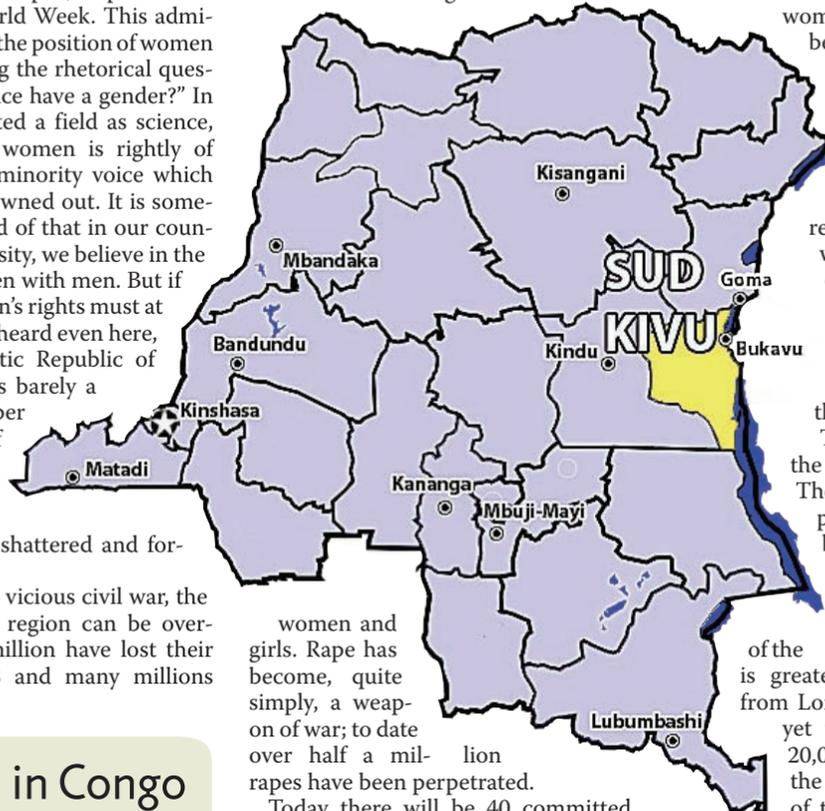
Alongside the belief that women and men are equals marches the belief in equality of all human beings, everywhere. Trouble in the Middle East has been enough to bring whole armies

women and girls. Rape has become, quite simply, a weapon of war; to date over half a million rapes have been perpetrated.

Today there will be 40 committed in the South Kivu, in the east of the country, alone: rapes which are carried out in the most unimaginable of ways. Women and children are left defenceless as men flee their villages from attacking rebel forces that enact a brutal 'revenge' on the people for the Congolese Army's increasing clamp down.

Left to the mercy of madmen, women and girls as young as nine can expect rape, often gang rape, from which many will simply not survive.

Those who do, live less than enviable lives. Survivors are sometimes kept as sex slaves and young boys as child soldiers or slave labour in the country's lucrative diamond and uranium mines.

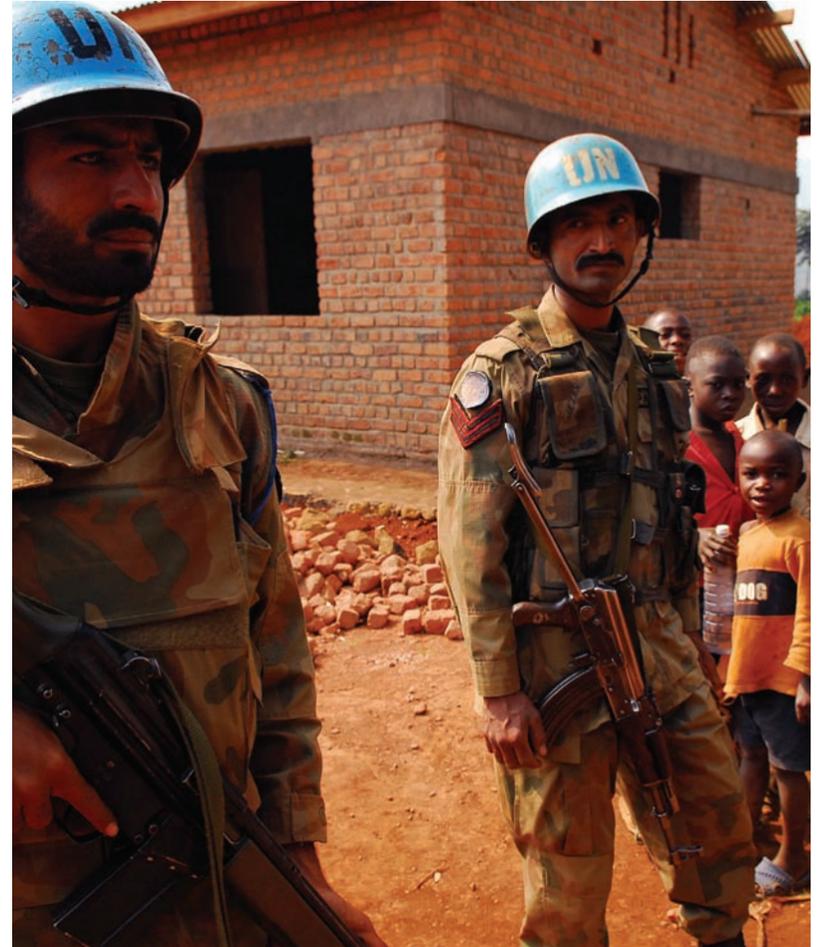


## The UN in Congo

Over 20,000 uniformed UN personnel are stationed in Congo.

Current annual budget of \$1.35m.

The UN remains in Congo due to the legacy of the war (1998-2003) which killed at least 4m people.



The UN keeps a force of peace keepers in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

pouring in and the undivided attention of the world, as well as many column inches in this paper. The last time death on this scale appeared in the world we were engaged in a war that came close to being the end of us.

But this is not in the East or in our backyard and we arrive at the acid test of our belief in equality; will the horrors committed against women go unchecked, wherever they are committed?

Walk for Women, a march in memory of the suffragettes Mud March of

1907, will take place on the 14th March to raise awareness and vital funds for women around the world who face rights abuse (more information online). For every pound raised, Tony Blair (patron of the organising charity) will personally donate another pound so we can make a great difference.

Action is needed, every day delayed plunges the women of the Congo further into despair.

Equality and rights for all women, wherever they are; that is the true belief in One World.

## This week

### Lord Ashford admits non-dom status

Lord Ashford, the Deputy-Chair of the Conservative party, has admitted that he is non-domiciled for tax purposes in the UK. This means that he does not pay taxes on money he earns overseas – the majority of his income. When he was made a Lord in 2000 he said he would "take up residence in the UK". Labour claims that he promised to pay full UK tax. Lord Mandelson had called for a probe to be taken into his actions, but these calls were rebuffed as the relevant commission doesn't have retrospective powers. Lord Ashford is the single largest Tory donor.



### Televised leaders debates agreed on

Gordon Brown, David Cameron and Nick Clegg have now agreed the details for the first ever televised debates between the leaders of the major parties. The debates will happen as a series of 3 events. The first will focus on home affairs and will be chaired by Alastair Stewart of ITV. The second will revolve around global issues and will be hosted by Sky's Adam Boulton. The final debate will be chaired by David Dimbleby of the BBC and the topic will be the economy. The live audience will be selected to have a broad range of people and opinions.



### 25,000 council jobs are threatened

The BBC has conducted a survey of 49 councils which has suggested possible job cuts of 10%. The councils questioned employ 256,000 people. Possible areas for cuts include nurseries, road workers and libraries. While undoubtedly savings need to be made in budgets everywhere, Labour have said that efficiency improvements need to be made but services don't need to be cut. This is in contrast with the views of the councils questioned, 70% of whom believe they need to cut between 5 and 20% of their workforce. If all councils cut 10% of workers 180,000 would lose their jobs.



## What will it mean if the UK votes in a hung parliament at the general election?



**James Lees** Politics Editor

The polls are narrowing. The lead the Tories have over Labour has now diminished to the point where a hung parliament has become increasingly likely. In order for the Tories to obtain an overall majority, they require one of the largest swings in British electoral history, and since the new-year the chances of this have started to slip.

If there is a hung parliament it could be more than problematic. Only a cursory glance at how well the three major parties get along should show the problems there would be if they had to cooperate. Labour and the Conservatives would not be able to work together to help fix the economy, their policies are just too different. The country would grind to a standstill as no votes could be passed in the House. This could be disastrous at a time when the nation's finances are so delicate.

A hung parliament would leave the Lib Dems as the so called 'king makers'. It would be up to them to decide who they wanted to work with, and as a result, choose who would be the next Prime Minister. However, the Lib Dems have said that they are not inter-

ested in taking this role, and that the party with the clearest mandate should form the government.

However, as is far too often the case with the Lib Dems this is an impractical idea. If no party takes an overall majority, and no coalition is formed then the incumbent government remains. Gordon Brown would remain the Prime Minister without being voted in by a majority of the public.

Of course if the Lib Dems decided, post election, to form a coalition government then they would be acting against a policy they had been voted in for. They are unlikely to do this, so the chance of a hung parliament remains high. To avoid a hung parliament any party needs to win at least 326 seats, the most in any election, due to boundary changes. For this to occur the Tories must gain 116 seats, and for Labour to lose their majority they would have to lose 14 seats. Anything in-between these figures would result in a hung parliament. For the Lib Dems to win a majority would require a miracle.

Whether you like the Conservatives or not, I find it difficult to believe that many people still have faith in the Labour party and the dangers of a hung parliament should be obvious to see.

### What's a hung parliament?

Happens when no party has an overall majority of seats in the house of commons.

Has not happened in the UK since 1974.

Another general election was held the same year in order for a significant majority to be obtained.

Common in countries with proportional representation such as Germany and Italy.

More people didn't vote at all than voted for Labour in the last general election.

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## MUSIC

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## Get your kicks from BBC radio 6 (music)

Alex Ashford Music Editor

**S**o you've probably heard, the BBC have announced that they will axe radio station, 6 Music. 6 Music is the only gleaming beacon that shines out through all the bullshit lowest-common-denominator music of the radio, just being able to tune in at any time and know that I will hear songs I've never heard before that I will fall in love with, and songs of genres I didn't even know existed, makes me happy. The day it goes off air will be a sad, sad, day in radioland.

How awful will it be to wake up in the afternoon on a Sunday, and not be able to soothe your hang-over with the deliciously cool voice of Jarvis Cocker asking you if you have ever wondered what it would sound like if Dr. Carl Sagan and Dr. Stephen Hawking did a song together? (The song, by the way, called "A glorious dawn" is on YouTube. Science has never sounded so beautiful.)

Where else will you be able to listen to a musical legend like Don Letts spin mixes of reggae and punk rock? The banter of Adam and Joe? Where else will you be able to listen to the kind of cosmic weirdness of Stuart Maconie's Freak Zone? Where else in the mainstream media will you be able to hear the kind of outsider DJs who would never get on the Radio 1 essential mix play 2 hour long mixes of whatever they like? And most depressingly, think of all the little-known bands who won't get to do live sessions because

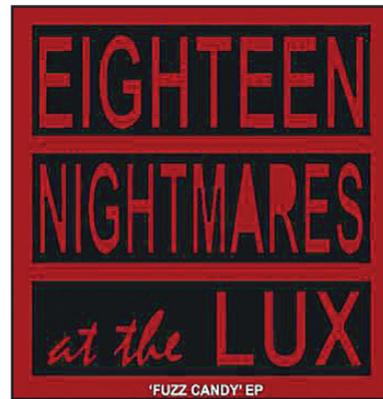
they aren't popular enough for Radio 1.

The money the BBC will save is going to go towards funding more TV programs, but who watches TV anyway when there's iplayer?

Instead of cutting an interesting, experimental, really, really, good radio station with shows presented by musical pioneers for people who really like music, why not get rid of\* that hideous misogynistic fungus on the toe of humanity, Chris Moyles? Yes, he is popular, but so are Coca-Cola and Kinder Buenos, the truth is that people would be healthier without them. Whoever the big cheese of BBC radio is could really do something good for the nation's people by getting rid of Chris Moyles. We may not be able to end world poverty, conflicts in war zones, or the mass destruction of our natural environment, but someone somewhere can get rid of Chris Moyles. I can only imagine the reason he hasn't is some sort of sadistic weirdo like that guy from the film Seven.

While we're there, get rid of Fearne "I'm punk like Avril Lavigne" Cotton, and Vernon "sort of guy you'd find at Walkabout" Kay. Get rid of Russell "look at me look at me look at me" Brand.

\*Ideally by transferring him to some sort of witness protection secure compound where he will spend the rest of his days watching re-run marathons on Dave-ja-vu and eating micro-dinners till he becomes mummified by his own cholesterol.



I had this nightmare last night... I was a surfing skeleton.

**M**aybe burlesque rock, maybe gypsy garage, but definitely fuzzabilly. Eighteen Nightmares at the Lux kick out a sound that would be surf rock come poltergeist, that has some unfinished business with rocking out, clearly, and they've only just released their EP, 'Fuzz Candy'.

Being based in London, the four-some have a sound of what their name best describes, a fuzzing nightmare, with surfer rhythms and tight progressions. Having been played since 2007, these boys have just had their album launch at The Notting Hill Arts Club, and are undoubtedly at the tip of the iceberg when it comes to spreading their sounds far and wide.

This music is difficult to capture in words but suits the image of a surfing skeleton. It's classic rock with fuzz, 60's garage without a leash, a blend of the dark side to all things good, with that burlesque charm, a surfing nightmare and for that reason we love it.

The young London based quartet rides out this music, with frontman Shimmie keeping his calm and any eyes transfixed as the vocals yell and warn of sounds to come in burlesque manner. As the fuzzabilly takes over and raw bass thunders from Const's

## Eighteen Nightmares at the Lux

Eighteen Nightmares at the Lux blasted away the Notting Hill Arts Club and **Luke Turner** with serious force at their album launch.

driving, crunching basslines forceful in every way giving the sound its fuzz. The rhythm brings the drive back a step to the surfer beats of 60s garage from Allen, giving a defining sound to Eighteen Nightmares at the Lux. Keeping the surf-rock alive through the dynamic drumming, the guitar-ing bridges the perfect gap between the powerful fuzz and the rockabilly-ness of the drumming. With vibrato sounds and rumbling rhythms coming from Greg's guitar, sometimes echoed in both parts, the spring reverb and tremolo picking accompanied by screeching solos with jangling riffs, keeps the sound fresh. This arrangement gets a dosing of deathly organ-sounding keyboard for the eeriness, particularly in 'Ketchup Stains', where

deathly laughs ring out before careering into the chorus.

Eighteen Nightmares at the Lux released their chilling EP, 'Fuzz Candy' in February. Featuring said 'Ketchup Stains', it also has the wild dog that is 'Your Disaster' and vibrato guitar-ing from 'Chick, Chase, Kick'. The EP feels as though it is just dipping your toe into Eighteen Nightmares, as though it doesn't give you enough, that's the idea of an EP I guess, leave you wanting more, which it does well.

Having blasted apart the Notting Hill Arts Club with new and old music, with help from the energy crazed crowd, Eighteen Nightmares at the Lux is not playground music, it's a surge of power, of fuzz and damn-right frightening. - **Luke Turner**



ELIZA DOOLITTLE  
SKINNY GENES  
EMI  
SINGLE



With the recent emergence of the sun, this song might even be acceptable! With an incredibly infuriating whistling dominating the chorus, you will struggle to remove this song from your brain. But it has that kind of happy, summery vibe that makes up for the lyrics being a little bit shit. Don't really understand the biological title; she just wants him to take off his skinny jeans..... -Lily Le

GORILLAZ  
STYLO FT.  
BOBBY WOMAK  
& MOS DEF  
EMI  
SINGLE



Gorillaz are pretty geeky, so you lot should love this. This is so much better than their slow-mo hip-trip-hop-pop that they used to do. Don't ignore this song because you think Blur are crap and these guys pretend they're cartoons. -Alex Ashford

SILVAIN VANOT  
BETHESDA  
EMI  
SINGLE



Quirky is the only word to describe this one. Despite all lyrics being in French, what I did understand was a little weird: 'I saw a sheep with three heads' and 'I would like to sleep with you because your mother is too old'. Different in style with some songs slow, some depressing, some very French sounding ballads and then a couple of upbeat numbers with an Americana and Caribbean feel...Be warned, this album contains baa-ing. -Lily Le

THE BUG FT.  
FLOWDAN  
RUN  
NINJA TUNES  
SINGLE



The Bug do the roughest, darkest, grimeiest, wobbliest dubstep. It sounds a lot like a scene from a British film where someone gets stabbed in a dark alley in South East London. In short, it's pretty good. - Alex Ashford

ELLIE GOULDING  
LIGHTS  
POLYDOR  
ALBUM



Overrated. It's not repulsive, but it's also not era-defining or groundbreaking: it's just alright. Most songs sound like an electro re-rub of Taylor Swift and for a former folk singer it is highly disappointing lyric-wise. Although it does get iPod worthy from track seven onwards. Perhaps a grower? I mean I did try to get into it by only listening to it six times to write this review. -Luke Turner

VIVIAN GIRLS  
LOVE WILL  
FOLLOW ME  
WILD WORLD  
ALBUM



This is lo-fi surf that kind of sounds like 60s girl groups too. If that doesn't sound like your thing, you won't like this band. I like the hand clapping and harmonizing vocals. The more I listen to this the better it gets. -Alex Ashford

## Most listened to this week by Felix Music members on last.fm

1. Radiohead
2. Muse
3. Florence + The Machine
4. RHCP
5. Bloc Party
6. The Killers
7. The Beatles
8. David Bowie
9. Coldplay
10. Foo Fighters



Why do we still have this again? - Alex Ashford

# Indie Rock Lads on Tour

It's not all Kooks and Kaiser Chiefs, **Kadhim Shubber** and **Lily Le** check out some of the bands the New Musical Express is backing this year, and Lily reveals her experience of being a music insider

★★  
**THE NME AWARDS**

Brixton Academy  
24th February

Only dicks like the NME. Bigger dicks go to the Awards Tour, the Awards, and rip open the special edition box to read about The Maccabees in Sainsbury's before realising it's a pile of nonsensical

rubbish, and that they would prefer to save their eyes for microscopes.

Despite the plethora of fantastic performances such as Kasabian with Noel Fielding and the Biff with Marina, the rest of the ceremony felt contrived and materialistic. Although it is about celebrating the hard work of artists and good music, the general air seemed more to be along the lines of "Look at these pretty people who make sounds and look at us who fooled you into liking them. We're rich now, thanks."

Plus, due to my absurdly poor music taste, I have to admit the fact that Jarvis Cocker, Paul Weller and The Specials were in one room at the same time didn't phase me at all. Soz mate.

I apologise if you were hoping for a review more like "OMG I saw Lily Allen in real life and she has MASSIVE knockers". I'm sure if you watch it on the telly you can see everyone's bits thanks to the presence of the endless numbers of skin tight trouser pieces anyway.  
- Lily Le

WINNER  
BEST  
NEW  
BAND

**Bombay  
Bicycle Club**

WINNER  
GOD-LIKE  
GENIUS  
AWARD

**Paul Weller**

WINNER  
BEST &  
WORST  
DRESSED

**Lady Gaga**



maniacally with a tambourine. Conclusion: they were a typical support band and it was nice to bask in that.

The crowd still was not moved by the turbulence of the Big Pink and it was a horrible experience to stand between condemnations of "shit...get off!" when you just want the slamming sounds to coldly pierce into you and hack you to a crumpled mess on the floor.

However it was lovely to find that the standard act of going mental ensued once Bombay Bicycle Club were adopted for cheek-pinching and "Look how you've grown!" The grin stretched across Steadman's face was the sweetest thing as the audience refused to

stop endearingly screaming the chorus of 'Always Been Like This' - definitely a moment that the band were less likely to forget than the crowd.

At last, The Maccabees. They had much to live up to after BBC and did not disappoint. After pounding through the main body of their set, "legendary" Orange Juice's Edwyn Collins became a sixth member. Although, I have to say I have no idea who he was, I was simply waiting for the beauty of 'Love You Better' and trying to make the most of Orlando's pretty face before I could fight my way out of the murderous asphyxiation.

- Lily Le

★★★★★  
**THE MACABEES  
BOMBAY BICYCLE CLUB  
THE BIG PINK  
DRUMS**

Brixton Academy  
20th February

The NME are usually never correct. Fortunately, the strength of this year's line-up was not one to be faulted.

Being the epitome of indie hipster, there's not much The Drums could do wrong for an NME audience, but there's not too much that they did impressively either. The highlight of their set was a band member leaping around

★★★★★  
**GIRLS**

Scala  
23rd February

I was excited about this gig, MEGA excited. Girls' debut album was something that I ignored for a long while, and then disliked when I first listened to it, but then finally fell in love with harder than a victim of Stockholm Syndrome. For the entire month of January I literally just sang the line "Laurrrraaaa, baby I'm right hereeeee" from their song "Laura" in my head over and over all day, every day. By now you should have gotten the general idea; I was MEGA excited.

It was packed out at Scala when I arrived and after pushing my way to a reasonable distance from the stage, and trying my best not to stand in front of some short angry girls I waited patiently for Girls to come out.

And then he randomly and silently appeared. Lead singer Christopher Owens, with all his girly hair and a shadowing baseball cap crept onto the



stage to sort out his guitar and most people didn't even notice; the ones that did just assumed that he was a roadie. His unassuming demeanor threaded into the rest of the gig. The band opened with the afore-mentioned single "Laura", a choice which felt like getting it out of the way so as not to keep the audience waiting for it.

But as the gig went on, the word 'unassuming' began to be replaced with 'unimpressive'. The emotion was all there, don't get me wrong. Vocally Owens sounded like a wounded wolf and the simple power of the lyrics hit home but honestly I kept thinking that they sound a hell of a lot better on record.

So when towards the end of the gig, the other half of Girls, Chet "JR" White, started joking that they should

have been nominated for an award instead of The Big Pink (prompting some of the audience to start shouting obscenities in agreement - "Fuck Yeah!" as always, a classic) I thought that even though The Big Pink aren't amazing, they are fucking good live. Which I probably wouldn't say of Girls.

But then again, Girls' songs are designed for bedroom listening whenever you're feeling a bit self-pitying and want to dream about suntans and bottles of wine on the beach. It's not the kind of music that'll inspire you to rock out (although those ever-present 16-year old indie prats that you find at all gigs trying to mosh certainly tried to rock out; they failed). So if Girls want to play a gig at my house then "Fuck Yeah!", but otherwise, I probably won't go see them again.  
- Kadhim Shubber



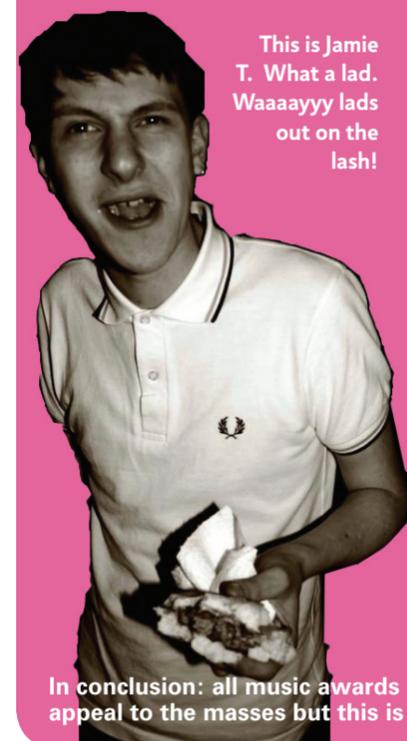
★★  
**DETROIT SOCIAL CLUB**

Cargo  
18th February

prog rock and music that normal people like to hear. When their more experimental side shone through I actually started to enjoy myself; 3 beers and some indie littered with bongo drums sure make for a good time.

But ultimately it never felt particularly fresh. They didn't take me somewhere that I hadn't been already, and if they had been mind-blowingly fun I might have forgiven them, but apart from the one guy who danced around like a 4-year old (that's a compliment by the way) there wasn't much excitement going spare.

Which is what opened my eyes. Detroit Social Club aren't much better or worse than most indie rock bands that are hanging around today but unfortunately they haven't noticed that the genre is old, tired and not interested in doing anything but watching Coronation Street and having a cuppa. But then again, it was an NME Awards gig, which probably should have lowered my expectations.  
- Kadhim Shubber



This is Jamie T. What a lad. Waaaayyy lads out on the lash!

**OTHER WINNERS**

**BEST LIVE BAND**  
**Bombay Bicycle Club**

**BEST TRACK**  
**Big Pink - Dominos**

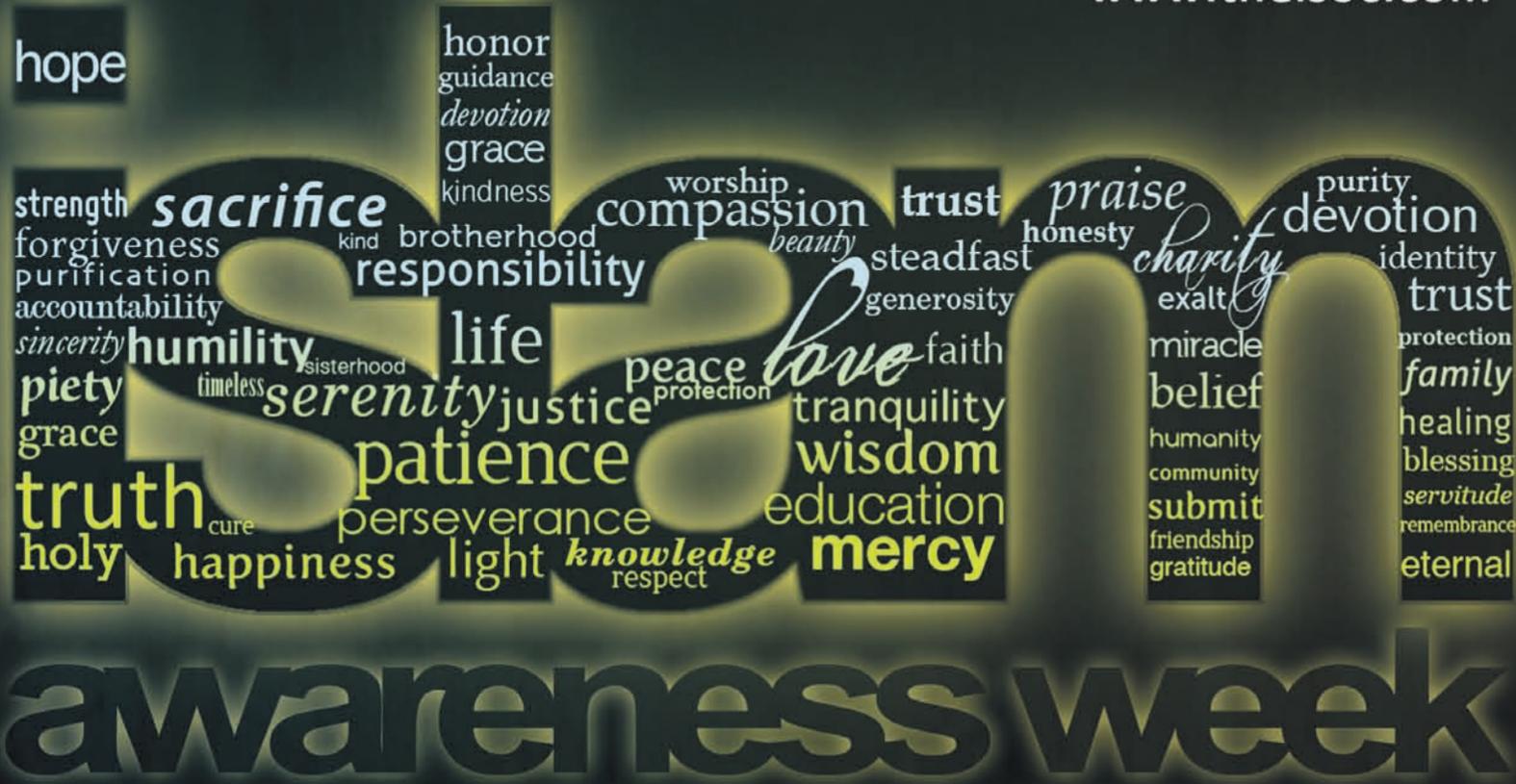
**BEST ALBUM**  
**Kasabian - West Ryder Pauper Lunatic**

**HOTTEST WOMAN**  
**Karen O**

**HOTTEST MAN**  
**Matt Belamy**

**BEST SOLO ARTIST**  
**Jamie T**

In conclusion: all music awards are pointless, they always try to appeal to the masses but this is not what music is about



## EVENTS LINEUP: 8TH - 12TH MARCH

- MONDAY** MISONCEPTIONS answered: Q&A with Sheikh Haitham Al Haddad  
Huxley, Clore Lecture Theatre, 6PM
- TUESDAY** THE STORY OF THE PROPHET  
Huxley, Clore Lecture Theatre, 6PM
- WEDNESDAY** THE WEAKEST LINK - The INTERFAITH Edition  
Mechanical Engineering 220, 1PM
- THURSDAY** THE GOD DELUSION? - Saleem Chatgai  
Huxley 308, 6PM
- FRIDAY** The IAW Performance Night featuring:  
P.A.R.A.N.O.R.M.A.L A.C.T.I.V.I.T.Y  
Slumdog Millionaire 2 "Jamal Got Broke"  
SAF Buidling LT1, 6PM

## EXHIBITION: ISLAM

9TH, 11TH & 12TH MARCH - SAF FOYER 11AM - 4PM



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**MISCONCEPTIONS answered!**

SHEIKH HAITHAM AL HADDAD  
HUXLEY, CLORE LECTURE THEATRE  
MONDAY 8TH MARCH 6PM



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# TRAVEL

Travel Editor Dylan Lowe  
travel.felix@imperial.ac.uk



## Goodbye local, hello tourist

Dylan Lowe Travel Editor

**B**ut then, of course, he is best known for his victory over Napoleon at the Battle of Trafalgar...

Arthur Wellesley's gaze remained fixed upon his fellow Irishman. *Not impressed.* Having already announced myself as an 'unfortunate inhabitant of London' I felt the sense of patriotic duty boiling up in my throat.

"It's the Battle of Waterloo we're on about, Paddy."

The stand-up paused. The would-be comedian, who may as well as have a parental advisory carved onto his forehead cautioning extreme dullness, uttered his funniest expression yet.

"Huh?"  
"The battle the Duke of Wellington won against Napoleon – that was Waterloo, not Trafalgar."

"Did I...what?"  
Awkward silence. The crowd waited impatiently for a response while Patrick their tour guide – or 'Paddy' as

I'd grown to love winding him up with – worked on a riposte. Or, anticipated my response.

And so I obliged him.  
"Nelson's statue is that way mate," my finger bore west.

The smugness earned me scorns from the touristic do-gooders – *leave him be smart-ass*, said their glares. Obligatorily, I piped down and settled upon reading and giggling to the latest *felix's* horoscopes for the duration of the walking tour, since Paddy had learnt from the cautionary tale and kept his facts right.

Now quit giving me that self-righteous glower of yours. Wouldn't you have done the same?

Maybe I had too much arrogance in my tone. But then, battered by gusts on the Friday afternoon, expectations for my favourite tour company running high, I didn't want to disappoint my shivering German friends. Already they were rolling their eyes, with scathing reviews brewing in their heads; tension flickered

as Paddy's gaze met mine. By the time he had finished depicting – actually, more like squealing out – King Henry's founding of the Anglican Church, we've already bailed and ending our escapade in Piccadilly.

It's funny how the mantle I'd once despised – the slow-walking, camera-flashing jokers standing between me and my destination – is one I took up when showing friends around London. Not so much because it was part of the hospitality package – more like the fact that I'm largely unfamiliar with the city I live in.

It was when my dad dragged me by the ear around Soho I explored the area for the first time.

It was when my housemate's friends needed to be shown around that I stepped foot in V&A for the first time, despite living pretty much next to it for an entire year.

This is not me repenting for my verbal sins – I just need to get out more.

## An Insider's Haunt: Auckland

Dylan Lowe

Bizarre how just about everyone other than JAFAs – just another fucking Aucklander – treats Auckland with a certain degree of hostility.

Fellow New Zealanders, who bestowed us with the nickname, disregard our city as part of Kiwiland. Tourists, fresh off the plane, find it dull and lacking entertainment. In our defence, we've hidden all the best spots behind the grey façade that is Queen Street, our so-called high street.

Many visitors rush to the Sky Tower for one of two reasons: to enjoy the stunning views of Auckland city, or to leap off the tower on a 192m bungy. It's easy to substitute both with radically cheaper options. Visit Rangitoto Island, just off the coast

of the city, and climb up to the summit of the dormant volcano to absorb a much more gobsmacking panorama, free of charge (ignoring the cost of the ferry, that is). Although seemingly less daunting, the Auckland Bridge bungy offers a true freefall where the Sky Tower Jump cannot – it has decelerators to prevent jumpers from slamming against the tower. The lack of height is compensated with a much lower price, tranquil sceneries for the startled nerves, and an option to take a dip in the sea.

Don't be fooled by food retails – or lack of – on Queens Street.

A short turn into one of its back alleys would lead you straight into Auckland's gastronomic hub.

My personal favourite remains to be *Mezze Bar*, Durham St East, which never fails to disappoint with its unique Mediterranean flair.



Imperial College  
London

## Private Housing Talk 2010 Monday 8 March

The event aims to provide you with:

-  tips and advice on when and where to start looking for a place to live in the private sector
-  how much you can expect to pay on rent and other costs
-  advice on how to deal with contracts and landlords and your rights as a tenant
-  advice and tips for moving in/out

Independent advice and tips for finding and living in private accommodation

Access to Estate Agents and other accommodation and service providers

Get answers to your questions about living in private accommodation

### When and Where?

Monday 8 March 2010

- 16.30 Private Housing Exhibition in the Queen's Tower Rooms
- 18.00 Private Housing Talk in the Great Hall
- 19.00 Private Housing Exhibition in the Queen's Tower Rooms continues

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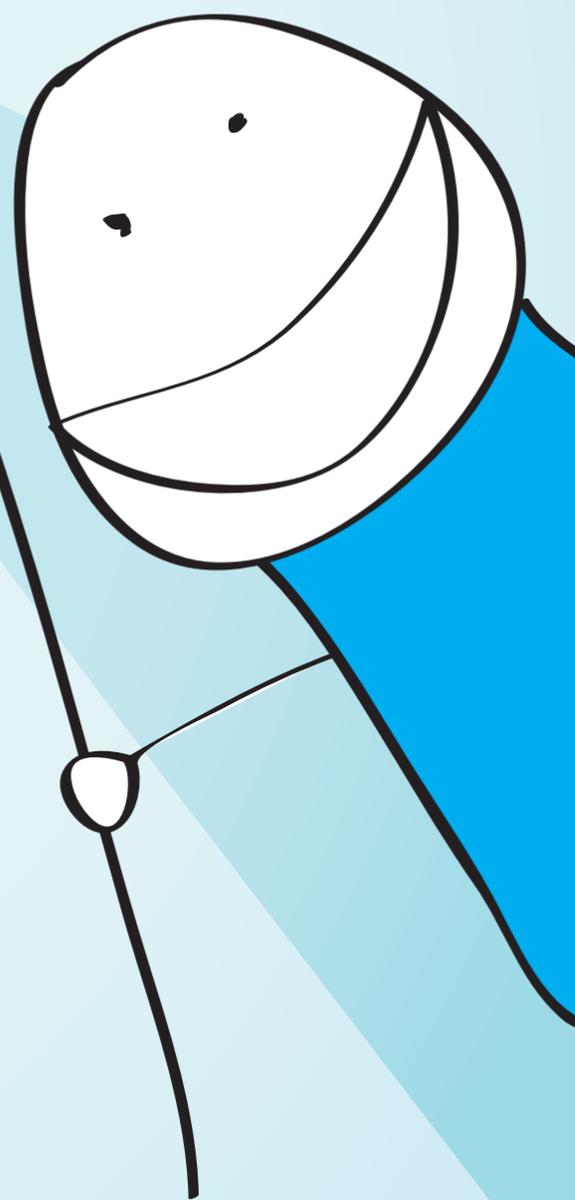
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# Sabbatical Elections 2010



**felix ELECTIONS PULL-OUT:**  
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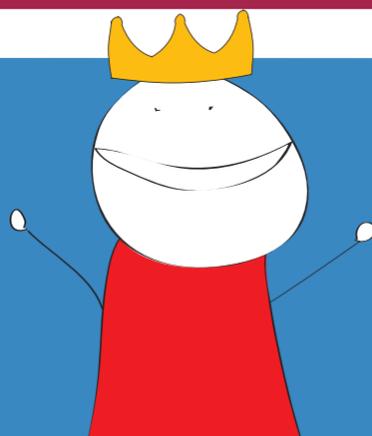
Head online to meet the candidates and vote:  
**[imperialcollegeunion.org/elections](http://imperialcollegeunion.org/elections)**

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# SABBATICAL ELECTIONS 2010



## PRESIDENT



The Union President is ultimately responsible for the direction of the Union, all Union activity and its finances. Tasks vary from simple things such as having a broken vending machine replaced to managing a multimillion pound project such as refurbishing the Union's bars. The President sits on numerous committees within College as well as the Union and meets regularly with the Rector and other senior College staff to provide student input in decision making processes and to raise any immediate concerns that the student body might have. The President also works closely with the Union's General Manager who is in charge of the Union's permanent staff.



### Alexander Kendall

I want to be President because I think that our Union is great but can be so much better. Too often, the Union is seen as the building and the bar; instead, we should think and talk of the Union as the students. Too often the Union is passive, waiting for students to come to it and find out what it can do. I want the Union to become more active in engaging itself with every student. Involvement in some way should be the default, not the exception.

The practical steps I propose to change this are

the following. Firstly, the year representation network should be entirely overhauled leading to training, handbooks and support. Secondly, I will organise centralised publicity for clubs and societies in a printed 'what's on' in every department, ensuring that every student is aware of events. Thirdly, I will involve students more in the operation of Metric by making it easy for societies, sports clubs, and departments to organise club nights. Fourthly I want to encourage innovation so that anyone can bring their ideas to us, such as how we can make our own

Biodiesel for the minibuses.

I believe I have the experience and dedication to be President as I have been involved on all sides, from clubs to representation ... to occasionally propping up the bar.

Whoever you vote for, remember to vote. The Union is nothing but the students, but the students are more important than a building. Please visit [alexkendall4president.blogspot.org](http://alexkendall4president.blogspot.org).



### Christopher Darby

I was inspired to run this year after being part of the Phase 3 working groups and Equal Opportunities Officer of the union. Through both these roles, I've had a chance to improve the union, proposing changes for affiliate members from RCM and RCA as well as ensuring money is well spent from the Representation and Welfare budget. Next year, it is imperative the student experience is improved to match the fantastic facilities Phase 3 will offer us. Live music is a priority of mine. After all, what makes or breaks a venue more

than the acts which perform there? Our bar service must be up to scratch. Whilst service has improved, brand new bars mean customers expect better. We also need to up our game when it comes to food. Although table service hasn't been implemented this year, I still feel there are ways to improve the system as it is. My work with Equal Opportunities has shown me that although our Welfare and Education Sabbatical officers work hard, many students have no knowledge of the services available to them. This is something I have strived to change this year,

pointing out the services available to those around me, but there's much more to be done. Within representation, great strides have been taken this year to properly assess representation from undergrad to postgrad and next year it's crucial that the holes are plugged and the student voice heard by the college, the most important function of a student union.



### Serge Vasylechko

As a society founder, treasurer and active participant of numerous events at the Union, in three years I have gained a solid understanding of its internal operations and developed a wide range of contacts across Imperial and various London universities. Now with your help I want to SPARK up the Union and make it a fun place to be:

**SUPPORT** communication between the Union and clubs & societies with monthly progress meetings. As a president, I aim to improve club officers

training by encouraging inter-club and inter-university communication in order to create a more interactive community at Imperial.

**PROMOTE** our new nightclub Metric. I plan to collaborate with other student unions in order to invite more London students to the renovated venues and raise its profile to that of LSE Crush and Kings' Phase.

**ARRANGE** regular live music events at the Union by working alongside the entertainments team. This includes not just Friday night DJs, but live

jazz, blues and alternative rock performances.

**REFORM** the mailing system for clubs & societies. My plan is to create a single and centralised calendar for all student organised events. This will keep our mailing subscriptions to only clubs which we truly commit to, whilst allowing us to check-up on the variety of events taking place around college.

**KEEP UP** the renovation of the new nightclub and bar during Phase III. My main priority would be to ensure that the work is completed strictly on time for Fresher's Week 2010.



### Stanislav Tarasov

Having been a hall senior in Beit since September, I have had plenty of opportunities to observe the activity at the Union and different states of it, as well as having the great chance to interact with freshers in order to find out what their opinion of the Union as a whole is.

Furthermore, having lived in three different kinds of halls, I have noticed the different influence of the Union on each one, depending on location, size and structure. Hence I believe that welfare is a particularly important aspect that must be available to eve-

ryone, and especially freshers, regardless of where they live.

Finally, I have gained knowledge of internal operations by being a member of the Aikido club committee and through friends who are deeply involved with Union affairs at the moment.

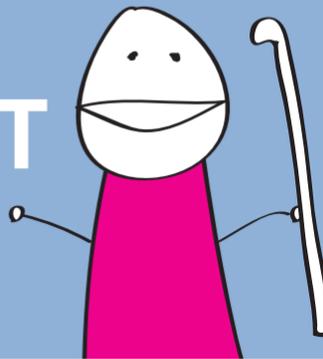
Based on this, my primary objectives, if elected as president, are:

**UNION BUILDING**- Extensively oversee and lead the union redevelopment project to a conclusion before the beginning of next academic year

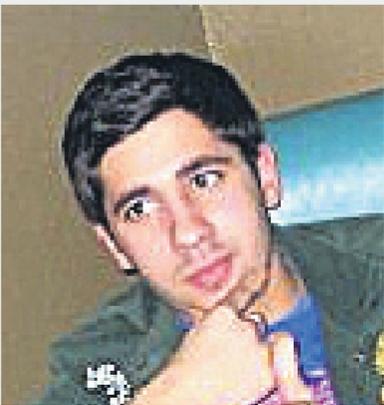
**NEW VENUES**- Create a strong image for the new bar and nightclub from day one, namely liaising with the media and performing arts clubs and inviting live acts to perform regularly at Metric (former dBs) while keeping the prices to a minimum

**WELFARE/COMMUNICATION** -Improve communication between students and the Union by introducing a continuous evaluation system similar to SOLE, where the committee members of Clubs & Societies and the wardening teams in Halls would ensure that feedback is provided promptly.

# DEPUTY PRESIDENT (CLUBS & SOCIETIES)



The DPCS makes sure that all of the Union's 300+ clubs are kept as happy as possible. The holder of this position can expect to work closely with Sport Imperial, ULU and BUCS to address any issues arising regarding sports teams, competitions or facilities. The more serious side of this role involves ensuring that health and safety requirements are met across all Union activities so that the organisation is compliant with the relevant laws and College policies. The biggest date on the DPCS' calendar comes right at the start of term with the Freshers' Fair. The DPCS is responsible for organising the day, where each club is located and for implementing a contingency plan should the skies open!



## Adam Gill

Easy, my name's Adam, I'm a final year physics student and if it wasn't for the clubs and societies here at Imperial I probably would have left by now. Over the past three years, I, like most of you have realised that the two hallmarks of life as an imperial student is a shit load of work combined with a "below-average-student-social-life."

And that's why I feel clubs and societies here are more important than any other university, it allows us to meet people with similar interests and gives

us an excuse to drink once/twice a week.

In my first year I was a member of the football club and last year I was elected as Sponsorship Secretary, this enabled me to see the difficulties clubs faced in terms of financing and how important budgeting is. This year I have been an active member of STOIC and ICRADIO.

My current position as Welfare Campaigns Officer has offered some insight into the inner workings of the union, but I feel I have remained sufficiently detached so as to still provide a fresh approach.

As DPCS I hope to:

- Ensure all students are aware of the massive selection of clubs and societies on offer.
- Be a friendly and approachable face to maintain a healthy relationship between the union and all clubs/societies.
- Examine the possibility of holding a Refreshers Fair in the Spring Term; offering a chance for clubs to recruit new members, this would be particularly useful for summer clubs/societies.



## Emma Beresford

Hi, my name is Emma Beresford and I'm running for DPCS. As a third year Chemistry and Management student I have experienced several aspects of student life within both the RCS and C&G departments. I am a highly active member of the hockey club having been on the executive committee for two years as well as taking part in many other clubs and societies, IC radio and Snowsports to name a few. After reading Jenny's blogs from this year

I think it's really important for the DPCS to get a fully rounded view and experience of all the clubs available at Imperial, taking time out to visit and take part in events. In the next few weeks I'm sure you'll see me at a lot more society meetings trying to find out exactly what you want from your DPCS... so beware

With such a vast range of clubs and societies available to students at Imperial I think everyone would agree that some of the smaller clubs are of-

ten forgotten even though they add so much diversity to the college. My aim as DPCS is to get people involved in as many clubs as possible while working closely with Sport Imperial and the Sports Partnership, starting with the infamous Freshers' Fair and continuing throughout the year targeting all college members not just Freshers'. Clubs and Societies are a fantastic way to meet people outside your direct friend group and expand your interests, as a social and friendly person I hope [250 WORDS]



## Heather Jones

I am Heather, a 3rd Year Physicist. I am currently on my Year Abroad in Heidelberg and I want to be your next DPCS. I have been involved in the Union with a wide range of clubs from competitive sports like the Boat Club to Cheese Soc and the Fellwanderers, as well as Sinfonietta, ICSE and the Choir. I have been a President, Secretary and Librarian of clubs and these responsibilities have taught me how the Union really works and, importantly, what can be

done to improve it.

I want to create a Freshers webpage listing all club events held in the first few weeks so no-one need miss essential meet-and-greets, a shared inventory page to pool club resources and to hold many more interclub events. I want to improve music at the Union by inviting clubs to run specific nights and improve the Arts at Imperial whilst supporting our hard-working Sports clubs with the equipment they need. Finally I want to create

a Buddy System for struggling clubs, whereby they would be partnered with good clubs providing advice and practical help to get them functional again.

Please vote for me, putting an experienced, energetic and enthusiastic student in charge of your clubs next year. If you want to hear more of my plans, learn more about me or share your own ideas please visit my website at [www.voteforheather.co.uk](http://www.voteforheather.co.uk). Get involved, VOTE for Heather!



## Paavo Schafer

The Imperial clubs & societies need change! Though most clubs are generally doing quite well, endless complaints from members of nearly all clubs & societies is a desperate sign that improvement is needed in many areas.

I could blabber on at you all day about how I would go about changing this and promise you the world. But unfortunately, anything of the sort would just be empty promises. I will save you the effort of reading

more promising lies and instead, here are some facts:

I am in my second year, doing biotechnology with management, living in Beit at the moment and going for the position of deputy president clubs & societies (DPCS).

I suppose listing any experience you have had that relates to your position is a necessary part of every manifesto, so here goes: I have attended at least 30 different clubs and societies at Imperial, of which I have attended at least 5 regularly at some point in

time. I have helped out some stalls at freshers fair in October (supervising freshers fair will be the hardest task for every DPCS). I am currently founding a new martial arts club at Imperial and have captained and founded various teams in past schools.

But all these manifestos are only words and don't really tell you who we really are. I suggest trying to talk to us to find out a bit more about us before you make your decision.

And always remember: Live life to the fullest!



## Joey Ra

Hi. I'm Joey and I am running for the position of DPCS. I believe with my experience and passion for efficiency and organisation, I make an ideal candidate. I am currently Events Officer for BiochemSoc and have developed numerous skills in the process- skills that I hope to take into the Union.

Please check out my manifesto:

**EFFICIENCY:** There is a lot of room for efficiency in the way that the Union is run. An example is the room booking system- many experience difficulties in

this area.

**EXTRA TRAINING:** for department societies is needed making a conscious effort to support smaller groups. Training in acquiring sponsorship will be the focus.

**5 YEAR PLAN:** I will strive to get to know the clubs of ICU by attending as many meetings and events as possible and help to draw up a 5 year plan for development.

**FRESHER'S FAIR:** My first main duty will be organising the Freshers' Fair. As Events Officer of Biochem-

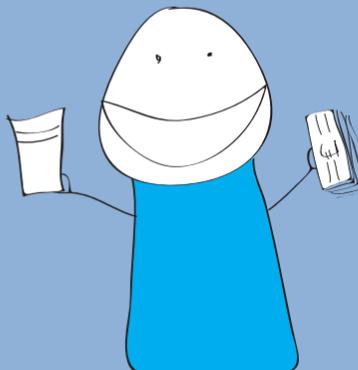
Soc, I have had to develop my organisational skills. I also have experience working in events as a part-time job.

**COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY:** is something we lack at ICU. Regular meetings between clubs in the RCSU, for example, will be encouraged.

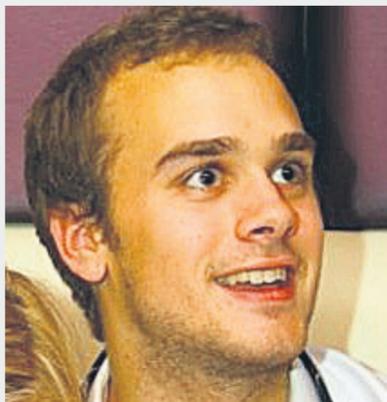
**ORGANISATION:** A centralised online calendar of events going on in clubs & societies will be looked at.

**SUPPORT:** for clubs that put the effort in. Some societies clearly put more effort into the club than others and this will be adequately supported.

# DEPUTY PRESIDENT (FINANCE & SERVICES)



The DPFS is responsible for the day-to-day financial administration of the Union. This person will spend a lot of time dealing with budgetary queries from clubs, the Faculty Unions and event organisers. You would also collate and solicit student feedback about the Union's bars, catering and shop to gauge how students would like to see things run. One major part of this role is coordinating the Summer Ball (the preparations for Summer Ball 2008 actually started in November 2007) which is a great opportunity to unleash your creativity to make sure thousands of students have a brilliant time at our end of year bash. This means being involved in the process of selecting which bands will play, whether you want fire-breathing entertainers or clowns wandering round and how many chocolate fountains there should be.



## Andrew Bromfield

I'm a fourth year maths student, and have had a great time here so far being involved in the College community. I've been on the RCSU and Imperial College Hockey Club execs and also been treasurer of both the MathSoc and RSM Hockey Club, experiencing union finances and organising events too.

The most important consideration for the incoming DPFS this year has to be the aftermath of Phase 3-the redevelopment of the Union bars, somewhere I spend a lot of my time. I'm not going to promise expensive new technology, however I do have some money-mak-

ing ideas to subsidise student activities, and will also concentrate on the steady improvement of the basics that come up every year in these manifestos with your input and feedback:

1. Catering and Bars.
  - Provide a genuine and profitable alternative to the Eastside Bar for eating, with table service and good food.
  - Train and retain more student staff for an improved service at the new (and bigger) bars.
2. Events.
  - Raise the profile of Metric, (the new dB's) with

more live performances like comedy and bands.

- Organise good events with our neighbours at the RCA, RCM and American-Exchange Programmes.
- 3. Increase revenue.
  - Develop and raise the profile of the conference rooms built in Phase 2 as a cheaper alternative to the College service during summertime.
  - Improve profitability of the union shops, for example, by encouraging clubs and societies to purchase clothing, including sports kits, and other paraphernalia through it. [250 WORDS]



## Ravi Pall

In my 3 years at Imperial I have been the treasurer for RAG, felix Business Manager as well as Senior Entertainments Officer for the Union - all jobs that require financial responsibilities. Many of the Union's commercial services areas need improving to match the standard set by the Phase 3 redevelopment. Utilising my experience in managing events, parties, clubs, festivals and Union nights (including the ACC Bar-Nights), I'll ensure the students of Imperial College can be proud of, and enjoy, their Union. I will:

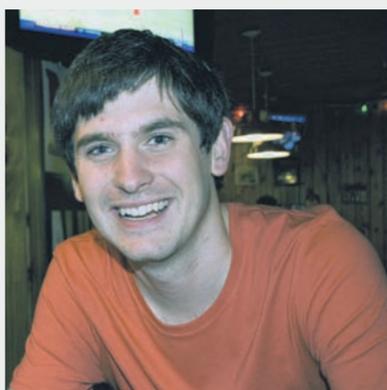
Introduce U-Pay: A cashless payment system for Union trading, using current college cards; an easy way to pay for everything at the Union shop, news-agent, bar or club. Think of it like an oyster card. Improve Bars: I will even work shifts behind the bar to better understand the job, developing further means improvement. Reinvent the Catering service: I will bring back table service and ensure more effort is put into making fresh, tasty food, concentrating on quality. Commercialise Phase 3:

This extra revenue will be used to subsidise Union activity during the academic year. Summer Ball back to the students! I aim to push back the Summer Ball, making it more accessible to those with exams, and create a Ball Committee to help bring a student focus. Improve Entertainments: I will encourage more student based activities and emphasis on Student DJs. Listen to your Ideas: I will hold a monthly Services Forum to gather YOUR input and comments about Union services.

# DEPUTY PRESIDENT (EDUCATION)



The DPE is responsible for coordinating and training the representation network, which includes all of the academic reps, and holding regular academic forums to gather student opinion about issues related to their course. They will sit on a number of college committees including those relating to both undergraduate and postgraduate education, e-portfolios, careers and the student experience. Their purpose for attending is to represent student views with the aim of making the academic experience at Imperial one of the best in the world.



## Benjamin Stubbens

Coursework feedback is still a long way from where it must be. I will continue to work on this issue and persuade College to take this issue more seriously, guaranteeing more, quicker, constructive feedback.

Can't get on a computer to work because someone is gaming or watching iPlayer, but don't feel you can ask them to leave? I will work to make sure that in busy times, computers are only used for people to get on with the work they need to do.

I will work to improve the quality of lecture notes. Handwritten, badly-photocopied notes will be a thing of the past.

For a long time we have said that the degree classification system in this country doesn't work. Is a 2:1 from Imperial College equivalent to a 2:1 from some other universities? We know it isn't, but the job market disagrees. I will spend a lot of my time talking with companies, convincing them that someone with a 2:2 from Imperial has the ability to

succeed in the workplace

SOLE has no soul! By the end of my sabbatical year, SOLE will work. You will see bigger, faster changes based on your opinions.

Finally, I will work with College to bring back the diversity in the number of Humanities options.



## Meera Ganeshadevan

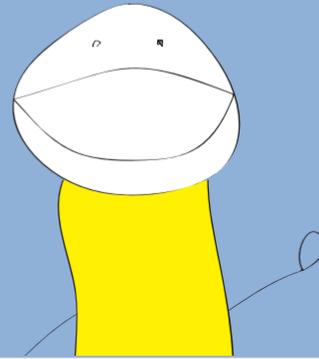
Hi, my name is Meera Ganeshadevan (GAN-NA-SHA-DAVE-AN) and you may know me as the extremely little, loud Sri Lankan. I come from North West London and study Chemistry and Management. I am tremendously friendly and believe this is a quality needed as your DPE, as your views can be resonated through me. As a student not only belonging to the Chemistry Department but the Management Department also, I feel as though I have seen how different departments deal with

the problems faced about our educational needs and wants.

I do not have a lot of experience in the education sector as such, but who has? Being a student and knowing the needs and wants of the fellow student body I feel is enough experience for me to be an exceptional DPE. If I am elected as DPE I aim to integrate the departments at Imperial more to increase communication. I also will attempt to enforce a READING WEEK midterm as a break is required whether it be a week or just a

few days, in which all departments are closed. I also want to promote the credibility of a 2.2 from Imperial to both students and employers. A big part of our education at Imperial is SOLE evaluated however I believe SOLE is not used enough by the student body and I would like to reevaluate how this could be improved upon.....would you do SOLE for better incentives? VOTE MEERA = STUDENT SATISFACTION = READING WEEK

# DEPUTY PRESIDENT (WELFARE)



The DPW coordinates campaigns and information concerning student welfare, working closely with the Union's Student Advisor, student volunteers and the College's Welfare services. They represent students' welfare needs to College and external organisations, and sit on a number of College committees relating to welfare, accommodation, equal opportunities and the student experience. They are also responsible for the activities of the Union's Community Action Group and IC RAG.



## Alexander Norman

NOT SUBMITTED



## Michael Richards

I'm Mike Richards, an east-ender and struggling physicist. I have no experience in the union hierarchy I am a proper student. I find it difficult to get up for 9am lectures probably because I've enjoyed far too much snakebite at the bar the night before. Every year people campaign to have a democratic union and this is the only way it can happen, by having someone who can shake up the establishment and bring our views to the university.

Previous candidates have made grandiose pledg-

es that whilst noble are simply un-implementable within the union. It is because of this I make these basic pledges which will improve the welfare of the university:

- Imperial always does poorly in student satisfaction poles. This won't change easily but a week of refreshers events at the beginning of the 2nd term like every other university wouldn't go a miss.

- Improve the buddy system something which most fresher's in SOLE said they were unhappy with.

- RAG & CAGt do fantastic jobs but we don't often hear about it. I want to give these groups more publicity and bigger projects.

- The disability advice service is an underused resource I want to get more people aware of it and using it.

- The welfare service does a great role but people don't know it's here. A regular article in Felix reminding people of what's available will solve this. Simple policies for proper students.



## Victoria Masding

I've proved I can relate to students, older and younger, through my position as a Hall senior, from chilling with freshers, arranging and publicizing their events, to attending serious committee meetings with wardens. I feel it's time to take my experience to the next level.

I'm not going into this role with preset goals, I think it's important to find out what your issues are first and form my work around them. Through a solid welfare structure I will hopefully iron out problems before they occur.

**Lose the stigma!** The DP (Welfare) job is a position with emphasis on contact with students and yet students find it hard to come forward. I plan on reinventing the view people have of the Union's Welfare, so that it's not 'laaame' to come forward with your problems.

**More features in Felix!** The more welfare issues are publicized campus wide; the more people feel encouraged to come forward, especially students who live at home or international students who can feel isolated from College life. I'm going to up my

current involvement with felix and I will encourage active debate on issues, like the proposed smoking ban on campus.

**Face-to-face!** Build relations with hall wardens and arrange meetings with freshers, so people are more aware of where they can get help straight off the bat.

I combine a laid back attitude, which allows people to approach me with their issues without hesitation, with the gung-ho finesse to be pro-active in finding them a solution.

# RON FOR ALL POSITIONS



## Tin-man RON

Well, here we are. I've been waiting for you. I'm Tin-man RON (Re-open the Nominations) and I'm running for every position at these elections. Why would a lowly tin-man run for every single election post you might ask? After all, I have no brain and my limbs can easily be ripped off my body. IT'S BECAUSE EVERY SINGLE PERSON ON THESE PAGES ARE A F\*CKING JOKE. Seriously. If you think the same, which I hope you do, vote for tin-man RON.

I maybe made out of tin foil but I'd definitely do a better job than most of them.

President? You've got four bloody candidates and they're all useless as each other. Seriously, we'd rather just have Obama, and even he definitely no, he definitely can't either.

Education? Welfare? I don't even know what those are. I came to Imperial Col-

lege for a gashfest, not a degree!

Finance & Services? The Union's fine. What's not to like about piss-beer, lots of drunk men and the overriding smell of boredom?

I can guarantee you that every single candidate going for DP (Clubs & Socs) are lying. I'd know 'cos they're all douchebags.

Don't get me started with Felix Editor. You've got a joke candidate running against a man that looks like a giraffe dressed in a crocodile costume? I've seen him pounding away at a dog his Nan stuffed after it died.

I'm heading off my point. I'll run the Union all by myself. The others are useless. If you think alike, well what are you waiting for? VOTE tin-man RON!

Do it. Then regret it. A tin-man running your Union? You know you want it.

VOTING OPENS Tuesday 9th March 00.01 [www.imperialcollegeunion.org/elections](http://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/elections)

# FELIX EDITOR



The Felix Editor is responsible for producing a weekly issue of the student newspaper. There are 30 per year ranging from 32 to more than 40 pages per issue. The Felix Editor is in charge of the overall direction of the newspaper and for informing the student body on the issues that matter to them, as well as providing plenty of crosswords and puzzles for completion in lectures, of course! Each week you will have to source and write news articles and features as well as supervise the other editors to ensure their sections are properly laid-out and edited. You will be responsible for the newspaper's finances as well as leading your band of writers. There will be sleepless nights, but it's a chance to flex your creative muscles and reign over a publication read by thousands every week.



## Kadhim Shubber

I love felix. I've worked under three separate editors, and my involvement has been the most important part of my student life. The opportunities and experiences I've received should be open to everyone and I plan on making every effort to encourage all students to write, edit and get involved.

I will:

make it easier to get involved by:  
- Holding open meetings so that you can meet the section Editors in person. By face-to-face interac-

tion you'll hopefully feel more comfortable about contributing to the paper.

- Setting a stall in the JCR to further break down the wall between students and felix. You'll be able to speak to me directly to find out how you can get involved. There are loads of ways that you can contribute and I hope to make students aware of all of these opportunities.

have more student-focused content:

- The Editor should investigate issues affecting students, as well as shine a spotlight on student

activities. By reporting events on campus in an objective manner, hopefully students will realise Imperial is exploding at the seams with extremely talented people.

- I'll ensure that the website is regularly updated. I know the hard work required of felix Editors, but if elected I'll only have one shot at the job. It's important enough for me to give it everything I've got and more. I have no intention of letting the newspaper, or more importantly you the student, down.



## Esther Kang

nom nom nom nom nom [sic]

# STUDENT TRUSTEE ELECTIONS 2010

Four positions available



## Hoi Yeung

First of all, I would like to thank the current Sabbatical Committee for bringing us a wonderful year. Also I would like to thank Martin Luther King, Priest Valentio and Eason Chan for showing us love in this world.

We need love, and love binds us together. I often get asked of one question: "How do you feel about London?" My answer is, GREAT. This is such a lovely city; everyone is very nice, and respectful towards the every culture background. I believe there are treasures behind every culture, and Im-

perial College should be the place where every culture joins together, so we can learn, appreciate and treasure the values behind different culture. Therefore, once I am elected, I will not only fight for the rights for students, but also I will fight for a better culture communication environment in Imperial College. I have a dream, that students from different culture background can really join hearts together, just like brothers and sisters.

Count on me, for my determination and experience. I was the year representative in first year. Dur-

ing my term, I act actively and responsibly, helped students solving issues, and represented students' voice to the department committee. My job was appreciated: I not only received those lovely appreciation emails at the end of my term, but also got elected to be the year representative again this year. Trust me, and vote me for Student Trustee.

At last, I want to say, I believe in Brother Chun. Big love.



## David Oliver

I, Rhodri (although nominally a David!), believe that Student Representation remains imperative in ensuring that our university's money properly in our fee-paying eyes. Thus it requires someone who is pro-active, experienced and committed to seeing things through. I believe I have this determination and the ability to fight for the student community: I have held Debating secretary, Law treasurer, ICMUN publicity officer and Conservative external liaison officer in societies this year as

well as working with the ICIC. You may also have seen me around flyering for the charity Teach First (where I have a bag of sweets) postering for Herbert Smith LLP as campus manager whilst also volunteering with Pimlico and the Social mobility Foundation. This have given me a large range of experiences which will allow me to effectively represent what you want most out of Imperial which includes good facilities and minimal monetary wastage.

Thus I pledge, should I be deemed worthy of elec-

tion, to:

1) Send out an email every 6 weeks updating you as to what is happening financially so you can email me saying what you agree and disagree with to allow me to effectively represent you.

2) To fight for more funding of the humanities and to cease the cuts to the language department as this is a vital part of Imperial life.

3) To reduce any wastage of funds on bureaucracy and non-essentials.

# STUDENT TRUSTEE (CONTINUED)



## Zubin Jehangir

**M**y name is Zubin Jehangir and I am currently a third year aeronautics student. If you haven't already realized, our union is going through massive changes. The union facilities have recently been done up and now our bars are finally getting a much-needed face-lift. There is still so much to be done and I am standing for the position of student trustee to be part of this revamp. I want to make sure the union makes the right choices for us, the students. If I am elected I can voice your opinions

and concerns at the highest level at the university. My experience from being the ACC vice-chair will come into great use. I have learnt how to build on the criticism I have gained to provide a better service to the sports teams. I am approachable and friendly and will be happy to listen to any problems that you might have, however small they might be. If I am elected I will take this job seriously and I will strive to get what we as students desire and deserve. So VOTE FOR ME!



## Melissa Lever

**T**he approval for the next phase of the Union Building Redevelopment has shown that being Student Trustee has an impact and is more than just a nice title. As Student Trustee I will endeavour to:

Make sure the Union's finances are managed wisely and will bring a tangible benefit to the students

Communicate your views to the board: if you have any issues concerning the running of the Un-

ion then it is my duty to get these voiced

The "lack of transparency" of the Union has become a bit of a cliché but it's true, and it does nothing to help student apathy. I hope to at least move things in the right direction, so make the right choice and vote me for Student Trustee!



## Jaimie Henry

**M**ost students aren't really sure what the Trustee Board is for - perhaps for good reason. The Board exists so we can ensure the union and its activities are legally compliant and fair; something I am passionate about. Having previously sat on the Trustee Board in 2008-9, I feel I have a unique insight into the board and its workings, which I believe makes me a good candidate for the position. I also have experience in both running clubs and societies, including St John Ambulance LINKS and Medics De-

bating, amongst others, as a Chair and Treasurer, so promise to robustly scrutinise the decisions that affect clubs, whether it be budgeting or policy.

Perhaps most importantly, I have the confidence to pipe up in meetings with the union and college bigwigs so our voice isn't lost. As a third year student, I feel I have been around long enough to know what matters to students here and will ensure that I am always available by email; if you wanted to talk to me about something you think could be important for the Trustees to discuss or just wanted to

come to a meeting I would be happy to be there for you.

Finally, if I am elected to the Trustee Board, I won't make outlandish promises about revolutionising the union, but what I will ensure is that it is fair and is always acting to serve its primary stakeholders: us. Vote Jaimie Henry for a safe pair of hands.



## Lukas Ondruch

**H**ello EVERYONE,  
My name is LUKAS ONDRUCH, I am a bald and bearded MAN (see photo) and I come from the WONDERFUL country of Czech Republic (unfortunately mostly known only for its GREAT beer, GORGEOUS women, and STRONG football & hockey teams). I am in my 2nd year studying Theoretical Physics and LOVING it!

In my past years at Imperial, I have been and still am a committee member and Guest Lecture Offic-

er of the Physics society, Equipment Officer of the Dance club, and a tour guide for prospective interviewees - among other societies which I hold in big RESPECT. Bazinga!!!!!!11111111oneone11eleven

I stand to hold people ACCOUNTABLE for their actions. I will NOT be silenced - thus YOUR voice will be heard through MY representation of your opinions and ideas. I will fight for your rights within the Union and make sure that others around me do not break down when things get TOUGH, and so can fulfill their duties. It will be easy to find me

on campus (see photo) and I will always be EXCITED to talk to you and let you know what is happening with the union.

Simply put, I present a different approach to dealing with the union - whenever necessary. Sometimes, it is simply not enough to be nice to everyone and hope for the best - unpopular decisions then have to be made, and I can withstand being the one to make/support those decisions in order to move forward to the bright future of ICU.



## Salman Waqar

NOT SUBMITTED

VOTING OPENS Tuesday 9th March 00.01 [www.imperialcollegeunion.org/elections](http://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/elections)



## Samuel Leveridge

My ID card says that I am Sam Leveridge a 3rd year physicist but in reality I am a full time radio DJ with medics. at ICRadio – check out On Dancefloors live 8-9pm Thursdays. Anyway, it's unlikely you know anything about being a student trustee let alone care. The impression I get is that they watch over the big sabb guys to make sure they do a good job. Looking at the folks running for this, my advice to you is that you are going to need someone like me in those board meetings to make sure they don't make the union any worse then it currently is. Also, I live



## Ye Tian

NOT SUBMITTED

# It's easier to vote than ever before!

We have made our voting website all nice for your fancy mobile phone. If you have a smart phone navigate your web browser to

[bit.ly/voteicu](http://bit.ly/voteicu)

Or by scanning this QR tag with your phone!

Voting opens Tuesday 9 March 00:01 and closes Saturday 13 March 23:59.



Head online to meet the candidates and vote:  
[imperialcollegeunion.org/elections](http://imperialcollegeunion.org/elections)



# CAT-NIP

Text in to 07832670472  
Email in at [catnip.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:catnip.felix@imperial.ac.uk)  
Tweet @felixcatnip



**CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?  
WHAT'S THE CRAZIEST THING  
YOU'VE EVER DONE FOR RAG WEEK?  
JOKES, LETTERS, OPINIONS – WE WANT THEM ALL!**

Email: [catnip.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:catnip.felix@imperial.ac.uk)  
Facebook: Felix Fan Page

Text: 07832670472  
Twitter: @felixcatnip

## Mate Says "Pint?" What Will It Be?

Nothing gets the ladies on the floor like a rum and coke - with a twist of rohypnol.

First Year Medic

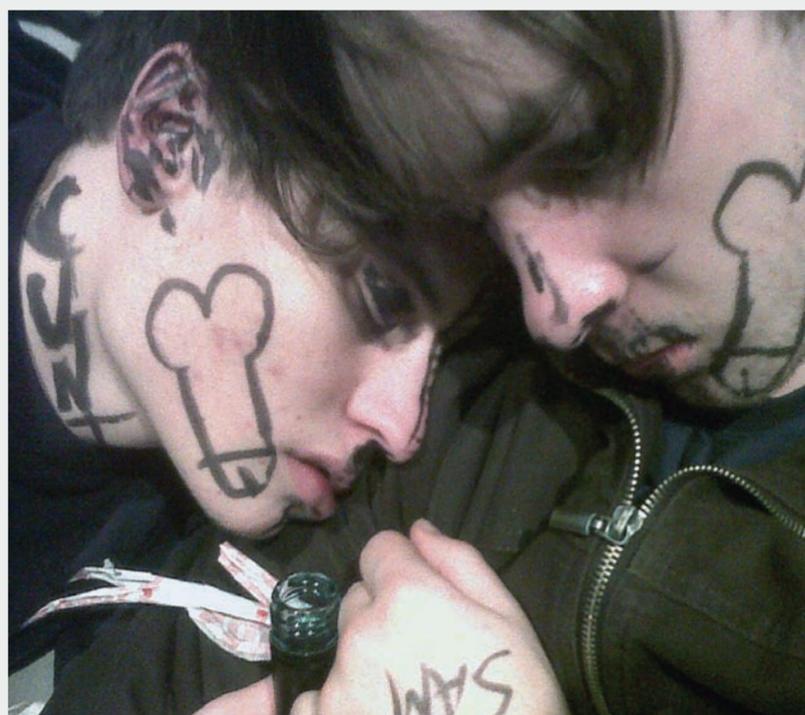
Can't drink. I've joined an AA group. In fairness, I don't have a problem with alcohol, it has a problem with me!

Third Year Physicist

Snakebite. It takes the edge off the piss they serve in the Union.

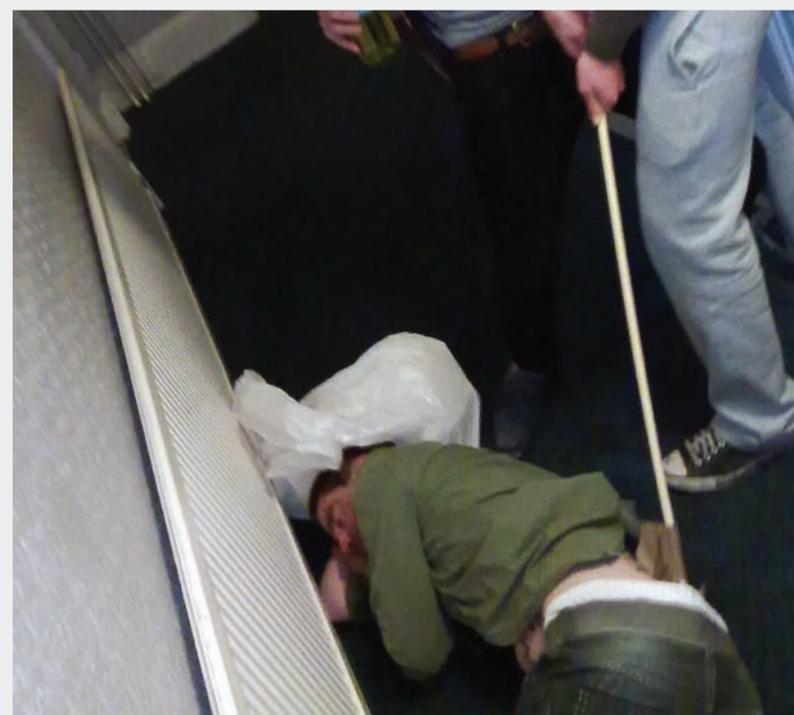
Second Year Chemist

## Drunken-Mate Photo Of The Week



After some cheeky flirting over a pint, this pair defied the odds and proved that love can blossom at Imperial. Even black marker pen can't dent their passion!

Got a picture of your mate being an absolute waste of oxygen? Well, get your camera out and email your drunken mates to [catnip.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:catnip.felix@imperial.ac.uk)



We all know that nights out can get a bit messy and cleaning everything up in the morning can be a right hassle. But is a mop to the crack really the answer?

Senders must have permission to use submitted photos and accept full responsibility for them

## The Best Of "Overheard At Imperial"

Overheard something funny at Imperial?  
Post it on the "Overheard at Imperial" facebook group

A: So why did you break up with him?  
B: He started humming that Tetris tune when we were in bed. Really creepy.

A: Hey, did you know that Oriental people have straight pubes?  
B: Wow! You're not lying, are you?  
C ("Oriental"): Ah, you babawians ah sow wascist!

The new Union President is EDIBLE!

-Girls in the Library

-Biology Students

-Beit West Basement





# Your Complete Guide to the Oscars

This Sunday the 82nd Academy Awards will be held at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood. Anyone who is anyone will don their best glad rags and brave the red carpet and paparazzi to attend the biggest event in the Film Calendar. Underneath the glitz and glamour, hosts Alec Baldwin and Steve Martin will reveal who has won the most coveted gold statuettes - Oscar.

Sacha Baron Cohen was originally considered to host the ceremony but was apparently too much of a 'wild-card' and so was quite wisely dropped. For the first time since 1943 there are ten nominations for the Best Picture Category. All ten films are presented with reviews and all the awards they have been nominated for.



## Avatar

The Highest grossing film of all time is also one of the favourites to take the ultimate award - Best Picture. The quasi anti colonialism / environmentalism themed plot becomes second player to the film's magnificent visuals courtesy of the fantastic special effects. A human infiltrates a native tribe of a fantastic planet being strip mined by a sinister corporation and soon finds himself drawn to their way of life.

Scrape beneath the film's colourful surface and a weak script and unoriginal plot soon becomes apparent and the acting isn't what I would exactly call masterclass. James Cameron makes up for this however with superb directing.

Reviewed by Ed Knock

Nominated for: Best Picture, Direction (James Cameron), Art Direction, Cinematography, Editing, Music Score, Sound Mixing, Sound Editing, Visual Effects



## Inglourious Basterds

Steven Spielberg somehow managed to make a film about Mossad boring. On the other hand Quentin Tarrantino's film about a crack squad of Jewish soldiers drawn into a plot to murder Hitler is a brilliant revenge fantasy. The star of the show is Christoph Waltz whose incredible performance as the 'Jew Hunter' Hans Landa elevates the film to very high standard. The script is slightly overcooked and there are a couple of weak performances but fortunately the Tarrantino style is still evident.

The dark horse of the Oscar race, will the Academy be tempted to finally give Tarrantino a statuette?

Reviewed by Ed Knock

Nominated for: Best Picture, Direction (Quentin Tarrantino), Actor in a Supporting Role (Christolph Waltz), Original Screenplay (Quentin Tarrantino)



## The Hurt Locker

The Hurt Locker is a film following a bomb disposal team during the post-invasion period of Iraq in 2004. The film is claustrophobically directed by Kathryn Bigelow, both James Cameron's ex-wife and his main rival for the Best Director award. Bigelow manages to maintain nail-biting tension, while giving a captivating look at the individuals within the team. The film is shot in an up-close and personal style, which adds to the cagey atmosphere that is sustained throughout. The style contrasts massively to large-scale and expansive Avatar. It seems fitting that *The Hurt Locker* should be taking on *Avatar* for this year's big Oscar prizes.

Reviewed by Stefan Zeeman

Nominated for: Best Picture, Direction (Kathryn Bigelow), Original Screenplay (Mark Boal), Actor in a Leading Role (Jeremy Renner), Cinematography, Editing, Music Score, Sound Mixing, Sound Editing -



## Up in the Air

Ryan Bingham's job is to fire people from theirs. The anguish, hostility, and despair of his "clients" has left him falsely compassionate, living out of a suitcase, and loving every second of it. When his boss hires arrogant young Natalie, she develops a method of video conferencing that will allow termination without ever leaving the office - essentially threatening the existence Ryan so cherishes. Determined to show the naive girl the error of her logic, Ryan takes her on one of his cross country firing expeditions, but as she starts to realize the disheartening realities of her profession, he begins to see the downfalls to his way of life.

Review taken from [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com)

Nominated for: Best Picture, Direction (Quentin Tarrantino), Actor in a Supporting Role (Christolph Waltz), Original Screenplay (Quentin Tarrantino)

## What the Bookies say

### Best Picture:

The Hurt Locker 2 - 1

Avatar 10 - 4

Inglourious Basterds 15 - 1

### Best Director:

Kathryn Bigelow 6 - 5

James Cameron 4 - 1

Quentin Tarrantino 29 - 1

### Best Actor:

Jeff Bridges 6 - 5

George Clooney 13 - 1

Colin Firth 19 - 1

### Best Actress:

Sandra Bullock 5 - 3

Meryl Streep 3 - 1

Carey Mulligan 12 - 1

### Best Supporting Actor:

Christoph Waltz 1.03 - 1.

Woody Harrelson 15 - 1

Christopher Plummer 29 - 1

### Best Supporting Actress

Mo'Nique 1.05 - 1

Anna Kendrick 17 - 1

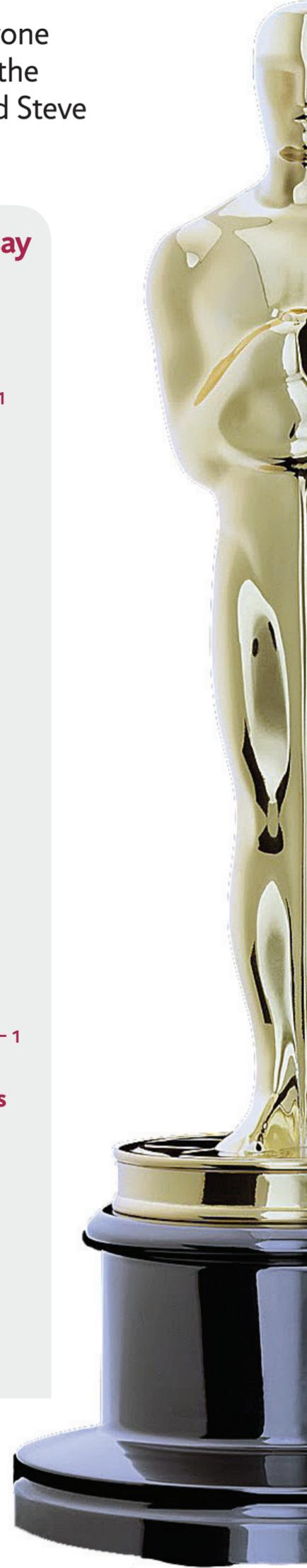
Maggie Gyllenhaal 21 - 1

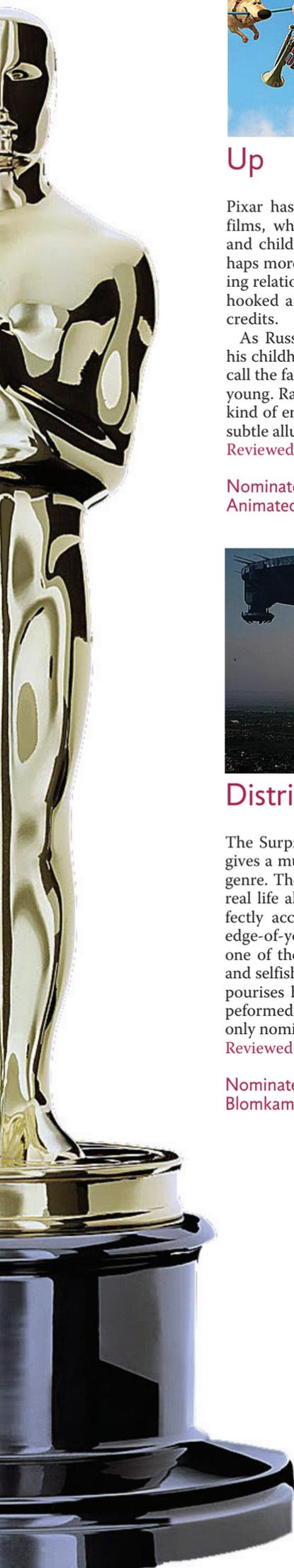
### Best Animated Film

Up 1.05 - 1

Fantastic Mr. Fox 12 - 1

Coraline 26 - 1





**Up**

Pixar has a portfolio of acclaimed and beloved animated films, which many attribute to the fine balance of adult and child appeal in their work. *Up* achieves this feat perhaps more completely than any other Pixar film. The growing relationship between the two leads keeps older viewers hooked and that leaves you with a warm feeling after the credits.

As Russell's enthusiasm for exploration reminds Carl of his childhood ambitions, director Pete Docter makes us recall the fantasies that were our own comforts when we were young. Rarely do films marketed towards children have this kind of emotional depth, and I haven't even mentioned the subtle allusions to Russell's relationship with his father.

Reviewed by Eliot Barford (abridged)

Nominated for: Best Picture, Original Screenplay, Animated Feature, Music Score, Sound Editing



**Precious**

Clareece Precious Jones is an overweight, illiterate sixteen-year old girl living in poverty in Harlem, pregnant for the second time by her father. She lives with her abusive mother and has just been suspended from school. But this is not a film that tries to shove a gratuitously gritty abuse story in your face, it never dares you to confront the harsh realism of it all in that frustratingly arrogant way that some films do. Newcomer Gabourey Sidibe in the starring role gives a powerful and impressively balanced performance, never overdoing it. It is a tremendous presentation of a difficult story that showcases some truly impressive talent.

Reviewed by Jade Hoffman (abridged)

Nominated for: Best Picture, Direction (Lee Daniels), Adapted Screenplay (Geoffery Fletcher), Actress in a Leading Role (Gabourey Sidibe), , Editing, Actress in a supporting role (Mo'Nique)



**District 9**

The Surprise hit of the summer and rightly so. *District 9* gives a much needed shot of adrenaline into the frail sci-fi genre. The story of mistreatment of alien refugees with its real life allusions to Zimbabweans in South Africa is perfectly accompanied by awe-inspiring special effects and edge-of-your-seat action. The film's protagonist Vickus is one of the most subtle anti-heroes ever written, immoral and selfish yet you still find yourself cheering him on as vapourises his ex-colleagues. Unfortunately Sci-fi has never performed well at the Oscars, *2001: A Space Odyssey* was only nominated for a technical award.

Reviewed by Ed Knock

Nominated for: Best Picture,, Adapted Screenplay (Neill Blomkamp), Film Editing, Visual Effects



**The Blind Side**

In this simplified, somewhat shallow rags-to-riches biopic based on the NFL football player Michael Oher's life, a strong-willed, well-off, upper-class woman) adopts a homeless black teen, helping him rebuild his troubled life. With slow but steady academic progress, she also sees his potential in becoming a sports champion.

There are warm, fuzzy moments thanks to the strong, likeable performances from the cast, Bullock shows plenty of strength and sentiment. A sweet, moving tale, but its placement in the list of nominees is questionable especially when so many more deserving films were left out.

Reviewed by John Park

Nominated for: Best Picture, Actress in a leading role (Sandra Bullock)



**An Education**

The film tells one of those coming-of-age tales about living life to the full, lying to the parents and, invariably, about making mistakes. But *An Education*. has a slightly more refined taste than the usual oversweetened popcorn we are served. There's no denying that *An Education* is an extremely well made movie.

Reviewed by Zuzanna Blaszcak (abridged)

Nominated for: Best Picture, Actress in a Leading Role (Carey Mulligan), Adapted Screenplay (Nick Hornby)



**A Serious Man**

*A Serious Man* tells the story of Larry Gopnik, a Jewish physics professor who constantly tries to do the right thing and be a good man despite the fact that his life seems to be falling apart around him. The Coen's sharp script, and their lack of concession in portraying a relentlessly honest life, means this film has a resonance that will leave you thinking for longer than most films will.

Reviewed by Tim Davies (abridged)

Nominated for: Best Picture, Original Screenplay (Coen Brothers)

**Golden Globes Winners**

- Best Drama - Avatar
- Best Comedy - The Hangover
- Best Actor - Jeff Bridges
- Best Actress - Sandra Bullock
- Best Supporting Actor - Christoph Waltz
- Best Supporting Actress - Meryl Streep
- Best Director - James Cameron
- Best Screenplay - Up in the Air
- Best Musical Score - Michael Glacchino (Up)
- Best Foreign Language Film - The White Ribbon (Germany)

**BAFTA Winners**

- Best Film - The Hurt Locker
- Best Actor - Colin Firth
- Best Actress - Carey Mulligan
- Best Supporting Actor - Christoph Waltz
- Best Supporting Actress - Mo'Nique
- Best Director - Kathryn Bigelow
- Best Original Screenplay - Mark Boal (The Hurt Locker)
- Best Adapted Screenplay - Jason Reitman (Up in the Air)
- Best Foreign Language Film - A Prophet (France)
- Best British Film - Fish Tank



# There's something about Jak's Cafe

This restaurant's slogan left Chris Sim pondering its true meaning when he visited this organic Chelsea-based eatery

Having finished an extremely satisfying meal at Jak's, I asked for a restaurant card. Oddly, the first thing that struck me was its slightly plush feel. But aside from my fingers being impressed by the quality of this piece of card, my eyes were drawn to the slogan of the restaurant on its reverse which bore the words 'Home Cooked Organic Food'. I then mulled over the tastes, smells, sights and sounds that I experienced during my pleasurable two hour dining experience, and concluded that Jak's is much, much more than those four simple words printed on a piece of black cardboard. At the time I didn't envy the man who had to describe this eatery on an area smaller than a credit card, and as I write this article, I still don't.

The food at Jak's was all about fresh, high quality ingredients, simply cooked in a caring manner, with no fuss. Added to this were homely, cosy surroundings, with friendly, smiling staff and a touch of South-Ken chicness and a hint of Mediterranean flair. At face value, this eatery doesn't strike you as anything special. But sit down and immerse yourself in its laid-back ambience and it'll soon strike you that you've found a restaurant with that element of 'je ne sais quoi'.

Somehow, dining at Jak's makes you feel in control. Ok, at other restaurants, you are the one ultimately responsible for your choices. Yet that café touch of having the main dishes and salads on



The stuff of legend. High quality, dreamily light cheesecake, oozing with creamy, caramelised and strawberry overtones.

display in their full glory does give an added sense of reassurance. Available are a range of simply cooked fish, meat and vegetarian dishes, and a selection of around ten different salads. I decided to elect two classic dishes; beef lasagne and fish pie. The first was of a highly accomplished standard; whose soft pasta sheets, sandwiching layers of rich bolognese-bechamel sauce, completed with a pleasingly crispy topping, was as good as at any mid-ranged Italian eatery I've been to. The latter didn't quite match the standards set by the former, but its flavour combination of parsley and salmon were matched accordingly with the partnership of vel-

vet-like smoothness of pureed potato and the crunch of fresh pea. Acting as a counterweight to these rich dishes were the salads. Their tabbouleh salad with its uplifting tones of mint and parsley and cleansing hints of lemon juice and their slightly Asian-esque sesame infused spinach salad provided this lighter touch.

Jak's also places you behind the wheel when creating your own custom juices. Upon approaching the juice bar, one will find a bewildering array of organic fruits available for blending. I was feeling slightly lazy at the time so I asked for a recommendation, and within minutes a freshly blended concoction

of orange, apple and carrot arrived in a glass, complete with that delectable freshly whizzed froth.

Another likeable aspect about this restaurant is that it really does save the best until last, provided that you make the right choices. Their banana bread didn't quite live up to expectations, but more inspirational was their lemon tart. No, don't think of it as a tarte au citron, it's streets ahead of that. It is comprised of a light and refreshing filling, whose zestiness was not overpowering, all encased in a crumbly pastry casing. But even this was about to be overshadowed by Jak's strawberry cheesecake, which

deserves all the plaudits it can get. Elegantly composed of a vanilla-infused feather-light cream cheese filling, a beautifully rich biscuit base oozing with caramelised tones and topped off with a thin layer of strawberry-infused syrupy lining, this creation was truly dessert making of the highest calibre. Somehow, despite the flavours possessing a deep richness, this dessert was light on the stomach, meaning that despite sensations indicating that my tummy was approaching maximum capacity, I was obliged to indulge in even more.

Price and portions-wise, Jak's is comparable to some mid-ranged Italian chain restaurants such as Carluccio's or Strada, with mains priced around £9-£10, juices around £3 and dessert around £4. But the unique organic concept of Jak's, its chic yet cosy feel and not to mention its home-like food puts this restaurant miles above such chain eateries. So, to conclude, there really is something about Jak's that makes it well worth an indulgent visit.

Food: 8.0  
Value: 7.0  
Service: 8.5  
Ambience: 9.0

Overall: 8.0/10

## Party like it is 1509 at the Medieval Banquet @ Ivory House

Holly Cumbers took a step back in time and experienced more than just tastes from the Medieval era

If you want a unique night out then I would definitely recommend the Medieval Banquet. The location for this restaurant couldn't be better. Being situated by the Tower of London, it truly fits in with the medieval theme and provides a perfect place for a stroll after the banquet. However I was slightly disappointed by the interior décor- I was expecting candles and sawdust on the floor (I may have high expectations there!). The whole price of the evening is £45 per person but this includes free wine and beer during the meal, a four course banquet and plenty of medieval entertainment. When you first arrive you are instantly haggled for £5 pounds to dress up in medieval costume, but it is definitely worth the money and it just makes the experience more realistic.

Although there is free wine and beer- don't expect anything fancy, you just get your standard John Smith's which tastes like cheap wine (the usual student drink!). In order to get a refill you have to scream 'wench!' at the top of your voice which was actually surprisingly amusing. Throughout

the night Henry VIII demands the audience to raise their glasses and shout 'wassail!' (a medieval term for cheers).

Despite this banquet offering a vegetarian option, I was disappointed by the overall quality of food throughout the meal. For the first course the meat

eaters got a selection of meat (ham, beef and chicken) served with salad. I was told that the meat was quite tough, but apart from that it was fairly tasty. The vegetarian option however wasn't as nice; the vegetarian pâté was dressed with too much salt with other herbs, giving it a weird taste. In fact, I actually struggled to eat it due to its odd flavour.

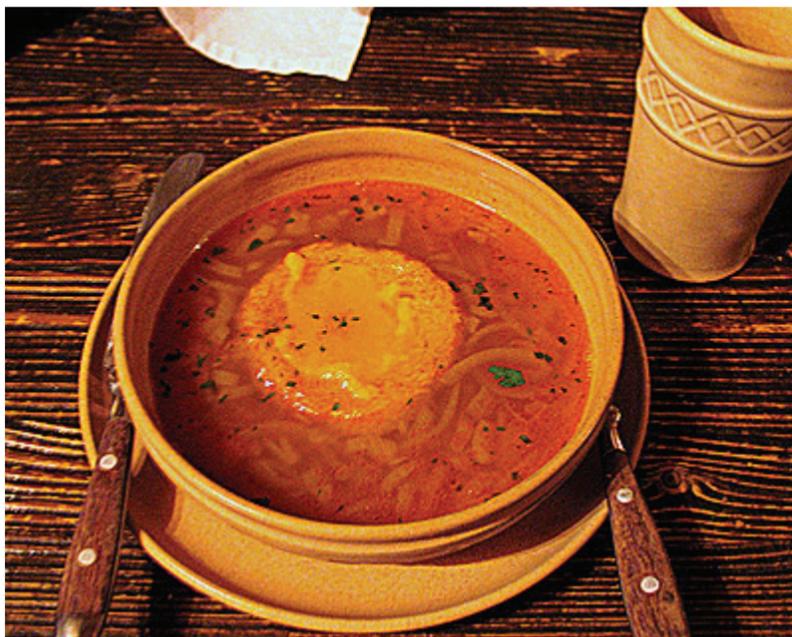
The second course was slightly better. Meat eaters and vegetarians were offered the same vegetable soup (you had to drink this out of the bowl, in true medieval fashion). The soup was served with home-made croutons and warm bread (which I thought was the best thing about this course). However, I thought the soup was a bit bland, it could have really possessed a greater depth of flavour.

The third course was by far the best course. Meat eaters were offered a joint of chicken served alongside vegetables. This was served in a cauldron, which was a novelty. I was told that the chicken was gorgeous and those whom I was with enjoyed it to the point that they requested seconds. Vegetarians were given an on-

ion and goats cheese tart- which was also gorgeous (unfortunately I didn't have the option of seconds!) it was just the right mixture of onions and goats cheese and you weren't overwhelmed with pastry. However the vegetables tasted and looked as if they had come straight from a tin!

The dessert was another let down (however you probably won't mind as the chances of being too full by this time are high). The last course seems much more appetising on their website; a 'rich fruit filled flan' should be translated to a 'slice of cold apple pie'. I thought this was disgusting and again, it was more than a struggle to eat.

I wouldn't go to this restaurant for the food, but for the entertainment- it definitely made up for the meal. You are greeted by Anne Boleyn, Henry VIII and various musicians. All accompany your eating with their beautiful voices. Between courses you are treated to juggling, jousting and dancing. At one point I found myself thinking that this was one of the weirdest dining experiences I have ever had, for I really felt as if I had been transported back in time.





# The French perception of 'Le Lakes'

Jules Morand gets into the countryside with a bunch of lads, a tub of Vaseline and classic philosophy

It was 1:30am on a twinkled red-mooned night when the minibus finally parked, after the most chaotic road trip of its life as a minibus. In this kind of primitive country, roads vanished into fields, then it was planned that we had to walk 800 metres to reach the accommodation. What was not planned was that the car, with the keys of the hut in it, was an hour behind us. Indeed, the strategy was based on the postulate that "cars are always arrive before minibuses". Walking on the path toward the shack, I wondered if English logic was evolved enough to understand that this assumption was now refuted by the experiment itself. I was developing a new "car-minibus" paradigm when we arrived at the hut and Jim's vomiting stopped my thoughts. It was actually a beautiful red-pink vomit (after analysis it turned out that the red was due to the ketchup of his burger).

Jim was very ill and half of us stayed with him wrapped up in his sleeping and survival bags outside the hut, while the others went back to the minibus to look after the remaining kits and get warm (cowards!). After a long astronomical contemplation punctuated by Jim-is-still-alive checks, the others finally arrived. We more or less jumped straight into our beds. The night was quiet apart from some unfortunate noises from Jim.

Saturday 7am; a wonderful unexpected English blue sky said "good morning" to us through the window from beyond a peaceful stream edged with naked trees. Maybe it was the banana, maybe I'm getting used to this revolting concoction, but I found Alex's porridge not too bad.

Once this had cemented in our stomachs, we ventured outside towards our challenges, cruelly and remorselessly leaving the carrion of Jim as prey for jackals in the hut. After one hour walking, I saw Alex lengthily embrace Thea. After being ill the previous few days, she decided to go back and kick the jackals if they dared approach Jim. After going up a bit more I turned around to catch my breath and saw the tiny Thea far away. Going back on the path, with my face in the shade, "I thought such is the hard rule of the Lake District, only the strongest can attain the top".



Past cairn after cairn, under the rising sun, we slowly reached the ridge. Walking now in the sparkling snow, the view became more and more breath-taking; it was an infinite greying of mountains with lakes shining in the distance. We had our first lunch at the Old Man of Coniston (803 m.). Then on an undulating path, lots of "amazings", "awesomes" and "Oh my Gods!" were exclaimed and lots of pictures were taken to update facebook profiles and desktop backgrounds (even in the mountain, we are still geeks). After the second lunch, we found a nice slope to practice the now traditional Fellwanderers sport that is tobogganing with survival bags. Different techniques were adopted: prone, supine, head first, inside the bag head first, bob-sleigh style, two inside the bag, but most of the time we ended by spinning and being snow-covered. The third lunch was taken at Wetherlan peak (762 m.).

On the way down to the town of Coniston, I went into a cave and slew a dragon, but nobody saw me. Then the group split: Joe, Flavien and Rafal returned straight to the hut to come to the aid of Jim and Thea, because they learned by text message that they were

now under vulture attack. The less brave others, including me, went to a pub in Coniston.

As my lips hurt and I had forgotten my Labello stick, I looked for something similar in the shop and the only thing that I found was a little pot of Vaseline. When I read on it "lip therapy", a flash of lightning went through my mind and life had a new meaning. Indeed, in France we only use Labello stick for the lips, and for the bulk of French people, Vaseline is only used as a sex-lubricant. So now I understand why this girl in the library was working with a Vaseline pot beside her pencil case. Proud of my new state of knowledge, I bought the pot without shame. After tea, coffee, chips or beer, it was time to go home. Nothing happened in the last hiking hour apart from these bloody anglophones mocking me because I put a "s" at the end of the plural of sheep.

Back at the accommodation, Jim was still not in fine shape but since Thea, Flavien, Joe and Rafal had killed all the jackals and vultures, they had started making dinner. The hut was worth the 800m hike, it was fitted for the kings that we actually are: there was a big kitchen stocked with dishes, the bed-

room upstairs was an aerial shambles of woody bunk beds where Mariko was in her natural environment, a business-class drying room and a vast common room with a huge stove, a banquet table and armchairs for everyone! An incongruous erotic journal was found by Nathaniel; the hot girls in it were perfect to light the fire. This bad joke done, we had an excellent sweet and sour dinner as a celebration of Chinese new year and several kinds of cake for

**'We are like two-dimensional men walking through a sheet of paper.'**

dessert. Then the evening was a calm sea of conversations and book reading, sometime disrupted by an apparently better Thea, reading aloud some epic quotations from the log book. Lastly, more and more people fell asleep on the armchairs with the increasing temperature from the coal stove...

Sunday 7 am: bananas are definitely

the solution to making porridge edible. It was snowing and yesterday's landscape had turned white. Jim and Thea were definitely better. But a nice surprise was waiting for us when we arrived at the minibus: the back-left tyre was flat. No shit, with the stochastic path of the day before! As a long funeral procession, we followed Joe driving the minibus back to a proper road where Nathaniel changed the tyre in double-quickish time with his great skill as a Fellwanderers ex-president. It was instructive because I learned that the English actually need the theme music of Indiana Jones to change a tyre. Afterwards, we drove a few miles (what a stupid unit) by car or minibus to start a new hike. This time it was Rafal who wasn't well enough to hike and who stayed in the minibus. Thankfully, today was too cold for vultures and jackals, but wolves and polar bears could take over.

So we started a long, long, long ascent in the white. After checking for a 3rd time that Simon was all-right and his family as well, I told him: "We are like two-dimensional men walking through a sheet of paper". He answered, "Yes, or it is like inside a ping-pong ball!" We now had snow almost up to our knees.

Finally after this 500m trek uphill, we had a quick cold first lunch in the Peak of Blisco (705m). During the descent, Thea, from the deep maze of her mind, asserted "Actually, down is the opposite of up!" Alex and Patrick couldn't catch this very profound thought, and superficial spirits that they are, immediately made fun of her.

The rest of the hike was enlivened by Simon juggling snowballs, the brave two Jim and Joe trying to ride their survival bags over The Slope of Death, Alex and Patrick playing baseball with icicles, the snowballs at the Battle of Oxendale Beck River Bridge where much blood flowed, and an unavoidable sheep hunt.

Nathaniel, Joe and Jim went to pick up the car, the minibus, and Rafal who had survived the bears, wolves and the cold. We waited lazily in a pub around a massive wooden table, laughing about this epic weekend. Because yes, it was actually done. When the minibus arrived we went back, without major incident, to London: such was our fate.

## Imperial's ISoc prepare for Islamic Awareness Week 2010

Do you confuse your hi-jaabs and halals? Might you mistake salat for a healthy green side dish? Bill, a film enthusiast definitely did. He had learned a lot about Muslims from blockbuster hits.

"Before uni I got all my knowledge about Islam from movies and I also gained insight from reliable news networks like Fox", recalled Bill. "However, my mind was blown when I went to

Islamic Awareness Week 2009. Now I realise that Muslims in real life are different to how they seem on the silver screen- more like Fasting but not Furious LOL!"

Thankfully, most Imperial students do not think within the narrow confines that Bill did, nor do they share his questionable sense of humour. In fact, it is the student body's open mindedness and capacity for intelligent thought that makes it possible for us

to run Islamic Awareness Week (IAW) once again for 2010.

**'Outside of a University campus, it's rare to find so many pensive Muslims'**

Outside of a university campus it's rare to find so many pensive Muslims

from a range of different backgrounds in one place, so it's really worth coming down to the SAF during lunch to check out the exhibitions they have prepared to get a small idea of the diversity we have here on campus. This year's IAW promises to be a rich experience, taking you on a spiritual and cultural journey through centuries of Islam in just one week.

IC ISoc will also provide approachable Muslims on foot with a broad

knowledge of Islam, spanning well beyond that of Sheikh Google and Imam Wikipedia.

They will be available for stimulating chats, and to answer any of your burning questions from beliefs to beard maintenance.

So come along next week to exhibitions (12-4pm in SAF), talks, Q&A sessions, gameshows and a PANTO to broaden your horizons, and also for banterous laughs.



# Your Digital Footprint

**Simon Worthington** shows us that you're still unique on the net

It's a common misconception that when you're on the Internet, you're anonymous. Surfing along happily not giving away any personal data, it's hard to imagine how you could be recognisable amongst the vast sea of people browsing online. In fact, your computer gives away a wealth of information about you to every single website you visit. For web developers, this data can be invaluable in making interesting, dynamic websites, but it can also be used to build up a picture of who you are and where you come from.

The first major source of this information is your browser. The actual data available varies from browser to browser, but most of them transmit your operating system, the resolution of your screen and what fonts and plug-ins you have installed. This might not seem like much, but in fact it's enough to differentiate a single person from more than half a million others. Panopticlick (<http://panopticklick.eff.org/>), an experiment started by the Electronic Frontier Foundation, aims to see just how much information you give away as you surf. Information about your browser is collected and compared to others they've already seen, and how traceable you are online is calculated. To the shock of many, it is often the case that a user is completely unique amongst the 640,000 or so entries, being identifiable from browser information alone.

All this would not be so bad, were it not for the fact that websites can also tell where you live. An IP address is a unique number assigned to you when you connect to the Internet through your ISP. Web servers use your IP address to route 'packets' or data from a website to you, but websites can also detect and use your IP address to find out information about you. Using a look-up service, your IP address can tell a website your approximate location, accurate to the town or village you live in. In special cases like univer-



sities, this can be even more accurate. For instance, anyone using a college connection broadcasts that they are connected at Imperial College London. Location information can also be gained using a relatively new technology called the 'Geolocation API'. Websites can request location data from the browser, which provides the exact position of the user right down to the actual street address they currently inhabit. Although this information is only meant to be sent if the user gives their consent, with more and more location-aware browsing, one day it may be sent automatically.

Even though a lot of information is provided to websites, up until now it has been impossible to actually differentiate between individual users of one computer who browse a site. After all, the computer looks and runs the same no matter who is using it. The solution to this came from a company called Scout Analytics, who have used 'typing cadence' to tell the difference between individuals online. When you type, you have a characteristic rhythm and pace, characterised by the time taken to move between keys and how long you hold a key down for. Scout Analytics have developed a method to collect these timings and have reported the

ability to detect individual users just by the way they type in their username and password. The algorithm has already been successfully used in a trial to stop multiple users accessing expensive online services for which only a single license has been purchased.

For those of us who are now considering hanging up their keyboards for good, there are a few things that can increase your level of anonymity online. The Panopticlick experiment has shown that fonts and plug-ins are one of the biggest differentiators between browsers, so not installing custom fonts or plug-ins will help you be less unique. Another more drastic option is to disable JavaScript in your browser, which is how websites get most of their information about you. Although it is an easy way to reveal less about yourself, most modern websites use JavaScript in abundance and so you may find many things stop working properly when you make the change. Your final chance is to browse through a proxy, an online server that routes your entire Internet traffic through itself to hide your actual IP address from websites, or make use of a privacy network called TOR, of which more information on which can be found at [www.proxy.org](http://www.proxy.org) or [www.torproject.org](http://www.torproject.org) respectively.



## BBC Radio Bye-Bye

**Samuel Gibbs** Technology Editor

This week we've got a veritable feast of articles for you. From money-saving tips from Ken Lo, to legal absurdity from Italy by Feroz Salam and why you're not anonymous whilst surfing by Simon Worthington. Of course, we've also got the Weekly Wrap-up with some gorgeous cars, a Lord and an Apple.

But this week saw something I fundamentally disagree with: cutbacks at the BBC in preparation for a Tory government.

OK, cutbacks because of budget deficits are one thing, unavoidable in times of poor profits and economic instability. But that's just the thing, we're talking about the BBC. It isn't a company hellbent on making profits, or one that needs a steady consumer income to support itself. It has the TV licence fee to avoid that very problem, to provide content that would otherwise be unfeasible if it had to make a profit. So why is it that the BBC is making cuts to its online presence and two of its digital radio stations, 6 Music and Asian Network?

It all revolves around the highly likely outcome of the General Election going in a Conservative direction. It's not a secret that the Conservatives would like to restructure and change the way the BBC operates. Given their position, the BBC is making pre-emptive changes before it's pushed. 25% of the funding to the BBC website, one of the most visited sites in Britain and arguably one of the best sources of good quality online journalism, is being cut meaning that whole sections are going to be lost. BBC 6 Music and Asian Network are also to be cut, with the BBC diverting the extra £600 million into its existing programming.

The BBC has put forward two separate arguments for these cuts. The first being that they need to focus on quality rather than trying to cover everything. Now, I agree, quality is paramount. But if the BBC aren't going to try and cover a good variety of things, especially the less popular but equally-deserving sections of the news, then who is? The point of a public broadcaster is that it can cover things that aren't economically-viable.

The BBC website is a prime example of a non-commercially viable resource that provide a fantastic public service. This argument also rolls into the cuts made to digital radio. Whilst 6 Music and Asian Network don't have enormous followings (about 600k and 350k respectively), they are listened to and are valued. If it were a commercial radio station those listener numbers would be a failure of course, but that's the point, it's not. Stations like 6 Music and Asian Network provide a service to society and are one of the only advantages DAB radio has to attract consumers into jumping on the digital radio band wagon. Why should the public suffer just because commercial alternatives aren't doing well in the economic downturn? Surely now is not the time for cuts but the time to bolster those public broadcast services that the commercial sector just can't provide?

Of course the cuts hit the news this week, from the mainstream media to the technology press, causing a public outcry of support for 6 Music. Although 6 Music and Asian Network are set to close by the end of 2011, the BBC has admitted that they might rethink the closures given enough support. Time for more Facebook/Twitter grassroots campaigns, perhaps?

## Weekly Wrap-up: A quick guide to the best of the rest you might have missed

**Samuel Gibbs** Technology Editor

March already? Blimey, this year's going quick. Speaking of quick, this week had not one, not two, but three eco-sports cars featuring in the news. First up, we had Tesla announcing a partnership to make a special edition TAG Heuer Roadster, making yet another entry into the 'cars you wish you had the money for' list.



Porsche made its first entry into the hybrid performance car space this week with its 918 Spyder hybrid concept. It's not often you associate the terms 'mpg' and 'gorgeous', but, as you can see for yourself, this 3.4L V8 combined electric 500bhp, 78mpg beauty has it all. If you want to see more of what could be Porsche's greatest piece of design, the 0-62 in 3.2 second beast can be glimpsed at the Geneva Motor Show this year.

The third eco-sports car to hit the news this week was from the once-British Lotus. The 414E Hybrid concept bolts a 1.2L three-cylinder engine with two independent electric motors for the rear wheels giving the plug-in mean-machine a 300-mile combined range. The combustion engine can run on alcohol-based fuels or regular petrol, whilst an external audio system makes sure everyone can hear you coming and not silently creeping up on them with battery alone.

Last but not the least on the 'hybrid' front, this week we had an entry from Sanyo. Differing from the Porsche and Lotus by one important factor, that being the 'traditional' engine part

of the equation is you; the SL Enloop hybrid bike charges as you pedal along the flat, free-wheeling downhill and when you brake to power an electric motor to haul your ass up that massive hill. Yours for the commute for \$1800. Think I'll stick to the Tube, thanks.

We're meant to be in 'election fever' right now according to the media. Can't say I'm feeling it, but if you just can't get enough of the Conservative Party, as the saying goes, there's an App for that. Yes that's right, David has his own iPhone App. Follow the Conserva-



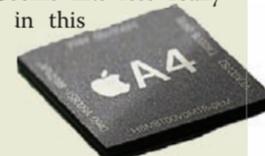
tive polices, up-to-the-minute news and canvas your mates into voting Tory with the 'Call a Friend' feature. Nice.

In other smartphone news, Blackberry users can finally get the sweet, sweet nectar that is the BBC iPlayer on their pocket pal of choice. Bold 2 and Storm 2 wielders can download the app and stream over WiFi on any network or 3G on Vodafone and 3.

Sir Clive Sinclair, the inventor of the 'pocket' calculator, the Sinclair ZX80 which essentially created home computing and the C5, an electric car thing that, well, didn't take off, dropped a bomb this week admitting that he doesn't use a computer. Yes that's right, he

has his emails read to him. OK Sir Clive, if that's the way you want to go.

It couldn't be a week in the tech industry without some story to come out of Apple. If it's not about child labour, it's about Apple's in-house designed ARM chip, the A4. Apparently, contrary to what was first thought, the blazing A4 isn't a dual-core Cortex A9 chip, but a current generation single-core A8 chip similar to the iPhone 3GS's, with several components removed to save power. Seems like less really is more in this case.



# Jail time for Google execs over Italian autistic abuse video



Feroz Salam Technology Reporter

Would you indict a postal worker for delivering hate mail? Or jail an eyewitness to a crime for not having stopped it in the first place? To use the precedent set by a recent court ruling in Italy, you should.

In a shocking case of judicial incompetence, three Google employees who were involved in the identification and removal of a particularly offensive video from Google Video have been sentenced to up to six months in jail for their 'crime'. It's a puzzling story that began innocuously enough in 2006, when a video showing an autistic boy being bullied by his classmates was uploaded to Google Video, the Google equivalent of YouTube until Google bought and merged the two services. The video was quickly removed after user complaints (including one from the Italian Interior Ministry), but has managed to morph slowly into yet another battle between Google and a national government.

The incident only serves as a reminder that few of the legal questions posed over the ownership and monitoring of material on websites like Google Video, Facebook, etc., have actually been answered. On September 8th 2006, the video depicting the bullying was uploaded on Google Video, but was removed within 24 hours; a rapid response considering the volume of content that Google Video has to monitor daily. Google went one step further however, helping the Italian government identify those who recorded and uploaded the video. Ironically, the perpetrators of the attack weren't even sentenced to jail time, getting off with 10 months community service. Then

unexpectedly, in February 2009, four senior Google executives were charged for breaching the Italian privacy code. Bizarrely, they had nothing to do with the issue of the video until well after it was removed. Among those charged were Google's Chief Legal Officer and Chief Financial Officer, people whose job titles suggest that they are in no way involved with actually managing Google Video. As Google's own legal counsel bluntly put it, "To be clear, none of the four Googlers charged had anything to do with this video."

Google was initially hopeful that the judge would dismiss the case, seeing as those charged were being dragged unwillingly into a conflict they never showed any interest in. The ruling came as a surprise, and derives from a technicality in the Italian penal code, namely the difference between an 'internet service provider' and an 'internet content provider'. EU legislation states that 'service providers' aren't required to monitor all content hosted on, or moving through, their servers, but are obliged to remove objectionable content once notified, and aid investigators if desired. According to these laws, Google is very much in the clear. According to the Italian judicial system, however, Google is defined as a 'content provider' and is therefore responsible for monitoring all content before it is posted for public access, leading directly to the rather simplistic ruling against Google. Yet that raises an obvious question; what content is Google actually providing? Google has never marketed itself as a content provider, at most a content host and largely a content index; it doesn't assume ownership of any of the material on its servers.

The precedent that such a ruling sets is truly worrying on consideration of

its broader consequences. To begin with, it implies that content hosts such as Google and Facebook would have to monitor every piece of information uploaded on to their servers, throwing up an entirely new set of privacy questions in the bargain. To do this would also be financially prohibitive, meaning that the free services that we take for granted would either need to start charging, or shut down completely. Even then, with the Google employees being charged with violating the autistic boy's privacy rights, it would mean that the hosts are responsible for tracking down the people in videos and ensuring that they are fine with the video being available for public viewing. This issue would be much worse for website hosting providers and cloud computing services, considering the wealth and diversity of the information hosted by them. It sounds ridiculous, and that's because it is; no company should or would be able to maintain such a system.

Thankfully, the ruling isn't final and Google is appealing the verdict. How far they will get in the Italian judicial system is another question, but it's going to be a while before the issue is finally settled. In the case that the ruling is upheld, however, the implications of the judgement are manifold. It will probably cause Google and many other similar service providers to rethink their presence in Italy, and possibly even in the EU. Off the back of Google's spat with China, it's quite obvious that the biggest issue when it comes to the spread of technology across the globe is the question of the moral policing of the internet and who is responsible for it. With governments looking firmly towards the hosts and the service providers, it's not an issue that's going to be resolved any time soon.

## Keep your phone, save some dosh

Ken Lo takes a look at SIM-only tariffs, saving you a decent chunk of change on your phone bill

OK, listen carefully guys, we're going to try and save you some good money in *felix* this week. For many of us, our mobile phones are a vital part of our lives. However, we often pay well over the odds for them. For instance, did you know the cheapest iPhone 3GS contract comes to £729 (not to mention extra call charges) over the 18 month contract period? Did you know that per megabyte, sending a text message at 10p costs you almost eight times as much as it costs NASA to receive images of outer space from the Hubble Space Telescope?

Many of you will be able to save in the region of £180 per year by switching to a SIM-only tariff. You must have completed the original length of your contract on your phone, but then all it takes is a quick phone call to your network.

### SIM-only tariffs

Traditionally, mobile phone contracts have always bundled a "free" phone together with a monthly allowance of minutes, texts and maybe Internet access. However, a bit of deeper analysis shows that there really is no such thing as a free phone; typically you'll pay a surcharge of about £15 per month on your bill for that "free"

**"...per megabyte, a text costs you 8 times as much as it costs NASA to receive images of outer space from Hubble"**

phone.

So if you've just signed an 18-month £35 per month phone contract: roughly £15 per month of that goes on the surcharge for the free phone, meaning that "free" phone really costs you £270. After the initial 18 months, you've paid off that phone in full, so why should keep paying the £15 per month surcharge for the phone? In a straw poll, I've found that the vast majority of people keep paying the surcharge after the initial length of their contract, in essence throwing £15 per month down the drain, or into the network's coffers, for no reason. Therefore, if you've completed the original term of your contract, you should consider switching to a SIM-only tariff.

On a SIM-only tariff, you only pay for the airtime, or inclusive minutes; you don't pay the phone surcharge because the tariff doesn't come with one. All of the major mobile networks have SIM-only tariffs available, so usually

it's just a case of looking around your network's website, calling them up and asking to switch over. It's worth shopping around the other networks for great deals too.

Most people find they can get the same or better airtime allowance for £15 less per month (giving a total of saving of £180/year).

### Apple iPhone 3G users

If you purchased an iPhone 3G close to launch in around June 2008, your 18-month contract will have just come to an end over the last couple of months. O2 are offering a range of SIM-only iPhone tariffs with rolling one-month and 12-month options.

If you are on the standard iPhone tariffs, you will currently be getting 600 minutes, 500 texts and unlimited web browsing and WiFi for £35 per month. However, by switching to 'Simplicity 25 for iPhone' for example, you will get 600 minutes, unlimited texts and unlimited web browsing for £25 per month; more texts and £10 cheaper! For the heaviest of phone users, there is also an 'Unlimited for iPhone' tariff available with unlimited everything for £50 per month. The best thing about the both SIM-only iPhone tariffs is that you can have a one-month rolling contract, allowing you to upgrade to the new iPhone 4G in June without issue.

iPhone users can also shop around for SIM-only tariffs on other networks too, but be aware that you'll need a decent free Internet allowance and some features such as Visual Voicemail might stop working.

### How to switch tariff or switch network

Finally, a couple of words on switching your phone tariff or network. If you are staying on the same network but want to switch tariff, you can call the customer services of your mobile network and ask to be switched over to your new tariff. Your phone number won't change, you won't need a new SIM card; all that changes is your phone bill.

If you want to change network then there are a few extra steps. Firstly, you'll need to have an unlocked mobile phone. The best way of checking this is to insert a SIM card from a different network and seeing whether your phone will accept it. Secondly, you'll need to ask your current network for a PAC, a port authorisation code. This allows you to take your phone number to your new network. By law, they'll have to provide you the code within two days of your request. Provide this PAC to your new network and your number should be transferred within two working days.

Hopefully this will be helpful! With mobile prices climbing, the cost of living already high and the odd beer here and there making a dent in your bank account, every little bit saved helps.

# comed*i*slam

Campusalam Comedy Tour

Students from the University of London match wits with comedians **Imran Yusuf** and **Prince Abdi** in an original comedy campus quiz. **Jeff Mirza** hosts. **You** pick the winner.

**Tuesday 16th March 2010**

## FREE FOOD

Tickets on sale in SAF throughout the week

**All proceeds to DEC Haiti Appeal**

### Tickets

£3 advance £5 at door

All ticket sales go to charity

Buy tickets at [www.campusalam.org](http://www.campusalam.org)

Or contact Hassan 0779 165 0705

Fahmina 0798 437 7337

Book early to avoid disappointment

### Venue

Brunei Theatre, Brunei Gallery

School of Oriental and African Studies

16th March 2010, 18.30 – 20.00

Food served at 17.45



campusalam.org



Charity Number  
111250

**ISLAMIC SOCIETY**  
IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON



# THE WEAKEST LINK

INTERFAITH  
EDITION

**WEDNESDAY 10TH MARCH, 1PM**  
**MECHANICAL ENGINEERING 220**

FREE REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE DEC HAITI APPEAL**



Imperial College Interfaith

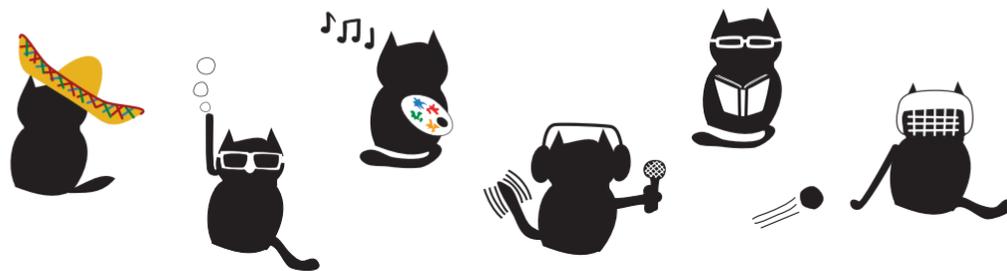


# What's on...

## Clubs & Societies Calendar

Editors – Lily Topham & Rachel D'oliveiro

whatson.felix@imperial.ac.uk



### Mon 8th March

#### Islam Awareness Week – 'Misconceptions Answered'

- 6pm, Clore LT, Huxley
- Free!
- All your questions answered! Q&A with Sheikh Haitham Al Haddad
- More info: [www.theisoc.com](http://www.theisoc.com)

#### Women In SET Photo Exhibition Launch

- 6pm, College Main Entrance
- Free!
- The mayoral representative, Munira Mirza will be attending and giving a speech on the issue of 'Women in Science'.

**ISLAM**  
AWARENESS WEEK

### Thurs 11th March

#### Alt Music Society

- 5-7pm, da Vinci's Bar, Union
- Free for all. Members get their badges made for free!
- Design your own badges – pens and badge templates provided so create band symbols, write witty remarks or even just draw rude body parts!

#### Islam Awareness Week – 'The God Delusion'

- 6pm, Huxley 308
- Free!

#### Musical Theatre Soc present 'Hair'

- Till Sat 13th, 7:30pm, Union Concert Hall
- £5 students, £7.50 non-students
- Tickets avail <http://union.ic.ac.uk/arts/mtsoc/tickets/>

**HELP WANTED**  
Will Train **APPLY WITHIN** Part Time

### Tues 9th March

#### Islam Awareness Week Exhibition

- Today, Thurs 11th and Fri 12th, 11am-4pm, SAF Foyer
- Free!
- More info: [www.theisoc.com](http://www.theisoc.com)

#### Islam Awareness Week – 'The Story of the Prophet'

- 6pm, Clore LT, Huxley
- Free!

#### PPS Seminar Series: African Development

- 6:30pm, LT G20, RSM
- Free entry, first-come-first-served
- Political Philosophy presents a panel discussion and Q&A session analysing the changes in Africa's social, political and corporate scene.

#### IC RAG Fashion show presents: Catswalk at KOKO

- VIP Reception 6pm, Show starts 7pm
- Standing £10, Student seated £15, Non-student seated £18, VIP seated £25, Afterparty only £5
- More info: [www.fashionshow.co.uk](http://www.fashionshow.co.uk)

#### Musical Theatre Soc present 'Hair'!

- Running till Sat 13th, 7:30pm, Union Concert Hall
- £5 students, £7.50 non-students
- This is the dawning of the Age of Aquarius! Follow the hippie tribe on their trip to freedom and happiness in NYC, 1967. It's time to let your hair down, join the tribe and Let the Sunshine In...
- Tickets avail <http://union.ic.ac.uk/arts/mtsoc/tickets/>

### To Do....

- 1) Volunteer to help edit What's On - come on guys....no editor no page....!
- 2) Did I mention volunteer to edit What's On...?
- 3) Send in your events!!  
**whatson.felix@imperial.ac.uk**  
(Club name & event, time, place, price, pics...) **by end of Tues 9th March**

### Weds 10th March

#### Islam Awareness Week – 'The Weakest Link – The Interface Edition!'

- 1pm, Mech Eng 220
- Free!

#### Musical Theatre Soc present 'Hair'

- 7:30pm, Union Concert Hall
- £5 students, £7.50 non-students
- Tickets avail <http://union.ic.ac.uk/arts/mtsoc/tickets/>

### Fri 12th March

#### Islam Awareness Week Performance

- 6pm, LT1 SAF
- The Finale Night featuring: P.A.R.A.N.O.R.M.A.L A.C.T.I.V.I.T.Y., Slumdog Millionaire 2 "Jamal Got Broke"

#### Plug in and Play with Jazz and Rock

- 7pm, dB's, Union, Free!
- Each night sees 8 Bands have 3 songs each to battle it out to perform at the Summer Ball - there can be only one winner!
- For more info: [jazz.rock@ic.ac.uk](mailto:jazz.rock@ic.ac.uk)

#### Musical Theatre Soc present 'Hair'

- Running till Sat 13th, 7:30pm, Union Concert Hall
- £5 students, £7.50 non-students

#### ICSO Spring Concert

- 8pm, Great Hall, Sherfield
- Students £3 (£4 on the door), Non-students £6 (£8 on the door)
- Programme: Huapango (featuring IC Dance Company), Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 2 (Soloist Shuang Wang) and Holst: The Planets



# Hangman

hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk

**“Raargh Drinking Beer Maek us mans”**



**“Raargh Pooiring Beer downs are chest maek us mans”**



**NHS**

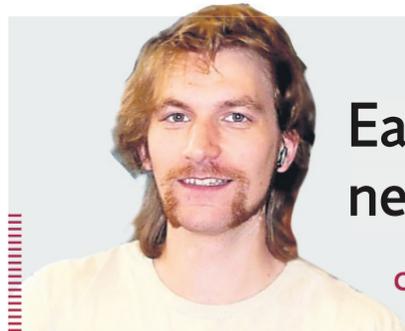
**ALCOHOL  
KNOW YOUR  
LIMITS**

*You wouldn't start your night like this, so why do Civil Engineers end it that way?*

# COFFEE BREAK

Coffee Break Editor Charlie Murdoch

coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk



## Earth day negligibly shorter

Charlie Murdoch Coffee Break Editor

People have been commenting, and I use the word 'commenting' in the loosest possible sense, that this is a poorly written, badly spelt column. And you would not be wrong. It's not that I am yet to master the art of the English language. Oh no. I even got an A at GCSE so that puts me well above the majority of the scummy inbreds of greater London. It's mainly a fact of life- the fact that I have no time and want to be in one of two places. Firstly the lab. I like my lab, I can hit a bit of metal in the lab, often for no real reason. Secondly, and by far my more preferred abode, I want to be in the bar. The Union Bar is always by some distance my first choice.

So, ensuring that this section, which nobody is really interested in anyway, has no errors is very low on my list of priorities. In fact I think it's just fallen off of the bottom. Let me check... yes it has. So if you are still even a little bit worried come down to *felix* and copy edit for me, because I just can't be arsed anymore.

In other news apparently the day has been made 1.38 microseconds shorter

after some shitting big earthquake in some place that is a bit more fucked than it was before (yeah, I can't remember). Scientists, or those who call themselves scientists, with an apparent infinite amount of free time on their hands calculated that the Earth has shifted 8 cm on its axis.

If that is not the most useless piece of information I've heard in a long time, I'm happy to be stoned to death by people using gravel. And not the big chunks either. In the headline: 'Earth day negligibly shorter' there is one word of the four that I would tend to focus on. That'll be the word 'negligibly'. In it's very nature it points towards inconsequentiality and therefore me not giving a shit.

Presumably some people were more interested than I, and presumably these people are not just mental, but a bit lonely. If you are one of these deluded individuals then I wish you the best of luck with all the moral and social struggles that life seems to be placing upon you. Help can be found for you, but just don't ask me.

Having said all that, I have just ranted for two columns about it...

## FUCWIT League Table

### Teams:

Harry Potter Trio	202 Points
The Tough Brets	140 Points
The Cool Kids and Fergal	33 Points

### Individuals:

Matthew Colvin	157 Points
Sheryl	138 Points
Kelvin Wong	93 Points
Louise Parchson	49 Points
GLT	44 Points
Bethan Matthews	33 Points
Absolute Cunt	30 Points
Flavia Tang	25 Points
The Three Kings	25 Points
Dr Science!	24 Points
Jeff Wu	15 Points
Herens Tibaut	14 Points
Cheating Spaniard	12 Points
Sophie Lambrakis	12 Points
Giramondo	10 Points
Mark Mearing-Smith	10 Points
Zoe Dobell	10 Points

The Felix University/ College-Wide Invitational Tournament League is new and improved, with an iPod nano for both the team and the individual with the most points at the end of the year.

5 points for the 1st correct answers for all puzzles on these pages, 4 points for 2nd, 3 points for 3rd, 2 points for 4th and 1 point for 5th.

Now then FUCWITs, answers to [sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk). Go!

New  
**Fuller**  
Individual  
List  
**YES!!!**

Quote of the Week

Richard Armour: "Beauty is only skin deep, and the world is full of thin skinned people."

## Wordoku 1,456

### INTERMEDIATE



### EVIL



### Solution 1455

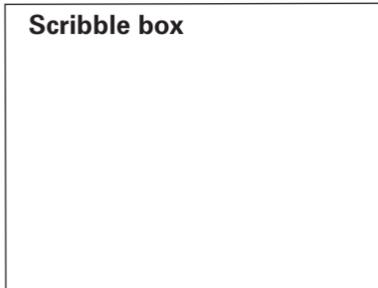


### How to play:

Wordoku is identical to Sudoku; we've just replaced numbers with letters. Complete the puzzle and then send the whole grid to [sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk). You will not get credit for just the word alone. It's not an anagram.

Evil Wordoku is exactly the same... only harder... and there's a letter missing... that MAY be a duplicate - just solve it like normal and insert the letter that you believe makes the word. And worth double.

### Scribble box



Last week's winners were as follows:

Intermediate: **Jeff Wu**

Evil: **Harry Potter Trio**

Well done to all of the entrants. Keep them coming please.

## Wordpath 1,456

### ORIGIN:

**FAST**  
DESTINATION:  
**SLOW**

### How to play:

Make a path from the origin word to the destination word by taking steps between words using one of the three following methods:

**Letter Substitution:** Substitute just **one** letter.

e.g. WORD -> WARD

**Anagram:** Rearrange the letters.

e.g. WARD -> DRAW

**Wordslide:** Replace the current word with a new 4 letter word from any 5+ letter word that contains them both.

e.g. DRAW -> WING (via DRAWING)

No consecutive steps may be made by the same method.  
e.g. WORD -> WARD (by LS) -> WARE (by LS) would be **invalid**.

Points are awarded for the earliest SHORTEST valid path between the two words. Dubious words will be checked against the OED. Send your solutions to [sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk).

### Solution 1455

#### CURD

CURL (LS)

LIES via

*CURLIEST*

TIES (LS)

ACID via

*ACIDITIES*

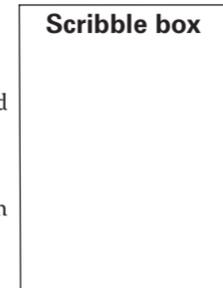
ACED (LS)

**WHEY** via

*WHEY-FACED*

Not many entrants last week. Was that because it was too hard? Anyhoo, the winning answer from **Louise Parchson** can be seen above. More this week please.

### Scribble box



# Nonolink 1,456

3	3	2	2	3	2	1	1	1	2	3	1	1
2	2	2	2	1	2	3	4	1	3			
1	3	2	2	2	3	4	1	3				
2	3	2	1	2	2	2	3	4	1	3		
2	1	2	3	2	1	2	2	2	3	4	1	3
2	3	3	2	3	2	1	2	3	2	1	1	1
1	2	3	3	2	0	2	1	2	1	3		
2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1	1	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1	5	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
7	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
2	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Winners: Nonogram - **Sophie Lambrakis**, Slitherlink - **Sheryl**  
 Please remember that solving and submitting the Slitherlink half of this puzzle only is acceptable: points are awarded separately!

**How to play:**

The numbers at the side represent the size and order of blocks in each column and row. There must be at least one space between each block.

Then insert the numbers from the box in the top left corner into the unshaded cells and proceed as for a normal 'Slitherlink':

All numbered cells must be surrounded by the corresponding number of edges. The solution consists of one continuous line. Any cells without a number can have any number of edges.

See last issue's solution (right) for more help. Send your solutions to us at [sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk)

**Solutions 1455**

# Cryptic Crossword 1,456

Scribble box

**ACROSS**

- 1 Side that American tap lacks, you say? (5)
- 7 Rather wet sense of humour (7)
- 8 Let rind change into creeper (7)
- 9 Have sex in a small house... (7)
- 11 ...to keep warm, here at quake (6)
- 13 Fruit is neat and nicer pickled (9)
- 15 High-flying jester mixes with European Tightrope Team (9)
- 19 To let tan develop requires skill (6)
- 21 Crime at Royal Academy, to be frank (7)
- 23 Sparkle from ring lit terribly well (7)
- 24 Take from real location? (7)
- 25 Street Ray will get lost in (5)

**DOWN**

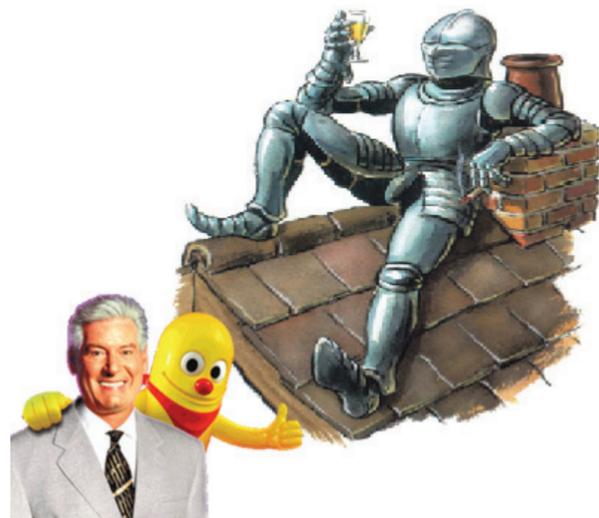
- 1 Go get what chef prepared with turnip starter (5)
- 2 Twice able to dance (6)
- 3 Turn around tailless eels in soup dish (6)
- 4 One Mohs initially thought a lovely chap (4)
- 5 Gambler who loses less money? (6)
- 6 Smelly joke man made (7)
- 10 Not in the now rented socket (6)
- 12 Confused creator, without a priest... (6)
- 14 ... is less impure, now he has been made to pay again (7)
- 16 Rested? Yes, and tad more confused (6)
- 17 Ulna's geometry partner (6)
- 18 Erroneously recant belief in bees' food (6)
- 20 Cloth that crossed bridge? (5)
- 22 Old and silvered (4)

Last weeks winner(ish) was **The Three Kings** (with 2 mistakes), but as there was only one submission we decided to give it to you all the same. We are pretty nice people down here I'll have you know! Please keep them coming in as it really helps us!

Cryptic Crossword by **Stedman**

**Solution 1455**

# Catchphrase! 1,456



CLUE: What people often do at the union

**How to play:**

Pretty simple concept, iteration of a by-gone student favourite. SAY WHAT YOU SEE KIDS! Figure out which british colloquial Catchphrase the picture represents. If it proves popular you may see some more IC-relevant ones :)

Send your answers in and remember: "IF YOU DON'T BUZZ IN, YOU CAN'T WIN!" Classic.

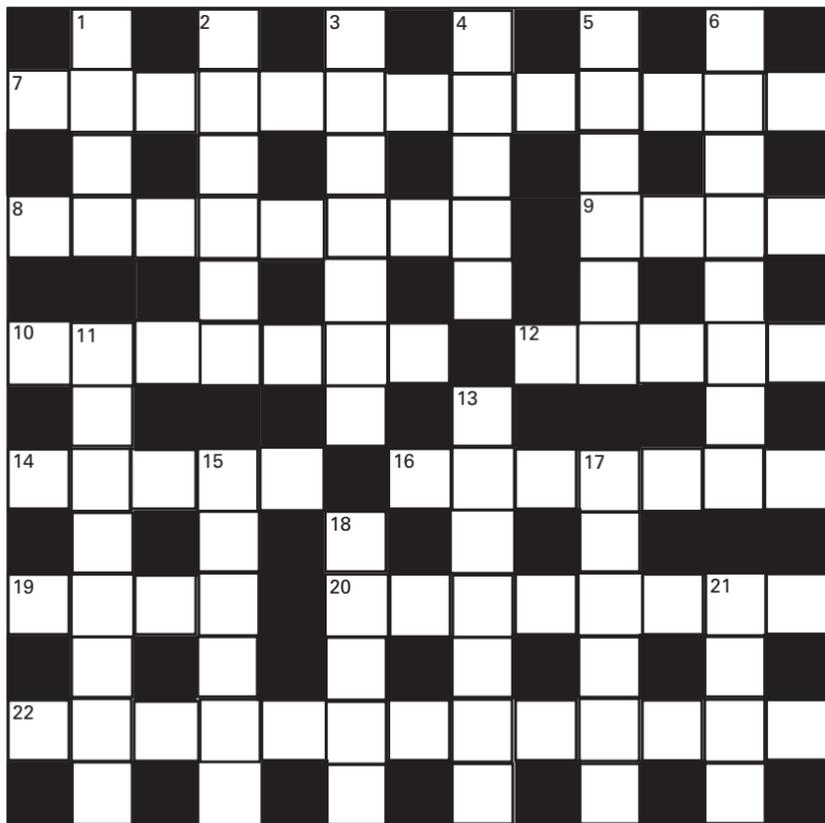
# Best of lol catz



*felix*  
**Lovestruck**

**07726 799  
 424**

# A quickie (crossword) 1,456



## ACROSS

- 7 Paul and Ringo? - Thorny chemist (anag.) (7,6)  
 8 Monarchical murder (8)  
 9 Desserts (4)  
 10 Make less smooth - Knock about (5,2)  
 12 Smell (5)  
 14 Critically alters (5)  
 16 Rarified (7)  
 19 Canine foodstuff (4)  
 20 Wormood spirit; makes you vomit and/or talk bollocks (8)  
 22 Solar futility (anag.) (13)
- 11 Pre 15th century Afro-Eurasia (3,5)  
 13 Zeppelin (7)  
 15 See 2  
 17 Typically disappointing Swiss melted cheese dish (6)  
 18 Pertaining to his holiness (particularly his ringpiece) (5)  
 21 Angelic ringpiece (4)

## DOWN

- 1 Asian clarified butter (4)  
 2/15 Unifying physical theory of the very small (6,6)  
 3 Multi-episode broadcast (often on a Sunday morning, T4, whilst hanging out of one's arse) (7)  
 4 Gallic headgear (5)  
 5 Shit-for-brains (6)  
 6 Salami, pastrami, prosciutto, chorizo, mortadella, bresaola, capicola .... (4,4)

## Solution 1455



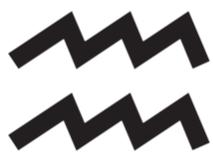
Well done to the winner of this fine puzzle last week- **Matthew Colvin**. From next week I shall give this puzzle double points too! How amazing is that? I know, not very.

Crossword by **Peter Logg**

## Scribble box

# I READ YOUR FUTURE FOR VERY GOOD PRICE\*

\*Basic reading costs minimum £100 plus the additional cost of £10 which will be charged for every paragraph



## Aquarius

Wow, this lab report is so boring, isn't it? The computer is whirring uncomfortably, as though it's in pain.

No, wait! Look to the side. The sounds of pain, they weren't from your computer, they were from that strange couple who always have sex in Physics. They decided to experiment with bondage next to you. Good lord.



## Pisces

You're alone in your room, it's late. You're bored and horny - you haven't got any action in weeks. You decide

to have a sneaky wank on chat roulette. People keep skipping past you as you get busy until suddenly you realise a girl has stopped. You look at her closer and realise it is your sister just as you climax. Sick.



## Aries

There was a man from Ghent, who had a penis so long it bent. It was so much trouble that he kept it double and instead of coming

he went. That limerick was not written about you, that's for sure. When your girlfriend needed to use a microscope so she could find it. Really it's more like the action-man smooth patch where it should be. Honestly, have an operation or something.



## Taurus

You go into your bank to increase your overdraft. The problem is it's nearly closing time. You manage to slide in just as

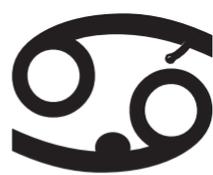
the doors are closing. Dammit - the clerks are leaving as well!! And they lock the door behind them. Suddenly a huge spider/human hybrid leaps out from behind a cash machine. It rapes you before drinking your sweet, sweet blood.



## Gemini

You discover "the environment" over the week end. You decide that you must now dedicate

your life to its protection. You go to clean birds that were covered in oil when a tanker crashed. You stupidly convince yourself that you're making a difference. Well you are not you deluded treetard.



## Cancer

[Ed. - There was some repetitive joke about having cancer, but that's just well out of order. Whoever wrote these this week

must have some sort disorder. A disorder that makes you have to wear shoes specially tailored for farm animals. You the kind, the ones with trotters. This isn't a personal jibe at all. No siree. The Horoscopes just has a no-animal policy.]



## Leo

No one gives a damn about your stupid, little life. You are a huge twat! You walk around thinking you're so clever, correcting

lecture notes from weeks ago. One day you're going to get stabbed because no one likes you. But in the meantime, I hope that you get hit by a bus and grossly disfigured. Though you do already look pretty disfigured.



## Virgo

Poor dear Mike Hunt got dealt the ace of spades. You Barclays banker, you gave it to your hairy bum when she was

on her George Michael. You go to the bath and look for a bendy but everyone knows about your spades. Yeah, you're a failure. Get over it. Even your mum doesn't care. Because she's dead now. Nice.



## Libra

U R A FATTY. This is a text you received the other night. How pleasant. You hadn't realised that you were indeed

a fatty until you looked on the scalees and they broke. Thanks oh so much for drawing that to everyone's attention, you know-it-all bitch.

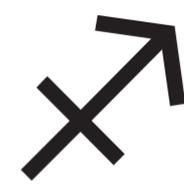
Turns out your own mum sent that text.



## Scorpio

"I see great events in store for your future young one, great things. This week it is likely that you will inherit a great fortune from

a relative." "So a relative of mine is going to die then?" "Yes, and you will inherit wealth beyond your wildest dreams - it will lead you to your love as well." "I don't think I can inherit any money. I'm an orphan who was adopted from the street."



## Sagittarius

You see a dinosaur wandering the streets of London. Maybe befriending it would be a good idea. You take it home and it

proceeds to beg for money from you. Bam! You're now living on the streets, the dinosaur keeps you on a leash. You're its bitch. You have to sell your body in order to keep it from eating you. But it's ok because you have a nice purse.



## Capricorn

This week you rekindle your love for your favourite children's card game. You challenge your best friend but he

beats you by summoning a load of monsters in one turn, even though this breaks the rules. Oh my god, there's a crocodile on your bed in a K-hole, shite man. This is well weird. The only solution is... Pint?

# IC discDoctors narrowly miss out on first division spot

**Pierre McCarthy** Ultimate Frisbee

On Valentine's day weekend, Imperial College's Ultimate Frisbee team, the discDoctors, went to Chichester for Outdoor Regionals, bringing two teams. dD1 were hoping of a top-3 finish which would enable us to qualify for Division 1 Nationals. We were feeling confident after some great performances the previous weekend, where we beat high quality opposition in a warm-up tournament.

The first game of the day was against Chichester, a game we expected to win.

After a bit of a slow start, we eventually got our heads in the game and capitalised on their mistakes, going on to win 11-3.

Our second game was against the team who broke our hearts during the indoor season, the Surrey Scorpions. They put on a very effective zone defence which forced us into making silly mistakes and shut down our offence. After bringing the score back to 5-5 after a mammoth point, Surrey scored twice in quick succession to win 7-5. This put us in a difficult position, needing to win our next five matches to secure a maximum of 3rd place and

a place in Division 1 Nationals.

After our disappointment of losing to Surrey, we came out hard and completely shut down one of the stronger second teams, Sussex 2, beating them 13-2. There was still plenty of scope for improvement, but we were confident going into Sunday that we would be able to rediscover our form from the previous weeks.

Sunday started well, with dD1 winning against Kent 13-4. Straight off that win, we beat UCL 11-8 in what was a much tighter game. They managed to get some speculative long throws out to their star player which put us under

pressure, but we managed to neutralise that threat and pulled away with the win.

That win set up a rematch against Surrey. This time dD1 were on form; our offence was clinical and our defence pressurised them into making mistakes, enabling us to win 15-5, and setting up a decider against Sussex 1 for Division 1 qualification.

It was a very close game and Sussex managed to pull away to 8-5 up after some great long throws. Nevertheless, dD1 kept their heads to bring the score back to 9-9, setting up a sudden death point, which Sussex scored despite the

best efforts of the seven dD players on the pitch.

Despite being bitterly disappointed to not achieving the fairytale finish of qualifying for Division 1 Nationals, we played our best Ultimate in our last game, so we take heart from that. dD2 were hoping to put in a good performance against some more experienced opposition, and won their first game against Surrey 2 before being unlucky not to beat some of the first teams on offer.

All in all, it was a successful weekend for Imperial College Ultimate with everyone putting in good performances.



## FIXTURES & RESULTS



in association with Sports Partnership

### Thursday 25th February

#### Squash (ULU)

Men's 4s 5-0 St George's Medical School 2s

### Saturday 27th February

#### Badminton (ULU)

Mixed 1s 9-0 St Barts Mixed 1s

#### Basketball (ULU)

Challenge Cup  
Men's 1s 59-83 LSE 1s

#### Football (ULU)

Men's 4s 2-1 RUMS 2s

### Sunday 28th February

#### Hockey (ULU)

Women's 1s 1-0 King's College Medicals 1s  
Challenge Cup  
Women's 2s 0-9 Royal Veterinary College 2s

#### Water Polo

BUCS Trophy  
Women's 1st 2-4 UCL 1st  
Women's 1st 5-5 University of Bristol 1st  
Women's 1st 6-2 University of Exeter 1st

### Monday 1st March

#### Basketball (ULU)

Women's 1s vs UCL 2s

#### Netball (ULU)

Women's 2s 44-9 Royal Veterinary College 2s  
Women's 4s 11-13 St Barts 4s

#### Squash (ULU)

Men's 1s 5-0 King's College 1s

#### Water Polo (ULU)

Mixed 1s 13-6 UCL Mixed 2s

### Wednesday 3rd March

#### Badminton

Men's 2nds vs University of Hertfordshire 2nd  
BUCS Cup  
Men's 1st vs University of Southampton 1st

#### Basketball

ULU  
Men's 2s 76-100 London South Bank University 1s

#### Fencing

Men's 2nd vs University of Surrey 1st  
Men's 3rd 126-132 Queen Mary 1st

#### Football

Men's 1st 1-2 University of Surrey 1st  
Men's 2nd 4-1 University of Greenwich 3rd  
Men's 3rd 3-1 University of the Arts London 3rd

#### ULU

Men's 4s 3-0 King's College 4s  
Men's 5s 1-4 UCL 5s  
Men's 6s 0-0 School of Oriental & African Studies 2s  
Men's 7s 1-1 St George's Medical School 3s

#### Golf

Mixed 1st 2-4 University of Portsmouth Mixed 2nd

#### Hockey

Women's 1st 4-1 University of Reading 1st  
Women's 2nd 2-2 Imperial Medicals 2nd

#### Netball

Women's 1st 41-37 LSE 1st

#### Rugby

Men's 4th 12-5 University of East London 1st  
BUCS Cup  
Men's 1st 19-34 UWIC 2nd

#### Tennis

Men's 2nd 3-7 UCL 3rd

### Saturday 6th March

#### Badminton

Mixed 1s vs Queen Mary 1s

#### Football (ULU)

Men's 7s vs Imperial Medicals 3s  
Men's 5s vs London School of Economics 4s  
Men's 3s vs University College London 4s  
Men's 1s vs University College London Men's 1s  
Men's 4s vs Queen Mary 3s  
Men's 2s vs University College London 3s

#### Lacrosse (ULU)

Mixed 1s vs University College London 1s

#### Rugby (ULU)

Men's 2s vs Royal Holloway 2s  
Men's 1s vs King's College 1s

#### Netball (ULU)

Women's 2s vs Queen Mary 2s  
Women's 1s vs London School of Economics 1s

#### Squash (ULU)

Women's 1s vs King's College 1s  
Men's 1s vs Royal Holloway 1s  
Men's 3s vs University College London 3s

#### Volleyball (ULU)

Mixed 1s vs London School of Economics 1s

#### Water Polo (ULU)

1st team vs University College London 1st

### Wednesday 10th March

#### Football

Men's 3rd vs University of East London 1st  
Men's 1st vs University of Chichester 2nd  
ULU  
Men's 5s vs King's College 3s  
Football Men's 7s vs Royal Free 4s

#### Golf

1st team vs Kingston University 2nd

#### Hockey

Women's 1st vs University of Chichester 2nd  
Men's 3rd vs Brunel University West London 3rd  
ULU

Women's 1s vs St Barts 1s

Men's 2s vs University College London 2s  
Women's 2s vs Royal Free 2s  
Men's 1s vs King's College 1s  
Men's 3rd vs Brunel University West London 3rd  
Men's 4s vs King's College 2s

#### Netball

Women's 1st vs University of Hertfordshire 2nd  
Women's 2nd vs Brunel University 5th

#### Rugby

Men's 3rd vs Kingston University 2nd  
Men's 2nd vs University of Hertfordshire 1st

#### Tennis

Men's 2nd vs School of Oriental and African Studies 1st

### Friday 12th March

#### Fencing

Men's 1st vs Edinburgh University 1st  
Women's 1st vs Oxford University 1st

## felixSports League

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	felixSport Index
1 Volleyball Men's 1st	10	10	0	0	20	1	19	5.00
2 Fencing Women's 1st	10	10	0	0	1338	863	475	5.00
3 Fencing Men's 2nd	9	9	0	0	1188	820	368	5.00
4 Water Polo Men's 1st	5	4	1	0	53	16	37	4.4
5 ICSM Rugby Men's 1st	13	11	1	1	466	154	312	4.08
6 Volleyball Women's 1st	9	8	0	1	17	4	13	4.00
7 Lacrosse Women's 1st	8	7	0	1	145	21	124	3.88
8 Squash Men's 3rd	7	6	0	1	15	6	9	3.71
9 Netball Women's 2nd	9	7	1	1	308	184	124	3.67
10 ICSM Badminton Men's 1st	8	6	1	1	50	14	36	3.50
11 Rugby Men's 1st	15	11	2	2	489	122	367	3.40
12 Table Tennis Men's 1st	11	9	0	2	130	57	73	3.36
13 ICSM Netball Women's 2nd	9	6	2	1	360	269	91	3.33
14 Squash Men's 4th	10	8	0	2	12	9	3	3.20
15 Basketball Women's 1st	5	4	0	1	259	211	48	3.2
16 Squash Women's 1st	11	6	4	1	30	14	16	3.09
17 Hockey Women's 1st	12	8	1	3	55	15	40	2.50
18 Badminton Men's 1st	12	8	1	3	57	39	18	2.50
19 Lacrosse Men's 1st	8	5	1	2	73	54	19	2.38
20 Fencing Men's 1st	10	7	0	3	1247	1022	225	2.30
21 ICSM Hockey Men's 1st	11	7	1	3	39	23	16	2.27
22 Squash Men's 1st	9	6	0	3	27	18	9	2.00
23 Hockey Men's 2nd	8	3	3	2	17	16	1	1.63
24 Water Polo Women's 1st	6	3	1	2	35	16	19	1.5
25 Hockey Men's 3rd	6	1	4	1	6	7	-1	1.5
26 Badminton Men's 2nd	11	6	1	4	53	35	18	1.45
27 Tennis Men's 1st	12	5	3	4	70	49	21	1.25
28 Netball Women's 1st	12	7	0	5	491	430	61	1.25
29 Football Men's 3rd	8	4	1	3	11	19	-8	1.25
30 Tennis Men's 2nd	9	5	0	4	46	44	2	1.00
31 ICSM Netball Women's 1st	9	5	0	4	332	280	52	1.00
32 Football Men's 1st	12	6	1	5	33	28	5	1.00
33 Hockey Women's 2nd	9	4	1	4	20	26	-6	0.67
34 Fencing Women's 2nd	10	5	0	5	1052	1235	-183	0.50
35 Basketball Men's 1st	8	4	0	4	500	509	-9	0.50
36 Badminton Women's 1st	10	3	3	4	43	37	6	0.50
37 ICSM Hockey Women's 2nd	9	3	2	4	10	28	-18	0.33
38 ICSM Hockey Men's 3rd	8	3	1	4	15	29	-14	0.13
39 Squash Men's 2nd	9	4	0	5	18	27	-9	0.00
40 Football Men's 2nd	13	5	0	8	24	31	-7	-0.54
41 ICSM Football Men's 1st	7	2	1	4	9	14	-5	-0.57
42 ICSM Hockey Women's 1st	20	6	2	12	43	66	-23	-0.70
43 Fencing Men's 3rd	11	4	0	7	1180	1295	-115	-0.73
44 Rugby Union Men's 2nd	12	4	0	8	222	167	55	-1.00
45 Netball Women's 3rd	9	3	0	6	189	281	-92	-1.00
46 Tennis Women's 1st	11	2	2	7	35	75	-40	-1.27
47 Rugby Union Men's 4th	10	3	0	7	91	225	-134	-1.30
48 Rugby Men's 3rd	10	2	1	7	103	258	-155	-1.60
49 ICSM Netball 3rd	8	1	1	6	193	282	-89	-2.13
50 ICSM Hockey Men's 2nd	7	0	2	5	7	29	-22	-2.29
51 Hockey Men's 1st	9	1	1	7	17	31	-14	-2.33
52 ICSM Rugby Men's 3rd	9	1	0	8	96	230	-134	-3.00
53 ICSM Rugby Men's 2nd	10	1	0	9	101	349	-248	-3.10
54 ICSM Hockey Women's 3rd	7	0	1	6	5	59	-54	-3.14
55 Football Women's 1st	8	0	1	7	2	52	-50	-3.25
56 ICSM Football Men's 2nd	7	0	0	7	5	35	-30	-4.00



## Rugby: RSM 0 - 13 CSM

The RSM rugby squad turned up to Penryn RFC on Saturday morning after a good long night's sleep in our caravans.

The weather and lack of preparation from Camborne meant that the team turned up not knowing if we would play on a muddy pitch or a fake grass pitch.

Nevertheless the RSM stepped out of their changing room to the countless booing and jeering of the crowd (a particular favourite sample of their eloquent banter would be "Number 14 I'm going to eye gauge you and skull fuck you").

The match got under way with Camborne using their big forwards to provide a platform from which to launch their backs.

There was some great tackling by Ben Hanson on the wing and Dave Blake stopped their progress from the Camborne forwards. Soon after the RSM stepped their game up and kept possession of the ball.

The team camped on Camborne's 22 for a 10 minute spell but were unable to penetrate their defence and found themselves going backwards in the scrums.

At this stage the match remained scoreless. A break from one of the Camborne players set up an easy penalty which they kicked to provide the local miners a three point lead.

Showing no intimidation, the RSM got straight back into the game and came close to the oppositions try line, but unfortunately the RSM had been struggling with their lineouts all day and a loose ball off a lineout found its way into the hands of a Camborne miner who broke away.

Freddie Chalke chased him down for the tackle but the offload found its way onto the Camborne winger who scored.

A failed conversion left the visitors trailing 8 - 0. The second half was marked with very heavy rainfall which made the slow pitch even worse.

Unfortunately the weather suited Camborne who from the go decided that rugby was a game better played with just 8 men and kept the ball in the tight.

The RSM tried again and again to break the Camborne backline with some deep runs from centres Rob Dowden and Fraser James but

the conditions of the pitch made it hard to gather any pace.

Eventually tired from 75 minutes of exhausting rugby the RSM midfield missed a tackle and their 12 broke away.

Fullback Max Joachim and wing Blake closed him down but the Camborne player managed to kick the ball ahead and in the resulting footrace one of the Camborne players got there first to ground the ball for their second try.

A disappointing game of rugby in more than unsuitable conditions for a game of this magnitude.

Congratulations have to go to Camborne who rarely do see the bottle and commiserations to all the RSM rugby players for a hard fought match and giving it everything they had.

A special mention goes to Ali Philpott who is the living proof that perseverance does get you places. Normality will be restored next year, however.

**Borja Sordo De Le Penha**



## Hockey: RSM 1 - 8 CSM

**Men's - RSM 1 - 5 CSM**

Everyone in the squad was wide awake and more than fired up, ready to avenge the loss of our trophy, the Sharpley cup, to CSM last year.

The match started well, with an unusually fit RSM squad continually harassing the Camborne team, our defences strong marking and forcing them to make mistakes and lose possession. Likewise, we started strongly in midfield, with several attacking breaks. Ten minutes in this was rewarded when Nick Jones on the right wing found himself with the ball in space and was able to slot the ball in behind the net.

CSM, however, countered strongly, and the game remained fairly even for the rest of the half. The RSM suffered a major setback when a short-corner goal was disallowed and an immediate CSM counter-attack blew through the team before we were fully ready. The newly determined CSM team pressed their advantage home and despite some valiant efforts the RSM were unable to stem the tide in the second half. The end score of 5-1, however, does not reflect the spirit shown by those on the pitch, who played with the highest intensity right to the final whistle. Both our most experienced players, and those who had never played hockey before this year put in brilliant games and, although we came away disap-

pointed with the score, the RSM team should still be proud of their performance.

**Women's - RSM 0 - 3 CSM**

Every member of the team was feeling slightly nauseous as we arrived at the pitch; we had never got such a good team together and were feeling positive yet terrified - Sammy throwing up on the journey to the pitch due to some odd illness that makes you cry. Thankfully due to the kindness of the opposition's captain we moved push back to 9.15.

During the match brilliant saves were made by Sammy and her fellow defenders, with pure dedication from the midfielders and forwards.

Unfortunately, despite holding extremely well and being the better side in the first half, our fitness and the unfortunate choice of referees by CSM meant we conceded 3 goals in the second half. But regardless of the score the game was thrilling to watch I'm sure and an honour to play in. No bitterness is held over the loss as we know we all played the best we have ever done. It is just a feeling of disappointment we are left with toward the Camborne players, who continued to be dishonest towards the spirit of the Bottle Match and insist on playing Falmouth and Exeter players.

**Mark Porter & Kirsty Poore**

## Football: RSM 0 - 7 CSM

After travelling down to Cornwall with hopes high following a good season in the league, the RSM were quickly brought down to earth in a harsh fashion by a very strong CSM side.

To be fair we were in the game for a good two minutes but soon realised that this was a different kettle of fish to ULU division 4.

Soon into the game centre back Jon, fresh from consuming several gut fulls of rum, port & fuck knows what on Friday night decided to head their striker in the head. Broken nose. Pool of blood. Brilliant start.

Jason made an early appearance and the RSM reshuffled but soon felt the wrath of CSM's left winger who slotted in after about ten minutes. It was two soon after, when a deflected shot from outside the area beat our goalkeeper Joe. CSM's dominance continued when it became 3-0 following a penalty after Stuart hacked down their striker who was certain to score.

Despite strong support from the RSM crowd and Howard, it was soon 4 and the flood gates were opened. They were good and despite Matt and Stuart putting in the yards in the middle of the pitch we were pretty powerless. The tackling ranged from industrial to

agricultural but the referee had left his cards at home.

Then shortly before half time we made it into their half. Jason's shot hit the bar and it bounced downwards but no goal was given. I've heard reports that it was in (Bogdan) but there was no russian linesman when we needed one most. Still I couldn't really see and I wouldn't like to speculate.

Anyway at haltime it was 4-0 and we were staring down the barrel.

Jon bravely returned with his beak in bits and Christian went for a tinny and a smoke. Stuart turned to me in the middle and said "Right Matt, let's see who can get a yellow card first."

It became apparent however that this would only be possible should GBH or perhaps some minor stab wound be implemented.

Anyway I digress.

An early highlight of the second half was a midfield tussle tripping over the ref but then more misery continued through further CSM scoring.

Joe gave away his 3rd penalty of the season and it was five. Six and seven arrived shortly after.

We didn't really have a sniff to be honest and they were a very good side.

After a decent season RSM sit 3rd in the league table, whereby promotion is still impossible



## Netball: RSM 15 - 4 CSM

After an 8 hour bus journey we finally arrived in Penryn College for the first ever netball bottle match (and indeed our first game ever). We had been told that the game was indoors, CSM's idea of this was an outdoor court inside what can only be described as a tent.

Needless to say it was freezing. Despite this we started warming up, trying hard to ignore the 50 CSM players on the other side of the court (the majority of whom were fairly large to be polite, wearing skirts not visible to the human eye).

The game started with RSM taking the first centre. Solid defence kept the ball out of CSM's attacking third for the majority of the quarter and after some unlucky shots and determination RSM scored the first goal.

After breaking the deadlock we gained in confidence. McNugget moved to Goal Attack

and shots started firing in with CSM yet to even get past their attacking third line.

By this point in the match it was clear CSM were not as hard to banter and abuse as the RSM team, with their Centre being reduced to tears by the end of the second quarter.

The rest of the match continued with RSM dominating. Despite some shocking umpiring, RSM produced an uncatchable lead. Interceptions came all over the court and the goals started mounting up. CSM seemed to have forgotten the basic rules of netball and sent the largest girls ever to grace a netball court charging around the pitch in an attempt to win the ball. Skillful play from Rach as Centre and some solid defence meant that even with dodgy umpires CSM couldn't catch up.

The game ended 15-4 to RSM making the RSM team undefeated Bottle Match winners!

As agreed we were playing for what was originally the Ladies Rugby trophy which CSM have managed to cheat away from us for the last 2 years.

After our captain collected the trophy and we started celebrating something pretty awful happened. The CSM team jumped up onto the benches and started doing a song and dance.

The look of confusion and horror on every RSMers face was a picture. They obviously thought we had enjoyed it as at the presentation in the evening we got a special repeat performance.

Well done to the RSM team for a thoroughly deserved win! Maybe CSM will be able to put up a better fight next year but this is highly doubtful. Thanks must also go to the brilliant support from the RSM crowd, good game everyone!

Lucy Byrne





## Fencing have shot at double

Indy Leclercq Fencing

Last Wednesday the IC fencing club had another day of matches to try and prolong what has already been a very good season for the club. Three encounters were scheduled in Ethos: the Men's 1sts vs Durham University, the Women's 1sts vs Birmingham University and the Men's 2nds vs Hertfordshire University.

Both 1st teams were vying for a semi-final spot in the BUCS Championships, synonymous with a ticket to Sheffield alongside the best of British university sport. Spread over four days, with 6000 athletes competing in twenty-six sports, the Championships are a very alluring target for any team, and the fencing club's main objective this season. Victory was therefore imperative.

The seconds were fencing the semi-final of the south-eastern conference cup, a win meaning a place in the final and a chance of more silverware (not to mention extending their 8-match unbeaten run).

Durham turned up on time, despite the long journey they had to make, and

pretty soon the teams were underway, beginning with foil. The Imperial captain was still suffering from a bout of stomach flu, and was replaced by Chris Gilliam. The foilists posted an easy win, displaying some very solid fencing and giving the sabreurs a lead which they extended to the point that the final weapon, epee, only needed to score two hits (in a match to 45!) to wrap up proceedings.

The girls made similarly short work of Birmingham, with Hannah Bryars displaying impressive sabre skills despite being a resolute foilist. The final score was a very large 135-58 win to Imperial.

The 2nds had a much tighter match against Hertfordshire, showing great determination and grit to win by a meager seven hits, 115-108. This puts them into the final of the cup against Surrey.

Wednesday's successes mean that both the Men's and Women's 1st teams will be part of the Imperial contingent travelling up to Sheffield next week to try and grab the highest honours University sport has to offer. Both teams are in with a very good chance of winning...How far can the fencing club go?



O bottle, where art thou?

Two schools one cup bottle : all the RSM vs CSM action inside

## BUCS championships first for Imperial Gaelic ladies

Carla Mulas Gaelic Football

The BUCS Ladies Gaelic Football Championship Tournament took place the weekend of the 20th of February, and for the first time EVER, Imperial College were represented.

Leaving at 4am to trek all the way to Manchester for a day of matches wouldn't be the most exciting prospect for the majority of students, but as the girls boarded that sexy IC Ford Transit spirits were high and everyone was looking forward to a fun weekend, with bags packed with sweets, oranges and feck-loads of pasta.

When we finally got there (much thanks to Chris who for some crazy reason volunteered to chauffeur us all the way there and back) the pitch was empty, the changing rooms locked and

not an organizer to be seen – typical GAA. But the girls were eager to get going, and after a few rushed toilet breaks in the petrol station across the road, we changed in the bus and began our warm-up.

We quickly discovered that we were a bit of a novelty at the tournament – having only two Irish players – and the Brighton captain even went on to say that it was “so NICE” that we had taught the other girls how to play.

When our first match finally kicked off two hours late and on a pitch small enough to rival a 5-aside football pitch, the girls were ready for it. Brighton was a tough team, all experienced players, but our girls didn't give them an inch.

The opening few minutes saw Carla the Angry Argentinean slot a ball easily between the posts – a great opener for the tournament. Brighton weren't

happy. As their condescending captain screamed bloody murder at them all through the game they fought hard, but just not hard enough. Every 50-50 ball was well contested and every tackle was hard. With brilliant play all over the pitch from IC, Brighton was cracking.

The 2nd half was much the same. Brighton's captain, in fairness to her, got a couple of nice points but these were well overshadowed by a well-placed goal from Cath Parkinson. With 2 minutes to go the score was 1-01 (4) to 0-02 to IC. Unfortunately as the pressure mounted a few silly mistakes on our part resulted in 2 easy free-kicks that went straight over the bar, leaving the game at 4 points apiece. Brighton was lucky to get away with a draw – and they knew it.

The next game didn't go so well. The

girls fought hard but unfortunately our inexperience on the pitch started to show. With some lovely team play and passing and some great runs down the line from the girls, Imperial left no doubt to the amount of work they'd put in over the previous 5 months. A beautifully taken long-range point under pressure saw Hilda Dooley put IC on the scoreboard, but this was no match for Stirling's tally.

A special mention to Jade Yap who played her first match of the year, and despite being the tiniest player on the pitch and marking someone at least twice her size, managed to get away some good passes.

The rest of the matches followed with more of the same. With Mia 'Gobby' Gorman making some spectacular saves and clearances, the girls battled to keep the scoreline down, and

even managed to put a few scores on the board with two points from Carla against defending champions Solford, and Chloe McKeon capitalizing on a well placed pass against Chester.

So, after (briefly) lamenting our loss, we headed back to our hotel and got ready to go out for a night in the North. From a couple of casual drinks in Spoons with 50 year old women in hair extensions and ridiculous mini-dresses to getting in on the Tiger-Tiger guest list for wearing our GAC training jackets, it was definitely a night to remember and despite the early start and trek back home, it was a great weekend.

Well done to all the girls that played – you did yourselves proud!

**Fancy trying Gaelic out?  
We are still training!  
Contact Katie: kc2o8@ic.ac.uk**