



ISSUE 1471

29.10.10

“Keep the Cat Free”

FELIX



The student voice of Imperial College London since 1949

Damage to FiveSixEight

Bar tiling falls to pieces as “severe misuse” leads to furniture damage in newly renovated bar.

Page 3

Engineers’ mascot stolen

The Royal School of Mines have stolen ‘Spanners’ one of two official Engineering mascots in a daring evening raid.

Page 3

Coalition rejects unlimited fees

Controversial proposal of Browne Review is heavily criticised by government as ‘neither sensible nor sustainable’.

Page 4

Imperial in Polar record bid

An Imperial expedition to the South Pole tests innovative new vehicle and aims to break record for fastest crossing.

Page 8

Pioneering a new era of interactive teaching at Imperial

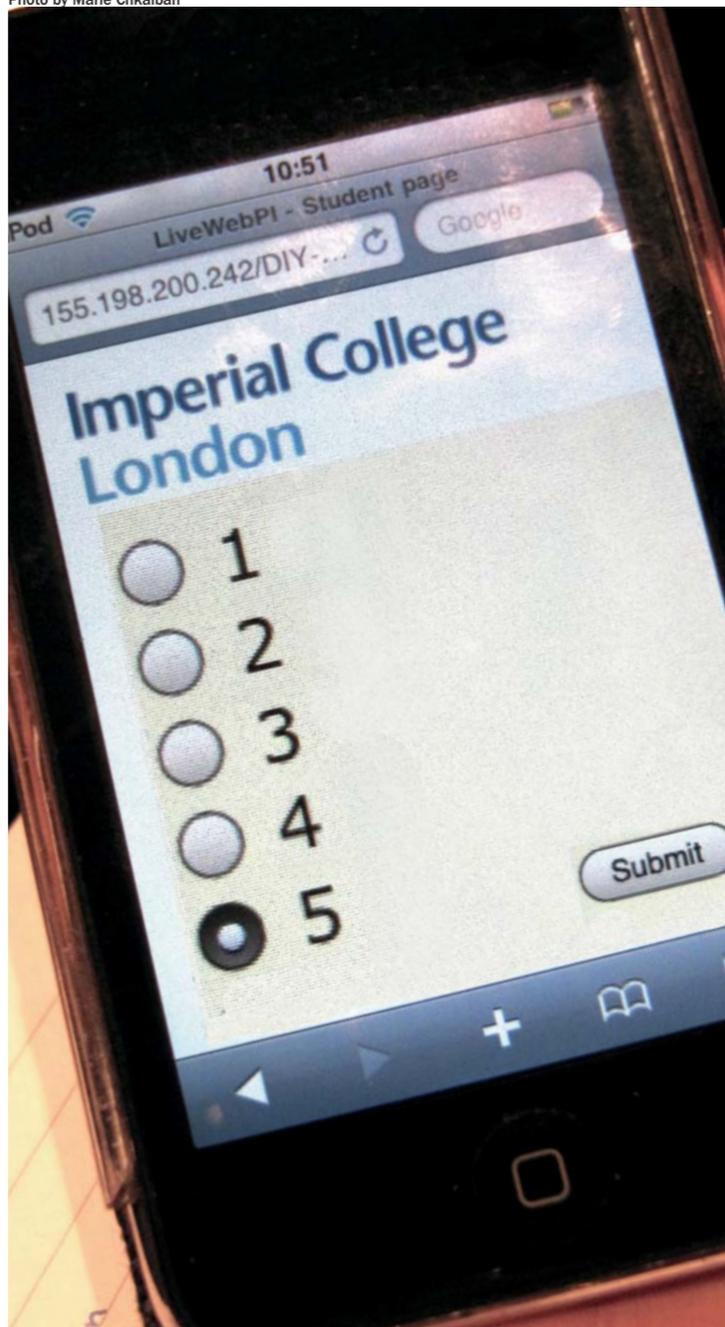
Professor Richard Thomas, from the Department of Mathematics, has taken on a new technology to encourage student interactivity in his lectures. He is the first lecturer at Imperial to encourage iPhones, Androids and other smart phones in his lecture. Lizzie Crouch attends her first maths class in over 6 years to find out more!

I have to admit that I did feel slightly nervous as I sat down in the back of the Clore Lecture Theatre. I had a slight hope that something would become familiar to me and that I wouldn’t feel like a fish-out-of-water Humanities student in a Mathematics lecture... no such luck!

However, I wasn’t here to learn any maths (phew!) Instead, I am here to see how Professor Robert Thomas encourages student to use their web connected phones to interact during class. My immediate thought is that it is dangerous territory to encourage students to bring phones into class but, although it is early days and despite having

...Continued on Page 7

Photo by Marie Chkaiban



COMMENT



Can anyone actually say they wouldn’t cheat?: Page 19

ARTS



Scare yourself witless at London’s creepiest shows: Page 22

FILM



Cheesy, low-budget, straight-to-DVD goreffests: Page 30

Institute of Math Sciences ‘restructured’

Institute forced out of 53 Prince’s Gardens after review

The Institute for Mathematical Sciences (IMS) has been restructured, and will be moved out of its home at 53 Prince’s Gardens into a uncertain future as the Faculty of Natural Sciences ‘rationalizes’ its resources.

The previous model has been deemed unsustainable and a new model is being investigated by the Faculty.

The IMS was launched in 2004 by then Rector Sir Richard Sykes. At the time, he commented: “The creation of an Institute for Mathematical Sciences

at Imperial, which brings together leading mathematicians from different research sectors, will provide the essential mathematical underpinning for much of our future innovation.”

Several senior figures behind the In-
...Continued on Page 3

HIGHLIGHTS

On campus

Adaptive Control Seminar

Dr Emmanuel Guigon, a researcher from the Institut des Systèmes Intelligents et de Robotique, Paris, will hold a seminar exploring computational motor control and attempt to show how action is part of a goal oriented behaviour. The seminar will look into the framework of reinforcement learning and Dr Guigon will derive principles for motor control.

**Room 2.28 Royal School of Mines
3 November 15:30-16:30**

Robotics in Surgery

Speakers including professors from Imperial College and King's College London will give a seminar on the use of surgical robots and the demand for higher accuracy and how these machines allow new procedures not practicable by hand and eye. For more information, contact: b_miah@imeche.org



**G16 Sir Alexander Fleming Building
3 November 9:30-17:30**

Quantum Age Lecture

Professor Alain Aspect speaks on a lecture exploring the advancement of quantum theory from Einstein's intuition to quantum bits, a new field of research where the concept of a superposition of states is applied to computing. Having shown quantum entanglement to be a reality in 1964, John Bell's inequalities are applied to shed light on entanglement in qubits (quantum bits) and how large scale implementation may revolutionise our society.

**Great Hall, Sherfield Building
11 November 17:30-18:30**

EDITOR'S PICK

Photo of the Week

Photo by Marie Chkaiban



A fellow cat collecting on Thursday on the walkway for Charity Week, organised by the Islamic Society

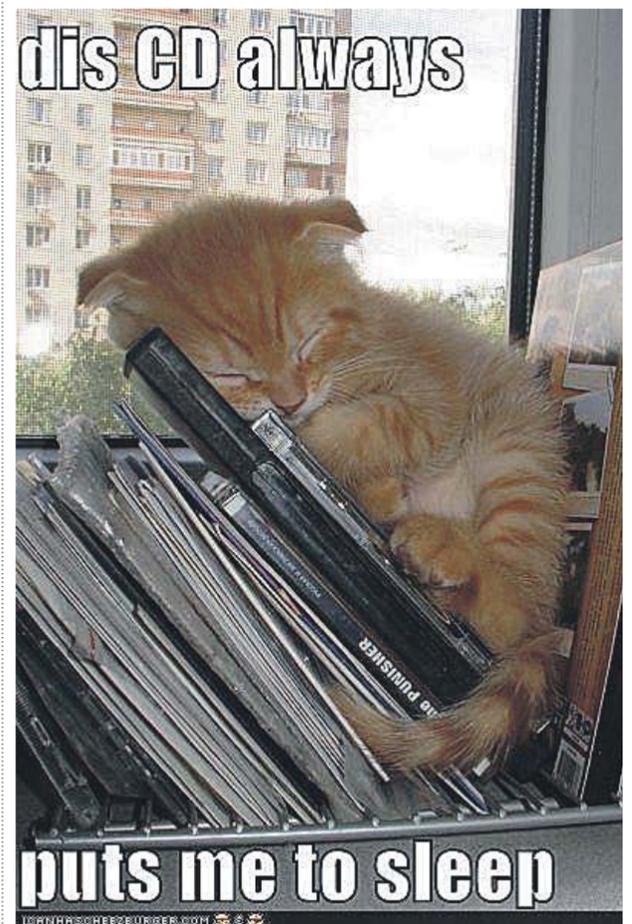
Union Meetings

Council

**Higher Education Policy Debate
Monday 1st of November**

On **Monday** the Union will debate their Higher Education Funding Policy at Council. If passed the policy will become the official position of the Union and by extension of the students that it represents; i.e. you. Students are encouraged to attend and voice their opinions. The meeting will be at **6:30pm** in the **Union Dining Hall** and papers can be found online at www.imperialcollegeunion.org.uk. See **Page 5**

Lolcat of teh week



FELIX

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NEWS

IMS future uncertain

Navid Nabijou
Matt Colvin

Photo by Marie Chkaiban



53 Prince's Gardens, where the Institute used to be situated

...Continued from Front Page
stitute have declined to comment on the developments, including the Institute's Director Professor Darryl Holm, but a College spokesperson said "the changes are in line with the Faculty's aims to ensure resources are rationalised."

Despite the College's guarantee that "all of the existing research programmes and activities of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences will continue", the only event listed on the institute's relevant webpage took place in February 2008 and an attempt to discover 'What's On' leads to a web page error. Their web page hasn't been updated since May 2010.

The Institute's activities were funded by a grant from the David and Elaine Potter Charitable Foundation, an organization that 'seeks to achieve an impact through grants that promote reason, education, and human rights.' The College has said that "The Faculty [of Natural Sciences] will ensure that [the IMS] activities will continue to be built upon under the new structure."

There is no information as yet about what 53 Prince's Gardens will be used for but it seems that the Institute of Mathematical Sciences (after the Life Sciences restructure) is the latest victim of the Faculty of Natural Science's desire to ensure that its "research activities are sustainably structured."

Embarrassment for Union as tiles fall off FiveSixEight bar

Navid Nabijou

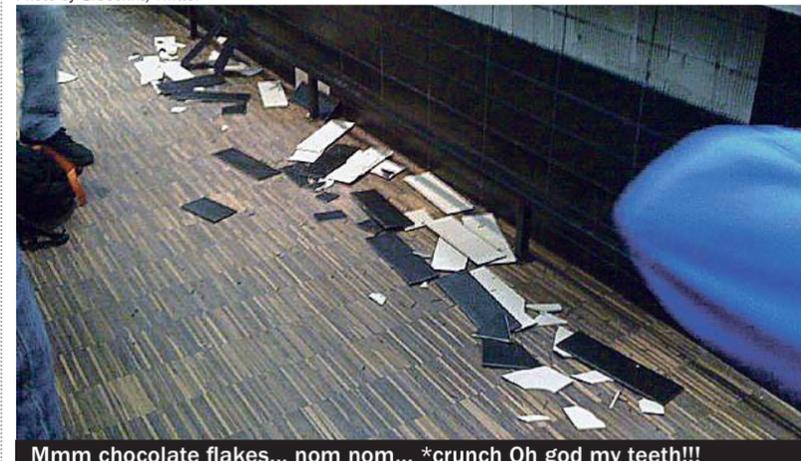
For a moment there, it looked like everything was coming together. FiveSixEight, despite problems and delays, opened to a lively first night. Everyone - even the engineers - seemed to be having a good time.

However disaster struck as a small avalanche of tiles fell off the front of the bar, providing a lively addition to the opening week's "mayhem". The beer cooling system behind the bar had caused the wood to bow, thus dislodg-

ing the tiles. The Union have said that they are looking to install insulation to prevent this happening again.

In addition a chair (which costs around £120 each) has been broken. The Union said "they are very strong chairs and general wear and tear is to be expected but in this case they appear to have been broken through severe misuse." The Union warned that security is in place every night to "ensure that the space is used properly and respected." Heavy drinkers will be encouraged to use Metric when it opens.

Photo by @ICUchris/Twitter



Mmm chocolate flakes... nom nom... *crunch Oh god my teeth!!!

Miners in mascotry mischief

City and Guilds College Union (CGCU) suffered a spanner in the works after a night out at the Archangel club, in which a covert operation was planned to then whisk the beloved mascot, 'Spanner', into a high-security compound. However, their plans were foiled by a student of the Royal School of Mines (RSM) who knicked it from under their noses. Now the waiting game begins as the CGCU nervously expect the ransom. A ransom note has been sent to CGCU demanding the following: Firstly that a sum of £200 is paid

to RAG, that CGCU 'sort themselves out as a committee and get functioning like a proper union' and a barrel of Becks behind the RSM bar.

Mercifully, 'Bolt', the faithful companion of 'Spanner' was left so as to not completely crush the CGCU's morale. RAG Chair Naida Dzigal stated 'It is refreshing to see that Imperial students engage in activities outside of their courses and even more to see them doing these with a sense of Imperial spirit'. Will RAG receive their ransom? Will CGCU ever see their treasured mascot again? All will be revealed on November 1st.

Fahmida Mannan



Ah, I think we've got a lead on the culprits. They're male, white and oh yes, I'd spot those eyebrows any day!

NEWS

News Editors: **Matt Colvin**
Alex Karapetian
news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

In brief

Record number of students miss out on university says UCAS

After record numbers of applicants to university this year, figures released by UCAS have shown that a staggering 30.4% of students have not managed to secure a place.

A total of 688,310 people applied, whereas only 479,057 have been accepted, leaving 209,253 people who have missed out. Of these, 188,697 were eligible for clearing but received no offers, 18,081 have withdrawn their application, and the final 2,475 applicants are still waiting for a decision.

The increase in demand for places was partly due to the recession, with many workers opting to return to education to avoid the job cuts or to improve employability. There were also around 60,000 re-applicants from 2009, which is just under 10% of total applications, pushing the amount and level of competition even higher.

This 'flux' of application numbers also happened in 2005 because of the proposed introduction of top up fees in 2006, but the major difference between then and now is that there now exists a government-imposed cap on the number of UK and EU students a university can take, which was introduced by the previous government in 2008-2009. Universities which 'break' the cap have to pay a hefty fine of £3700 for every student taken over the limit.

These recent figures from UCAS will make universities even more cautious with their offers in the coming year, not eager to splash out money on fines when resources are already stretched, perhaps one of many reasons why entrance requirements have increased dramatically for next year. A noticeable example at Imperial is mathematics, which has seen a standard offer of AAA with A's in all maths modules grow to an offer of A*A*A, within the space of one year.

The statistics reflect a growing level of competition for University places, and with the coalition government's plans to increase the tuition cap or to remove it entirely, and potentially around 190,000 applicants from this year reapplying, next year's cohort could be in for a particularly rough ride.

Ian Wei

Election Results

Results of the Autumn Elections were announced ahead of the Council debate on Higher Education Funding on Monday, though several postgraduate positions and the S.H.A.G. Week Co-ordinator position were left unfilled.

Alice Rowlands, Stephen Long and Thomas Hills were elected as Union Council Ordinary Members for the Faculty of Engineering. Aislinn O'Malley, Alexandra Burke-Smith and Hannah Tullett were elected as Union Council Ordinary Members for the Faculty of Medicine. Lewis Palmer, Angad Rekhi, Alan Itakura and Karmen Chiu were elected for the Faculty of Natural Sciences. Edefe Edivri was elected as the postgraduate representative for Engineering and Physical Sciences.

Ali Rezaei Haddad and Theo Pavlakou were elected to the new Ents Committee while Tharanny Srisatunam narrowly lost out on the position of S.H.A.G. Week Co-ordinator by two votes to R.O.N.

Naida Dzigal was elected as Court Advocate.

Government rejects Browne Review

Universities Minister David Willetts dismisses unlimited fees as neither sensible nor sustainable

Sophia David

Government ministers have confirmed that university tuition fees will be capped in England, meaning that the government is rejecting a key element of the Browne report.

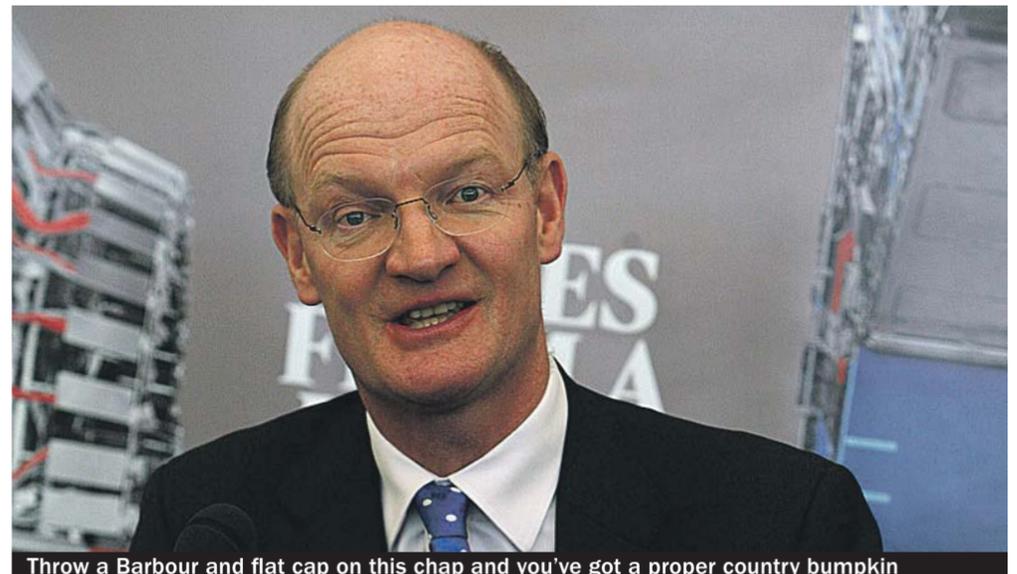
The report, led by Lord Browne, suggested universities should be allowed to set their own fees but face a levy on amounts over £6000. Speaking this week, the universities minister David Willetts dismissed Browne's proposal of unlimited fees as "neither sensible nor sustainable".

Meanwhile, business secretary Vince Cable said that the government was still considering its reform of higher education and nothing could be ruled out yet. He did, however, add that "I think that particular approach [of unlimited fees] was one we're not going to pursue".

This news comes as great relief to students who already face substantial debts of over £30,000 upon leaving university. It has been argued that if elite universities charge fees of upwards of £10,000 a year, applications are more likely to be based on financial means rather than ambition.

The Russell Group, representing the UK's top universities, has objected to this latest news. "Rowing back from Browne and re-imposing a cap would be a real waste of an opportunity to allow our leading universities to provide the high quality education that their students deserve," said Dr Wendy Piatt, the director general.

The government is aware that imposing a cap on tuition fees may leave universities no better off. A minimum



Throw a Barbour and flat cap on this chap and you've got a proper country bumpkin

of £6000 for the cheapest degrees is required to replace the £2.9 billion cut in government funding to universities. They will therefore generate no extra income than before. In order for universities to benefit from a reformed system, David Willetts has suggested reducing the levy proposed by Browne on fees above £6000: "You could have a lower rate of levy or no levy and that would enable universities to hold onto more of the resources that they collect".

The arguments against the proposed steep rate of the levy are reinforced by top universities. An institution seeking to receive £9000 per student would have to charge about £13000. Malcolm Grant, of UCL, said it was "a disincentive to invest in the improvements to facilities and staffing support for an ex-

cellent student experience that globally competitive universities simply must make".

Every university is likely to end up charging the maximum tuition fees. When top-up fees of £3000 were introduced in 2006 we were told a market would be created where competition between universities would drive down the fees. However, only two universities, Leeds Metropolitan and Greenwich, currently charge less than the maximum amount. So when the cap is potentially doubled, Browne's proposal that a market will be established is unlikely considering past experience.

Willetts hopes that measures of fee levels will be put before parliament "before Christmas", in order for changes to be introduced in 2012.

Read this article online at felixonline.co.uk

Dr Judit Nagy killed in car crash



Dr Judit Nagy, a leading scientist who headed the Proteomics Research Facility in the Department of Biomedical Engineering, was killed in a car crash on Monday 18th. Aged 47, she was described by her husband as "a person who enchanted everyone she met".

She died on impact as her blue G-Wiz collided with a red Skoda Octavia in Cricklewood, North London. Her husband said she was driving to a parents'

evening at her child's school. The couple have four children with ages ranging between 8 and 22.

Dr Nagy was taken to the Royal London Hospital, where she passed away later that evening.

A spokesperson for Imperial College said: "Judit will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her at Imperial College London. She was a talented and popular colleague."

Union presents tuition fees policy

Union's tuition fees policy, to be debated at Council on Monday, backs Browne Review but demands greater focus on postgraduate funding

Rhys Davies

It seems like a lifetime ago now when, on the 12th October, Lord Browne finally published his review of higher education funding. Already, it is a topic that has been endlessly deconstructed and analysed and which every student in Imperial and the UK feels strongly about.

Two weeks have passed since then and Imperial College Union Council will formally meet on Monday to debate and decide the Union's Higher Education Funding Policy.

Firstly, the policy put forward recognises the need for a shake-up in the way universities are funded. Since 1992, average spending per student has dropped due to the massive increase in

the number of young people going to university. This lack of funding has been felt by universities across the country; Middlesex University has had to close its Philosophy department while Kings College London has had to shut down its Engineering department to name but two. The reshuffling of the Life Sciences department at Imperial is another way universities have been trying to deal with this shortfall.

The Union is largely supportive of Lord Browne's recommendations. It believes that raising the threshold for repayment to £21,000 means that most PhD students will not have to repay their loan while working towards their PhD.

It backs the raising of maintenance loans and grants, resolving to increase

“The Rector has formed a new committee to look at how Imperial provides bursaries”

bursary and scholarship provision, and to promote opportunities for these more readily. It will also try to encourage businesses to provide their own bursaries for students. Together, these will hopefully reduce the amount of loans that all but the richest students will have to repay.

On this subject, the Rector has formed a new committee to look at how the

university provides bursaries, with the view to increase them. The Union has been invited to take an active role in this committee. If an improved endowment scheme is drawn up, the Council will consider whether commercial revenue from the Union (from FiveSixEight and ICU Shop, for example) should be fed into such a scheme.

However, it also backs the Review's suggestion of a levy after £6000 per year on the price of a degree. This will incentivise universities to only charge the real cost of a degree. It is also hoped to discourage universities from selecting applicants based on their bank balance instead of their personal statement.

The Union feels that the Browne Review lacked details towards postgradu-

ate education. To this end, it will lobby for postgraduate taught Masters degrees to be included in the same payment methods as undergraduate degrees, that no fees are paid up-front.

The Union firmly believes that, regardless of financial situation, any student can go to the university of their choice. It also welcomes the realisation in the Review that universities are in dire need of more investment. In asking students to shoulder more of the cost but recommending the spreading of repayment, it believes the Browne Review has struck a fine balance and has pointed the direction for fairer funding for universities. Thus, the Union has decided to support Lord Browne in his proposals.

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There's no need to rush in for **Felix** on a **Friday** morning

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from 7am every Friday morning



FEATURE

IS THIS THE FUTURE OF LEARNING AT IMPERIAL?

Despite teasing from his colleagues, Professor Richard Thomas is embracing new technologies to help engage with students. **By Lizzy Crouch**

...Continued from Front Page
substantial fears about constant interruptions by a harmony of ringtones, Professor Thomas says that he has yet to be interrupted once.

Excitingly only 5 minutes into the lecture I have the opportunity to link my iPhone up to the interactive web page set up for the class in order to test out my maths skills. Professor Thomas writes out a rather complicated looking question for the students, which means nothing to me but looks impressive. The students seem to know what it means though, which is good! These examples are not prepared in advance: Professor Thomas just writes down questions “on a whim” and gives multiple choice answers.

On the screen in front of me I am given a list of different options. Each member of the class then chooses which option they think is correct and ‘vote’ by ‘pressing’ the button next to their option. I decline from voting and let the person sitting next to me vote in my place. After a short delay a simple bar graph depicting the lecture hall’s answers pops up in front of me of the screen. It’s very basic but effective. When I ask Professor Thomas about this straightforward process he says that something “as simple as possible meant that [he] can use it at the same time as writing on board or visualise without disrupting the lesson.”

Professor Thomas believes that the use of this technology wakes up the students in the room. It “disrupts the ‘copy down lecture notes’ mentality and has [the students] think hard for a minute about something.” I can see from the undergraduates sitting around me that this method provokes discussion and also induces a competitiveness to get the answer right. But for the shyer members of the class, it allows them to contribute without having all eyes on them. Professor Thomas explained, “[I] can use one example to illustrate a whole piece of theory, and be sure [the students] re-

Photo by Marie Chkaiban



ally thought about it because they answered a question on it.”

This interactivity is not new: the class had previously used physical ‘clickers’. It had however turned out to be a logistical nightmare and so the use of devices that the majority of the students already carry round with them seemed like a logical step.

Although I am no expert in education practices and theories, the ability to actually experiment and test ideas just learnt in reality surely must provide each student with immediate feedback about how well they have picked up what is being taught. Interaction may be beneficial but when there are over 200 students in a lecture, it turns into a challenge.

In the maths department, Professor Thomas is the only lecturer to be currently using the online technology and I believe it is no coincidence that he is one of the younger members of Imperial’s faculty. Professor Thomas assures me that his efforts are being closely watched. Some others may soon follow but others remaining dead against it. He explains that there is the occasional playful joke by other members of the faculty, teasing him about the technology use, but most of the faculty are very supportive.

Technology now invades every single place in our lives and has revolutionised society. Although thus far technology in education has lagged behind the rest of society, surely it is only a matter of time before it fully invades? The fact that the internet is now portable gives

us the ability to access our digital world and integrate it with our physical one. It seems prudent for Imperial, as one of the UK’s leading universities, to start integrating it now and lead the way.

“It’s basically one big experiment at the moment,” Professor Thomas said. What is the future for Imperial? It’s a tricky one. Although the influx of technology into teaching seems both inevitable and positive, have a one size fits all approach may actually be detrimental. Each lecturer is unique in the methods they employ and style of teaching. The ultimate question therefore is what method should Imperial adopt to being greater technology integration into the classroom?

“Of course [other technologies] get forced on us all the time, and various people have various incentives to get us to use as many as possible as soon as possible. But usually they’re not ready for easy robust use,” Professor Thomas explains, “If they’re good and easy to use then we’d use them. The problem is that education seems not to be a big enough market for them to get developed properly. So they’re often clunky/unusable/etc. It’s only when business or ordinary people have a use for something that it gets developed well enough to be useful.”

Interactive technology is widespread at Imperial. The old style clickers that Professor Thomas used to use are in use amongst a large number of departments. John Conway, senior learning technologist at Imperial says that researchers are getting excited about using different types of technology more. In fact, he has heard that the Business School are interested in developing an iPhone app!

There are, however, many considerations that need to be made when trying to introduce these technologies. For example, what kind of devices can access it, and what ICT support is needed. Mr Conway says that pilot studies

Photo by Marie Chkaiban



Professor Richard Thomas explaining a problem to a 1st year student

need to be done to tease out these problems early on but that there is much promise. He also commented that in the economic times where more people are vying for a smaller funding pot, it will be interesting to see how use of more technology in education could help improve financial efficiency without jeopardising quality.

Back in the Clore Lecture Hall, the lecture draws to a close. Unfortunately, I haven’t picked up any more mathematical knowledge, but I am excited about this development which is encompassing modern technology. I ask some students around me who had been voting what they think of the ‘voting system’. “It gives us a break and time to think,” says one. Others explain that it gives them a chance to check they understand everything as they go along, both things Professor Thomas is aiming to achieve! The consensus is that it’s definitely a good thing, and it will be interesting to see if the rest of the Maths Department and even other faculties will develop their own version.

It “disrupts the ‘copy down lecture notes’ mentality and has [the students] think hard for a minute about something.”

SCIENCE

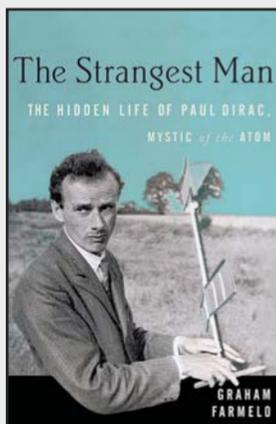
Science Editors: **James Goldsack**
Katya-yani Vyas

science.felix@imperial.ac.uk

And a few suggestions...

The Strangest Man

by **Graham Farmelo**



This week, we have another biography of a great scientist. Paul Dirac is best known for his contribution to the mystifying realms of quantum mechanics that eventually earned him a Nobel Prize, however, there was so much more to this shy, awkward man than just genius. He had a wide range of interests from a fascination with Mickey Mouse to an unlikely soft spot for Cher. Graham Farmelo paints a picture of an endearing and gentle character that one can't help but develop a fondness for. Leading us through Dirac's life from his strict and protected childhood which he came to resent, through to his glory days of achievement and then his later days where he struggled with the pace of new physics. Farmelo gives an honest account that does not employ a tone of hero-worship that ruins some biographies. Dirac's life was complex and mesmerising, Farmelo conveys this admirably, I could not put it down!

Katya-yani Vyas

Upcoming Science Events

Oct 29th
Royal Institution
Rhythms of the body
8.00pm – 9.15pm

Natural History Museum
After hours
6.30pm – 10.30pm

Nov 1st
Natural History Museum
Magetherium: A big animal from America
2.30pm – 3.00pm

Nov 3rd
Natural History Museum
A problem shared: securing a future for our planet
6.30pm – 8.00pm

Nov 4th
Wellcome Collection
Eureka! Live
7.00pm - 8.30pm

Imperial bid for Antarctic record

Pioneering new vehicle set to beat the record for fastest journey to South Pole

Kadhim Shubber

Imagine skimming across the icy wastelands of the South Pole. You're sitting in the cockpit of the prototype Winston Wong bio-inspired ice vehicle, the cold air biting through your clothes. Your heart rate, temperature and other bio-functions are being continuously monitored by an array of innovative sensors and suddenly your radio crackles to life. It's the support vehicle saying that your time is up and it's time to rotate the driver again. Five more minutes you say to yourself as you push the accelerator to the floor and listen to the strangely hypnotic sound of the rotors spinning ever faster.

In a collaborative project involving the Moon Regan Transantarctic Expedition and Imperial College London, two science support vehicles and the Winston Wong Bio-Inspired Ice Vehicle will travel 3,600 miles across Antarctica carrying a range of hi-tech monitoring equipment developed at Imperial. The team will be monitoring the emissions of the vehicles, detecting trace metals in the snow to help understand the distribution of pollutants in the southern hemisphere and measuring fine-scale turbulence in the air. The team themselves will be continuously monitoring their health and the effect of the cold environment on the human body

David Pierson, an PhD student in the Aeronautics Department who is going on the expedition, said: "it's going to be an amazing experience, it's difficult to put into words how exciting this whole expedition is and all the different elements of it coming together."

Robin North, Lecturer in Transport and Environmental Planning in Civ Eng and the Science Lead on the expedition, said "it's an amazing



Hopefully PhD student David Pierson won't get a ticket for speeding on the ice...

opportunity to get the sorts of scientific data that you can't get any other way. We don't ever get the opportunity to do a surface level transect of Antarctica, we have a unique opportunity to monitor the impact of our expeditions."

Chris Toumazou, Director of the Institute of Bio-Inspired Technology which is behind much of the technology, was confident about beat-

ing the record saying: "we'll do it. So it'll be double win, we'll beat the record and get all this science done as well."

The team set off on the 16th of November from the west coast of Antarctica at Patriot Hills and will return by the 15th of December. Without wishing to jinx the expedition, it seems that our boys really will be back before Christmas.

SOUNDBITES

'Science Question Time' at the Royal Institution

Peter Greenish

"The UK is a trading nation...if we're going to earn our keep against fierce competition, there is no room for complacency."

Prof Dame Jane Finch

"It needs to be people that we invest in - our

own best people and those around the world"

Colin Blakemore

"If there's any outcome from this week, it is the clear evidence that the government has put science at the top of its priorities, and listened to its arguments"

Imran Kahn

"It is a sign of the times we live in that a 10% cut can be regarded as a triumph"

Mark Henderson

"Adding tonight to the spending review, the overall message is that the government has put science on the agenda. Having more people like

David Willetts and Vince Cable on-side has helped us get through to senior people in the government."

David Willetts...

"It would be great to have a system where scientists had more time to do science and less time filling out paperwork."

...and some good news for IC students

"Not enough is done for pure science students to get experience in industry. There should be more opportunities for students to make links with industry. Compared to other universities, Imperial is actually ahead of the curve on this!"

SCIENCE

Imperial Profile: #2

Dr Emile Greenhalgh
Composite MaterialsIlse Daly
Adam Falk

Imagine an electric car powered by its chassis, with no need for a battery. This may sound like an environmentalist's wet dream, but Emile Greenhalgh and his multidisciplinary team of collaborators across College and Europe, might make it happen sooner than you'd expect.

The largest problem facing manufacturers of electric cars is the issue of weight. Currently, an electric car, such as the Tesla Roadster, weighs 1200kg, of which 500kg is battery. A vast 76% of energy expenditure in electric cars comes from having to move its own weight about. This figure rises to a staggering 98% when considering city driving alone.

Clearly the way forward for electric car manufacturers is to reduce the car's dead weight. If the chassis could be used to help power the vehicle, carmakers would be killing two birds with one stone. Other than at Imperial, the majority of the research into structural batteries is being conducted in Sweden with Swerea and their composites division, SICOMP working alongside car manufacturers Volvo. They are all a part of the STORAGE programme, a Europe-wide

initiative led by Imperial College, focusing on meeting the energy demands of future hybrid vehicles.

A major issue to be considered when dealing with any battery-powered technology is the power spike. This is where Dr Greenhalgh and his team in the Composites Centre come in, working in partnership with SICOMP. When an electric car accelerates it draws a vast amount of power in a short space of time, draining the stored chemical energy of the battery. This sudden increase in the battery's output is detrimental to its overall performance. To get the most out of a battery, the output should be constant. In order to overcome the damaging effects of these power spikes, Emile Greenhalgh et al have devised a composite material, made of layers of woven carbon fibre separated by glass fibre mats, which acts not only as a rigid mechanical structure, but also as a supercapacitor, in order to level the load on the battery.

With a large number of engineering obstacles involved in the manufacturing process, it's hardly surprising that Greenhalgh's team is multidisciplinary. Dr Greenhalgh himself trained as a physicist at Imperial. We also spoke to Milo Shaffer, a Materials Chemist who notably is one of Imperial's youngest



professors.

"The timing is great," said Dr Greenhalgh. What started 5 years ago as a commission from the MOD could see the group's members rocket on to the rich list, according to Wired magazine. However, a fully integrated structural battery is still some way off. That's not to mention the hurdles that must be overcome to get such a car approved for commercial use. "Not only would it have to pass extensive crash-worthiness tests, it would also have to pass electri-

cal safety tests... There's a lack of specialists trained in both areas."

"In nine to ten years time we could get rid of the battery altogether." Applications of this technology are widespread, ranging from aircraft to laptops. Basically anything that needs to be low-weight and/or portable.

"We are still a long way off on power storage," says Dr Greenhalgh. The prototype they have produced has caused a stir and earned them larger grants for further research.

Mini x-ray
madness

Charlie Harvey

A next generation of table-top X-ray machines could soon be made available, thanks to research from Imperial College.

Scientific and medical advances depend on the development of better diagnostic and analytical tools. Sources of high quality X-rays are in huge demand for scientific research, yet few dedicated synchrotron facilities exist worldwide due to their huge size and cost. The study, published in the journal Nature Physics, outlined a future where these high energy X-ray systems could be housed in a chamber only 1 metre on each side. The Diamond Light Source synchrotron, for comparison, is half a kilometre in circumference.

"This is a very exciting development", said Dr Stefan Kneip, from Imperial's Department of Physics and lead author of the study. "We have taken the first steps to making it much easier and cheaper to produce very high energy, high quality X-rays."

"Laser Technology is
advancing rapidly -
we are optimistic"

The new technology uses a process similar to what happens in other synchrotron sources, but on a microscopic scale. A high power laser is fired into a stream of helium gas, creating a jet of ionised plasma. A bubble of positively-charged helium ions forms, causing some of the electrons in the plasma to form an energetic beam that 'wiggles'. As the electron beam wiggles it produces a high quality source of X-rays. While previous laser driven X-ray sources existed, this new technology will result in X-rays 1000x brighter.

Dr Zulfikar Najmudin, the leader of the experimental team for this research, said: "we think a system like ours could have many uses. For example, it could eventually increase dramatically the resolution of medical imaging systems using high energy X-rays, as well as enable microscopic cracks in aircraft engines to be observed more easily."

Due to the high cost and complexity of high power lasers today, this new technology won't be on our laboratory benches any time soon. Dr Nahmudin remains hopeful that his research will lead to cheaper sources of high quality X-rays soon, adding: "laser technology is advancing rapidly, so we are optimistic that in a few years there will be reliable and easy to use X-ray sources available that exploit our findings".

When one mosquito becomes two

Benjamin Good

A new study from Imperial College London has suggested that, in our race to battle Malaria, a new threat has emerged.

The *Anopheles gambiae* is responsible for about half of the 500 million Malarial cases in sub-Saharan Africa. It has been found that two physically identical strains of mosquito are becoming separate species, known as 'M' and 'S'.

There have been recent developments in combating mosquitoes and the diseases they carry. From new insecticides to genetic technology, much hope and money has been invested in new control tactics. However, this new discovery is potentially problematic for researchers.

"From our new studies, we can see that mosquitoes are evolving more quickly than we thought and that unfortunately, strategies that might work against one strain of mosquito might not be effective against another. It's impor-



New mosquito strains have been found by researchers from Imperial

tant to identify and monitor these hidden genetic changes in mosquitoes if we are to succeed in bringing malaria under control by targeting mosquitoes," said Dr Mara Lawniczak, a lead researcher from the Imperial College London Division of Cell and Molecular Biology.

Previous research had indicated that there was a genetic difference between

the two strains localised to specific parts of the mosquito chromosomes. However, in this, the most extensive analysis of both strains' genomes, it has been revealed that the genetic differences are more numerous and widely dispersed in the genome than previously thought.

It is believed that the 'S' strain is the ancestral species as it is found over all of

sub-Saharan Africa; in contrast the 'M' strain is localised to more central and western areas of Africa. As well as this the 'M' strain seems to be better evolved to laying its eggs in rice paddy fields.

The next stage of the investigation will involve the use of a specially designed genotyping chip which will help to detect whether or not these genetic variations affect their inclination to become infected with malaria and other parasites.

Despite this new development and the mosquito's well-deserved reputation as a significant threat to human life, there is still plenty of hope and optimism that treatment and control is heading in the right direction. Another lead researcher in the project Professor George Christophides concludes, "Our studies help us to understand the makeup of the mosquitoes that transmit malaria, so that we can find new ways of preventing them from infecting people."

SCIENCE

Science Editors: **James Goldsack**
Katya-yani Vyas

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Quick Comment

Science on TV

No matter how frustrated I get from watching science television shows I will always watch them in the hope that they manage to explain an interesting concept in an entertaining and accurate way. Often, I'm rewarded, but sometimes I find myself screaming at the TV. Unfortunately, with Horizon's 'What Happened Before the Big Bang?' (BBC Two, 11/10/10) it was the latter.

The program took us through a number of different theories about what might have happened before the Big Bang, but there were far too many to really stimulate any afterthought about their consequences. One described an eternally rebounding universe whereas another said that since time didn't exist before the Big Bang it was rather a moot point.

Surprisingly, the only shot of the public face of theoretical physics Stephen Hawking was of him sat at the back of a lecture theatre, perhaps pondering not what happened before the Big Bang, but what was happening to the sales of his new book. However, Hawking's pal Roger Penrose was featured in greater depth as was his theory, the most interesting if not the most realistic of the night: something about time ceasing at the end of the universe as we know it being the catalyst for a new universe. He also has a book out now.

Imperial College's own evolutionary biologist Armand Leroi has presented a number of TV programmes including Channel 4's 'Mutants', based on his award winning book of the same name, and more recently 'What Darwin Didn't Know' on BBC Four. This show was a fantastic exposition of modern biology with a really interesting perspective on evolutionary development.

Yes, the graphics were good and the subject matter was unquestionably timely given the Darwin celebrations of last year, but what really made it work was the personality behind the production. Leroi is a communicator just as much as he is a scientist and this shines through with passion. He's not the only one though.

Imperial actually has a good track record for getting its scientists in front of the cameras. Olivia Judson, now working in Berlin, was the Dr Tatiana of her eponymous book and Channel 4 show highlighting the sexual diversity of the tree of life. And then there's Lord Professor Robert Winston and Professor David Nutt.

Scientific discovery doesn't occur in isolation, but in the thick of a culture of passionate investigation, among failed and successful experiments, grant applications, intrigue, infamy, boredom and creativity. It happens in the natural world and the worlds that science has created for itself: a hundred metres below the Franco-Swiss border at the LHC, high up on Mount Kea in Hawaii for the Keck telescopes, or in the solutions lab of the nearest chemistry department.

As Leroi pointed out to me "there's not one science that fits all", but there are two fundamental qualities that a successful popularisation of science must have: "firstly, it must be new and exciting, and secondly, it must be really, really true". The balancing act between these two will inevitably lead to compromises and as Leroi says, "sometimes it works". Sometimes, it doesn't.

David Carr

Stirred but not shaken

MI5's official historian on science in the security service

Madeleine Staple

As I sat down in the lecture theatre, I slowly became aware of a feeling that I was surrounded. I looked around. The audience was a mass of white and grey hair, glasses, and suits. As a whole, it was summed up by a rather elderly man who passed behind me, shouting to his wife: "Sorry dear, I was stuck behind a buffet!" I was slightly worried for my safety.

Professor Christopher Andrew was to talk about 'Science, Technology and Secret Intelligence' as part of the Vincent Briscoe Annual Security Lecture. He was introduced to us as the Official Historian of MI5, and he talked to us mostly as a historian, of times past.

He spoke of the ingenuity of the Soviet Union during the Cold War – they gave the US a present of a replica of the Great Seal, which hung over the ambassador's desk for a few years. It contained a tiny microphone; it had no battery or power pack, no wires, and was therefore virtually undetectable. It was also ridiculously simple – it worked just like a diaphragm. Quite embarrassing for the US, really.

In the midst of the Cold War, reports about the weaponry of both sides were being greatly exaggerated. Each side worried about the other, and at one time the tension was so high it seemed certain that one side would strike first in 'self-defence.' Professor Andrew put forth the idea that it was intelligence – the spy kind,

not the witty kind – that stopped a nuclear war. With imagery intelligence taken from spy planes, each side could see that actually, it was not as bad as they'd thought, and there was no need for a pre-emptive strike. With imagery intelligence, the situation never escalated.

The spy plane that gave this information took seven months from the first contract to the first test flight, according to Professor Andrew – a true testament to the scientists behind it. Some of the greatest codebreakers, although they may not have always studied the sciences, certainly displayed very typical eccentric-scientist behaviour. Dilly Knox – who broke an Enigma code – was well known for doing all his best thinking in the bath. "Eureka!"

It seemed that Professor Andrew was always trying to move away from the image of James Bond; as the Official Historian of MI5, it's important to remember that what he talks about is true. The man himself seemed completely believable. Compared to what he referred to as "the unconvincing plots of James Bond films", the Professor knew what he was talking about. He did seem to find the Ian Fleming spy quite funny...he called Bond a "brand leader", and later a gadget from "From Russia With Love" a "high-tech homicidal briefcase." I feel he enjoyed quietly taking the piss.

He almost resembled a typical English spy, now I think of it: he was distinguished, well-spoken (Cambridge, anybody?) and had an air

of definite knowledge. He might be a Historian, but that's no reason for us to judge him. I think the best way to describe him is just very, very genuine... unlike the audience member I espied afterwards wearing a black overcoat and large black hat. I think he thought it was a spy convention.

It was a shame that the average age of the audience was about 57 and that the most popular hair colour was grey, because Professor Christopher Andrews also talked about the future, and our role in it as scientists. He perceives the two biggest security threats right now to be "International Terrorism" and "Cyber Warfare".

Even now, the Iranian nuclear programme is suffering from hostile cyber attacks. A new US cyber command unit is being set up this month to tackle cyber threats. The 2006 attempted aeroplane bombings, in which planes were targeted leaving Heathrow for the US, were averted through constant surveillance. This could not have happened without the technical support of many scientists and engineers. We provide the technology, and without the technology, there's not really a lot of point.

Professor Christopher Andrew ended his explorative and very relevant lecture – with a rousing round of applause, old chap – with the words, "there is a lot for Imperial College to do."

And I agree with him.

Imperial's 'Green Team' dream big

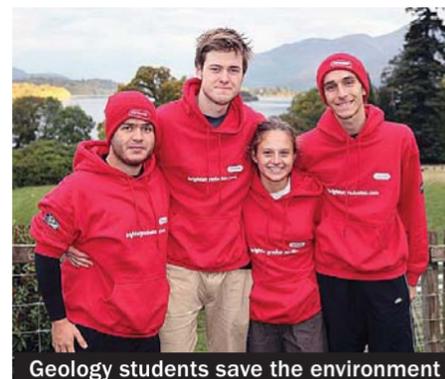
Alexander Karvelas

'Imperial College Green Dream', lead by undergraduate geology students Alexander Karvelas, Tom Wesby, Edoardo Borgomeo and Carmen Pinto, has set out to promote awareness of environmental issues within Imperial: its students, staff and campus.

In May earlier this year, Npower launched the Npower Future Leaders Challenge 2010, a nationwide competition that challenges university students to conceive, develop and deliver a project that will positively impact living sustainability within their local community with a legacy. The two teams with the best projects will be taken on a fortnight trip to the Arctic.

The initial task for the teams applying to the Challenge was to produce a 4-5 minute video outlining their proposals and goals for their independent projects. The competition attracted applications from across the country and Imperial College Green Dream was one of the 8 teams to reach the final. Each team was then given a £400 cheque to put towards starting their project and an invitation to attend a weekend at Derwent Water in the Lake District.

The weekend involved a mixture of physical and mental exercises to test the physical condition of the team but also their ability to



work together. The main physical challenges involved a 20km hike on and a canoe orienteering race on Derwent Water. The Imperial team showed a lot of enthusiasm and made great effort throughout the weekend, obtaining the second highest score and demonstrating their determination to do well in this competition.

Leading the 'Imperial College Green Team', Alexander Karvelas said: "Overall a thoroughly enjoyable and challenging weekend! Scrambling around one of the most beautiful and scenic landscapes makes you comprehend what you're trying to save! The inspiration we built up together as a team will push us to create and

sustain a legacy with our campus projects. It makes us want to look further and wider into London and beyond!"

The team say: "Spending time in such a scenic untouched part of the country has emphasised the importance of looking after the environment and the need to make positive change. It is also worthwhile to mention that the four team members travelled from London to Derwent Water by train and then by bicycle, trying as much as possible to minimize their emissions."

Following the weekend, the remaining finalists are now setting about working on the underlying purpose of the Challenge: to put into practice their proposals for making some contribution to the reduction of Greenhouse Gas emissions of their university.

Imperial College Green Dream, intend to implement a whole package of ideas by working with their university as an institution as well as organising events with the aim of increasing awareness amongst the student body as a whole. The university have given us massive support and now it's time to pay them back. At the heart of these efforts will be setting up mechanisms to streamline and intensify the creation of environmental policy for Imperial College London.

SCIENCE

Fighting the never-ending battle against ageing

Kadhim Shubber

Can we live forever? Why do we age? And if a starfish can regrow its limbs, why can't we? These were the monumental questions addressed by Professor Nadia Rosenthal in the first of this year's Friends of Imperial lecture series.

At first sight, 'The End of Ageing' could seem like a hubristic title for a lecture. But as Professor Rosenthal would explain in an eye-opening hour, we are already winning (aided no doubt by her ground-breaking research) the battle against aging.

But the curiously modest (lecture titles aside) professor explained, at the start of her lecture, that the inspiration for much of her research stems from her childhood. Recalling her summers playing in rockpools on an island off Maine, she said that it was the starfish, with their incredible regenerative ability, that inspired her and her life's research. Watching these wonderful creatures, from summer to summer, caused her to

Friends of Imperial are an alumni organisation that arrange lectures and support students through the Student Opportunities Fund. Their next lecture is titled "How the Sun influence Climate". 16th November. www.friendsofimperial.org.uk

ask the question 'Why can't mammals regenerate?' And while she is yet to answer that question (she says we're just evolutionary losers), her research has shown that mammals can regenerate, if only with a bit of genetic engineering.

The elusive goal is a world where humans could regrow their limbs. A world where that extraordinary ability isn't just the preserve of the newt and the starfish. The long and winding road to that goal begins with a seemingly magic ingredient: IGF-1 (insulin-like growth factor 1). This substance comes into play when

there is tissue damage. It promotes regeneration and regrowth and tellingly kids, who are much better at regeneration than adults, have a lot of IGF-1, and steadily lose it as they age.

Arnold Schwarzenegger: Governor of California, film star and also, a mouse - one of Professor Rosenthal's genetically modified mice. It's bigger and stronger than your average mouse. Its muscles age slower, heal better and faster and have a highly reduced tendency to atrophy. Why? The Schwarzenegger mouse has been genetically modified to produce more IGF-1 in its muscles.

Interestingly, as Professor Rosenthal explains, this miracle-like substance is linked to white blood cells, specifically macrophages. These cells which help form our formidable immune system, and perversely cause inflammation and health problems, have a Jekyll-and-Hyde character. M1, the Mr Hyde in our analogy, comes into play when we are injured and it bulldozes away any bacteria to protect us from infection. It then gives

way to M2, the Jekyll of the macrophage world, which encourages tissue regeneration and crucially secretes IGF-1. The flourish at the end of this process is that IGF-1 in turn stimulates more M2.

Ah now, we've solved it, IGF-1 is the answer, the solution to bald hair, wrinkled skin and age related degenerative diseases. An injection of this Elixir of Life should do the job right? Wrong. It only works when it has been released at the site of the injury, immediately after the injury. It stimulates chemokines, which act like molecular microphones and call other cells to help heal an injury. But not just any cells, bone marrow stem cells. The challenge is to engineer certain cells to deliver IGF-1 in the right place, at the right time to stimulate the process of regeneration.

We haven't traversed the entire length of the road towards regrowing our own limbs (or more prosaically, repairing damaged heart tissue) but thanks to Professor Rosenthal and her team, we do at least have a road map.



Prof. Rosenthal heads up groups at Imperial, Rome and Melbourne

Discover

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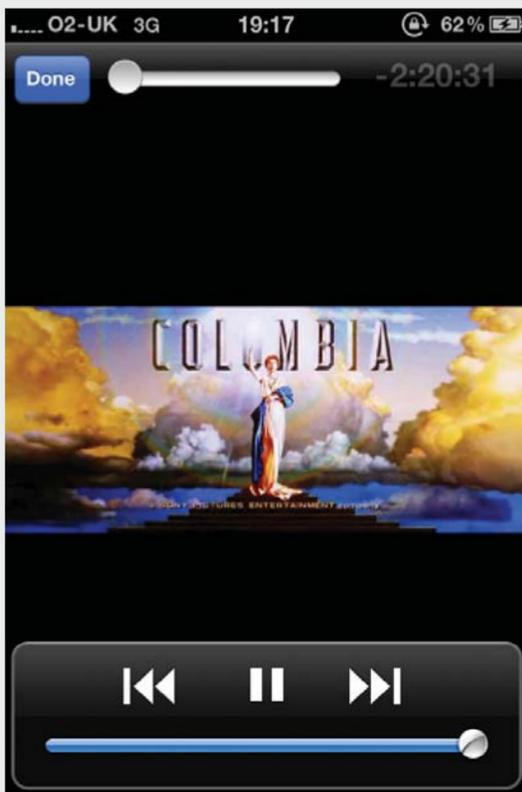
Technology Editor: **Samuel Gibbs**

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TECHNOLOGY

Free App of the Week

iOS - VLC for iOS



Want to play something your iPhone's built-in QuickTime app can't? You need the iOS version of the go-to media player, VLC, on your iPhone. Sorted.

Android - Rockplay for Android



RockPlayer for Android can play virtually every format under the sun, and with aplomb. If you've ever wanted to play video files, the free RockPlayer is a must.

The Mac App Store



Craig Buchanan

The iOS App Store: over 250,000 apps and more than 6.5 billion downloads onto 120 million iPads, iPhones and iPod touches, which are themselves growing, at a rate of 230,000 devices per day.

The numbers are staggering, even more so when you consider that the store is only two years old; the App Store concept has been tremendously successful for Apple's mobile platform, but what's next?

Last week Steve Jobs, the CEO of Apple, announced the new Mac App Store – a place to discover, purchase, and install applications for your Macintosh computer.

The obligatory technology blog coverage surrounding the Apple press event made the new store sound like a potential game changing, maybe even revolutionary, new way to get applications. Imagine thousands of applications available to purchase and install at the click of the mouse. No serial numbers to type in, no installers to deal with, just instant gratification. But is this just another example of the Jobs 'reality distortion field' causing the media to applaud every word that he utters?

Perhaps it is best to start with what appears to be wrong with the Mac App Store. It will inevitably become the *de facto* place for developers to sell their applications, and the go-to place for consumers.

Jobs said that it will not be the only way to install applications, but the average first time consumer will click on the Mac App Store icon when prompted, as they turn on their shiny new computer for the first time, and think that it's the only way. The iOS App Store is often criticised for being overly restrictive, with Apple explaining that this is to improve the

consumer's experience by preventing 'buggy' applications and 'questionable content'. The newly published review guidelines for the Mac App Store specifically prohibit games, 'Russian Roulette' for example; perhaps Apple have had some bad experiences in their Californian headquarters?

At any rate, inside the iOS Store, there is a definite 'race to the bottom' with application prices. There appears to be an emphasis on quantity, not quality, and this could make its way across to the desktop. Developers could spend less time developing good quality applications if they can only get a small amount of money from the consumers, especially once Apple has taken its cut of the proceeds.

They must also write their applications using Apple's own developer tools, which may not mean much to the average consumer, but it will make it harder for developers to sell cross platform applications such as Matlab, in the Mac App Store. Also expressly prohibited are plug-ins, such as Adobe Flash, although given Apple's resistance to Flash on iOS devices it comes as no real surprise.

Maybe I am being overly harsh, and simply objecting to change. In my opinion, the process of installing applications currently within Mac OS X can be confusing for new users, with applications coming with or without installers, simply packaged within virtual disks or just compressed straight into a ZIP file. Users will never have to deal with installers or dragging applications into the application folder, if the only source of applications is the Mac App Store. Yet I haven't even mentioned what could become one of the most important benefits of only installing applications from a 'walled garden' – I'm referring of course to security.

Macintosh users are currently not the main target for malicious attacks, with only a small proportion of computers worldwide running Mac OS X, but this will likely change one day once it becomes 'profitable' to attack Macs. The Mac App Store would provide a place to get applications that are not infected or malicious, and if there are any security holes in applications, they can be updated with a single click.

Additionally the potential to have every Macintosh user see your application on their new computer will attract new developers to the Mac platform; therefore the variety of applications will increase (if the large number of competing applications, and likelihood of low prices do not put off developers). The concept of being able to install proper desktop applications with a single click is certainly appealing; cheap applications that are easily accessible lead to impulse purchases (I'm looking at you Super Monkey Ball!). You may even be able to purchase and install Adobe Creative Suite Master Edition or the newly announced AutoCad 2011 for Mac OS X with a single click, although with the former being almost 30GB in size I would not recommend downloading it at College or in halls.

Imagine if Microsoft were to implement a similar idea on Windows? Ignoring the accusations of a monopoly, and the likely EU antitrust lawsuits, it could make software more secure if every application has to be individually reviewed, allowing consumers to easily keep applications up to date and patch security holes.

Will the Mac App Store change the way we discover applications on our personal computers? It opens in less than three months; until then we can only speculate.

TECHNOLOGY

American embarrassment as more documents leaked about Iraq war

From sexual assault to frozen funds, WikiLeaks is under attack from all sides, but will the whistleblower's friend survive? **Feroz Salam** continues his investigation

Wikileaks is in the news again this week after releasing approximately 400,000 formerly classified documents relating to the war in Iraq.

The biggest revelation from the document dump is the fact that the American government has seemingly admitted to far fewer civilian casualties than they actually knew about, and looked away from torture they knew the Iraqi army was committing. The document release will come at a welcome time for WikiLeaks, as it will likely help divert attention away from their other problems.

Currently WikiLeaks is suffering from issues regarding its finances, and the legal problems relating to the sexual assault allegations recently levied against Julian Assange, the public face of the

website.

As various mainstream news outlets pore over the documents published in the latest leak, Wikileaks itself has quite a task on its hands in trying to release funding, which has been frozen the last two weeks, since its account held with an Internet payment company was closed down. This appears to be a direct result of Wikileaks recently having been placed on a blacklist of organisations maintained by the Australian and American governments, and makes it unlikely that many other popular Internet payment services will want to deal with them in the near future. This will cause some serious issues for WikiLeaks' progress, but a quick look at the website shows that you can still donate to fund their operations. It's unclear however, whether they will ever be able to access funds from the blocked account.

The funding problem seems to match the regular escalation of issues that occurs every time WikiLeaks is poised to release a large amount of data to the press, and now comes off the back of allegations of sexual harassment levied against Assange in Sweden.

The investigation has taken some puzzling twists and turns – starting off as a rape and sexual assault case, before being hurriedly downgraded less than 24 hours later to a harassment investigation.

After eight weeks of relatively little news about the investigation, Swedish prosecutors are yet to formally file a case based on it. This has lent some credibility to Assange's claims that he is the victim of a particularly callous smear campaign. Assange is understandably refusing to discuss the matter with the press, storming out of an interview on CNN recently as the inter-

viewer attempted to press him into discussing the implications of the charges on Wikileaks.

When I wrote about Wikileaks for Felix last year, I ended my article with a grim prediction – that it would take a lot for them to stay in business for any sizeable amount of time, considering the wide range of governments they seem to have upset.

Roughly six months on and a fair few scoops later, they are still hanging on in there, but the question marks over the future of their organisation remain just as prominent.

With the curious rape allegations, it looks as if Assange might be up against people who are willing to stoop to remarkable lows in an attempt to keep him under control, and only time will tell whether his resourcefulness will be able to keep Wikileaks (and himself) in safe hands.



Windows Phone 7 lands in the UK

Jake Lea-Wilson

Miles away from the cringe-worthy launch of Windows 7, almost exactly a year ago to this day, Microsoft have kick-started or 'rebooted' their vision of an operating system for the modern smartphone. The developers say they are "proud" of what they've achieved and so they should be – it's not often that a new Microsoft product opens to such a positive reception.

Quite a few new Windows Phone 7 devices were launched at an event in London, including models from HTC, LG, Dell and Samsung, with two currently available for purchase in the UK – including the impressive HTC HD7 on O2 (shown right).

Much consideration has been given to the graphical user interface in WP7, and this gives the new phone OS a clean, crisp feeling. It's almost like they've taken the best features of the iPhone (swiping, pinch-to-zoom and other multi-touch gestures), and mixed them with their own ideas (moving backgrounds, colourful menus, infinite scroll), to make something greater than the sum of the two.

The default apps have been designed by designers and not just developers, giving a new element of style, rather than just functionality. The main emphasis, however, seems to be on integration and this is, frankly, fantastic. Finally Microsoft have understood that they are not just making firmware for generic, faceless office workers – they're making it for social animals, for people with character. Right on the home screen, you can see posts from Twitter, Facebook, messages, calls and any other information apps decide to give you.

But what's missing? Inevitably there are shortfalls in the system and surprise surprise, they've decided not to include Flash, not to mention copy and paste. Furthermore there's no HTML5, which is supposed to be the future of the Internet, so there may be trouble looming.

What does this mean for the mobile phone space though? Is Microsoft just entering a crowded market place, or is it pushing the boundaries of mobile devices further? Now with Android, BlackBerry OS, iOS and Windows Phone 7, consumers have never had more choice, and better quality. Even the self-proclaimed "dork-talk" man himself, Stephen Fry, is a convert. Surely his endorsement can only mean good things for Microsoft's newest mobile OS.



Less Air. More lust

Chris Fonseca

At Apple's 'Back to the Mac' event last week, Steve Jobs once again got up on stage and announced that their size-zero laptop, the MacBook Air, had gone on a diet and picked up a little brother on the way. Apple announced two new models: a thinner successor to the 13.3" version and a brand new 11.6" notebook.

The MacBook Air is now even more knife-thin at 17mm at its thickest edge, tapering down to an minute 2.8mm.

The 13" model also sheds a little fat, bringing it down

to 1.32kg, while the new 11.6" model weighs in at just 1.06kg.

The biggest developments however, are in the internals. Both models feature a low-voltage version of the Core2Duo processor, coupled with a decent battery, proposing seven hours of usable life. In the interest of shrinking the design as much as physically possible, Apple has abandoned off-the-shelf components and opted for a custom flash-based SSD storage system, similar to that used in the iPad, iPhone and iPod touch. While this allows for much faster memory access and near instant-on boot up, it brings the price to £849 for the base model 11.6", which is still cheaper than the starting price of the previous iteration.

There is no doubt that the MacBook Air is a lust-inducing laptop, the question is: will this be a hit with the general public? Or will it suffer the same fate as the last Air, simply to be used to help Senior Managers show off?



BUSINESS

News Summary

UBS forecasts massive growth in fx

UBS, Switzerland's largest bank and a global leader in the foreign exchange market, has forecast daily trading volumes to more than double to over \$10 trillion by 2020, from the present \$4 trillion.

The Bank's global head of fx strategy added that this will make it much harder for central banks to manipulate exchange rates in pursuit of domestic fiscal and monetary policy mandates. He gave the reason for this expansion as increasing volatility in currency prices incentivising investors to be more active in managing their foreign exchange exposures.

'Inflation assault' on China

China's commerce minister has criticised the US for pursuing anti-competitive policies. Speaking at a trade fair on Tuesday, Chen Deming praised Chinese exporters but said that they face unfair obstacles "because the United States' issuance of dollars is out of control and international commodity prices are continuing to rise."

He further claimed that "China is being attacked by imported inflation. The uncertainties of this are causing firms big problems."

The comments follow weeks of heated exchanges as the US and China accuse each other of currency manipulations and other infringements on prior agreements to liberalise their bilateral trade.

BA criticises US on airport security

The Chairman of British Airways, Martin Broughton, told the annual conference of the Airport Operators Association in London this week that some security measures at US airports were redundant.

Singling out the requirements that passengers remove their shoes and have laptops separately checked in particular, Broughton argued that the UK should not "kowtow" to US demands on UK security procedures, "America does not do internally a lot of the things they demand that we do. We shouldn't stand for that." "We should say, 'We'll only do things which we consider to be essential and that you Americans also consider essential'," he added.

UK GDP growth boosts Coalition

According to figures released by the Office for National Statistics on Tuesday, the UK economy has grown by 0.8 per cent in the third quarter of 2010. Just hours after the announcements, the ratings agency Standard and Poor's said that the spending cuts of the Coalition mean that the UK will keep its AAA rating. The government has taken the news as encouraging to its bid to eliminate the record budget deficit by 2015 through cuts that have so far slashed 490,000 government jobs.

G-20 meets amid growing talk of a currency war

Concerns about the implications of a Sino-American currency devaluation race continue to rise

Lingxi Huang

After their meeting in Seoul, G-20 finance ministers expressed optimism that a much-hyped global currency war may yet be avoided. Thoughts have now turned to the longer-term motivations for countries to manipulate their currencies to help exporters, and measures that can be taken against this.

The main focus of these concerns is the seemingly intractable dispute between the US and China over capital flows and the exchange rate of the Renminbi (RMB). The US has accused Beijing of keeping its currency artificially low in order to boost its exports. US Treasury Secretary, Tim Geithner hit the headlines recently with his comments on China's currency manipulation. China, on the other hand, remains immutable in the face of protests from the West. Despite modest appreciation since September, the RMB has hardly moved since July 2008. In a floating rate system, currency values are allowed to fluctuate according to the demand and supply forces in the market. For example, when Chinese manufacturers sell their products in the US, they need to convert their earnings in US Dollars into RMB. This drives up the demand for RMB and increases the amount of US dollars available, hereby causing RMB to appreciate against the dollar.

The People's Bank of China, however, can buy USD and convert the excess Dollars into dollar-denominated assets such as US Treasury bonds, effectively preventing the currency from circulating back into the market and propping up the value of US dollars. This offers Chinese goods a price advantage overseas, boosting its export-fueled growth. Estimates put the undervaluation from 15% to as much as 40% with respect to USD.

China is not the only currency manipulator in the world. Almost every country controls the fluctuations of its currency to some extent to create a stable currency. Thailand, for instance, placed capital controls to stem the volatile inflow of "hot money" in October, in an attempt to prevent excessive appreciation of Thai Baht. The US is hardly a helpless victim - it is weakening its own currency through a process called "quantitative easing", which essentially involves printing more money to buy government bonds.

Furthermore, if history is anything to go by, China can hardly be reassured by the possible revaluation of its currency. In the last instance of a country demonstrating "responsibility and commitment to an international monetary system", Japan ended up with a decade of deflation and stagnant growth.

The Plaza Accord of 1985 led to a deliberate decline in the value of US Dollars, while at the same time causing the Yen to almost double in value against USD. In the 1980s, Japan shared



G-20 finance ministers gather for a group photo at their recent meeting in Seoul

many of the characteristics of present day China: a strong export-dependent economy, a relatively cheap exchange rate against the dollar, and a booming housing market.

Strengthening the Yen is argued by some economists to have indirectly led to the bursting of the asset price bubble in Japan that caused misery in the years following. The US, on the other hand, used the same agreement to reduce its current account deficit and help its economy out of a recession. In the light of Japan's 'Lost Decade', China's reluctance to cave in to the demands of the US Congress is understandable.

The wider implications of exchange rate policies have added twists and turns to the issue, such that the two countries are tangled up in an intricate web of interdependence. The US government is running a large deficit for the stimulus program during the recession, which is mainly funded through government issued bonds. China, concerned about keeping its export-oriented businesses open, swallows up large swathes of US government debt.

Herein lies the paradox of the Sino-American dispute: the ability of the US government to run large deficits depends on the actions of Chinese Central Bank to strengthen the Dollar. If the Chinese no longer need to prop up the USD, a Greek-style crisis may loom ahead for the debt-ridden US government. Moreover, if RMB corrects for a 40% undervaluation, the

made-in-China goods in Walmart will receive a similar price hike. For a populace used to cheap RMB, changing its old habits will involve rather painful adjustments. A re-evaluation of RMB, therefore, may not have a happy ending for everyone after all.

The competitive edge gained from an undervalued currency is often short lived and unsustainable in the long run. This is especially so when others soon follow. Trade advantages are derived from cheapening a currency relative to all others, but this is no longer possible when all the currencies devalue at the same time. Both developed and emerging nations, from Japan to Colombia, have recently tried to drive down the value of their currencies. A general weakening of currencies is now threatening the global economy, which has just begun to show some signs of revival.

So far, there is more rhetoric than action in the currency war between China and US, but if the skirmishes continue to escalate, unpleasant measures such as a return to trade protectionism may soon follow.

Much of the progress made through years of expanding international trade could be swiftly undone by belligerent states attempting to give their own exporters an edge. In the end, redressing the currency problems may prove to be the art of choosing between the disastrous and the unpalatable.

The Delay to Metric

A post from Ravi's Blog.



It seems that every time I write on this blog its bad news. Although today is no exception, I will start off by telling you some good things.



Ravi Pall

Deputy President (Finance & Services)

Firstly FlveSixEight has opened, exceeding all expectations. On the first Wednesday we took over £15,000! Which is a record number. The week started off well, with the doors to FiveSixEight opening at 5PM.

I personally saw people run into the bar, eager to be the first patron of the colossal concrete bar. Within seconds the bar was 5 deep, and a sense of achievement ensued, when this was reduced within minutes. FiveSixEight truly is a small insight to how amazing this final phase of the build will be.

I am extremely proud of all the staff at Imperial College Union (including the student ones) for all the hard work they have put in over the month. The conditions have not been ideal, but the overwhelming response from students is a testament to their efforts. I personally hope that with the premise of Metric on the horizon, we will all take "our game" to the next level.

Now for the aforementioned unfortunate news. Asbestos was found Wednesday last week in the nightclub venue. Consequently the proposed opening date of 29 October is now impossible. The risk of exposure to the workers in that area means that only certain parts of the space can be occupied, while the asbestos material is removed, leading to a delay in works.

After talks with the contractors, and various Union staff, the revised launch period will be the end of November. While this delay is unfortunate, it must be understood that this project has thrown up a huge range of challenges that could not have been predicted and the contractors and project team are working at capacity to achieve completion.

I would like to thank our students for their patience as we build a social centre for students at Imperial and the students of London.



President's Surgeries

To be accessible and accountable to students, the Union President holds weekly surgeries at the **Student Hub*** where you can come and ask or talk about anything, from academic or welfare issues to questions about the bars, nightclub, clubs & societies or upcoming elections and Union politics.



The list of dates for the Autumn term is below, but times and locations may change. Please remember to check at the Union website www.imperialcollegeunion.org before you come along. If you want to bring up a specific issue you can always book yourself into a surgery and send some information about what you want to talk about to president@imperial.ac.uk. And if you can't make the dates, you can always arrange a meeting via email.

* Student Hub: Level 3, Sherfield Building, South Kensington Campus, London SW7 2AZ

The Union is run by students for students; you have a right to be heard.



Surgery Timetable

- Thursday 14 October – 12:30-14:00
- Friday 22 October – 12:30-14:00
- Thursday 28 October – 12:30-14:00
- Thursday 4 November – 12:30-14:00
- Thursday 11 November – 12:30-14:00
- Friday 19 November – 12:30-14:00
- Thursday 25 November – 12:30-14:00
- Thursday 2 December – 12:30-14:00
- Thursday 9 December – 12:30-14:00
- Thursday 16 December – 12:30-14:00
- Thursday 23 December – 12:30-14:00

Famers' Market on Wednesdays

There will be a Farmers' Market every Wednesday in Beit Quad, from 11:30-15:00. Come along to get lunch, do your weekly shopping, fine some cheap snacks and relax in the Union.

The stalls will be:
Moroccan salads

Taste of the Algarve
Portuguese savories

Une Normande a Londres
French cheese
French Pancakes

Rummanco
Caribbean savories

Delta Food
Nuts, olives, backlava

Comptoir
French patisserie and bread

Cookies & Cream
English fudge



POLITICS

The world beyond College walls



Iran

Iran has begun loading fuel into its Bushehr reactor according to the Iranian state media. 163 fuel rods will be loaded into the reactor which is expected to start generating electricity in 2011. Fuel for the reactor will be provided by Russia, which will also receive the spent fuel rods from the Bushehr reactor, reducing the chance of proliferation. This marks a milestone in Iran's civilian nuclear programme which was hampered by UN sanctions and there are suspicions that



Washington has agreed to the fuelling of the Bushehr reactor in return for Russian support for more sanctions against Iran.



Indonesia

Indonesia's Mount Merapi has erupted, killing at least 25 people and prompting thousands to flee the local area. This eruption comes after a tsunami struck the Mentawai Islands following a magnitude 7.7 quake leaving at least 100 people dead. An area 10km around the volcano has been declared a danger zone and residents have been ordered to evacuate. Many residents however, refuse to leave their property and livestock behind, in case of a false alarm. Mount Merapi is Indonesia's most active volcano, erupting most recently in 2006 in an eruption which killed 2 people. Indonesia is located on the Pacific Ring of Fire which is one of the most geologically active areas on Earth.



Cuba

Cubans have begun queuing outside Government offices to apply for business permits following economic reforms on the island. Cubans will be allowed to apply for self-employment licenses for 178 job classes including taxi driver, restaurateur and electricians. Cuban will also be allowed to hire staff other than relatives in 83 of the approved job classes for the first time since 1968 when small businesses were nationalised. The Cuban Government have also introduced income tax on the island for incomes of over 5,000 pesos (£142) and hope these reforms will improve the Cuban economy which is in the midst of a severe crisis.

Edited by Kenneth Lee

Politics Editors: Hassan Joudi, Rory Fenton
James Lees, Rajat Jain
politics.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Debate whether Lib D

The Lib Dems put their country before party politics, believes Hassan Joudi

The accusations that the Liberal Democrats have compromised or "betrayed" their principles has constantly been levelled at them since their rise to shared power in May 2010. These have only intensified with the recent comprehensive spending review and the announcement of a higher cap on university tuition fees. But is it fair to judge them so harshly?

The Liberal Democrats have found themselves in a very unique situation. The wrangling and negotiations between British political parties has not been seen since 1940, when the pressures of World War II forged the last coalition government led by Winston Churchill. Thus few people in living memory have experienced a British coalition government, certainly none of the middle-aged politicians in the Conservative or Lib Dem parties tasked with forming it.

To emphasise this uniqueness, in May 2010, on the day David Cameron was finally ushered in to Number 10, Nick Robinson, the BBC Political Editor sighed in front of the camera as he presented BBC News live and said he'd simply "run out of superlatives" to describe the day's events in London.

"Few people think the Lib Dems intentionally made that promise with malice"

Before the election none of the political parties seemed to consider too seriously the possibility they would be working alongside one another to run the country. Campaigners employed naïve election tactics like demonising the enemy and eagerly signing pledges, the most high-profile of which is the Liberal Democrats "promising to vote against any increase in tuition fees" at an NUS event.

But no one has the benefit of hindsight and it's obvious this pledge has put them between a rock and a hard place. However it is rash to roll out pre-election examples like this in order to accuse the Lib Dems of "selling out" because no one could foresee how the election results and negotiations would play out in the coming weeks. Few people think the Lib Dems intentionally made that promise with malice, intending to break it once they were in power with the Conservatives. They have now matured as a party, gained experience of coalition politics and know better next time not to make such promises.

The issue of pre-election and post-election mindsets is intriguingly wider than this. Before the election, everyone was clamouring for change, probably greatly influenced by the 2008 Obama-mania across the Atlantic with his five-word slogan "Change we can believe in." Britons wanted something different from 13 years of Labour government, we were told. The expenses scandal was still fresh with the electorate.

That is what the Conservative Party slogan "Vote

for Change" appealed to. The Lib Dem slogan proclaimed "Change that works for you, building a fairer Britain", and Nick Clegg's appeal to the British populace at the end of the first televised debate was to "try something different."

Well now we've got change! An unprecedented occurrence in British politics! Three-party politics is here and the 'blue vs red' regime is gone. But complaints flew in left, right and centre. "Everything is so different!" or "The Lib Dems have betrayed us! Sold out!" were some of the typical comments blaring out on the airwaves in radio debates or filling the inches of newspaper opinion columns. Complaining it seems is a favourite past time for many observers.

To those who argue the Lib Dems got the worse end of the deal, it is wise to remember that Britain operates a representative democracy system. To summarise this in one sentence: we the people vote for our representatives in parliament which is the body with most direct influence on our government's policy. Thus if your political party doesn't get enough votes, it has less of a right to influence government policy. Be that outside the government as a party in opposition, or inside the government as a partner in coalition.

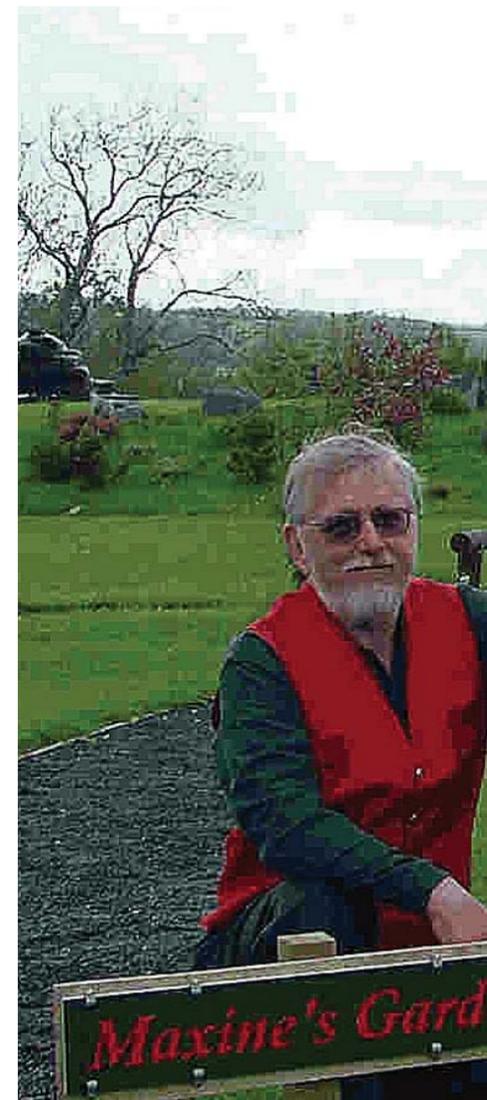
The Conservative and Lib Dem parties were never on equal footings. The former received 1.5 times more of the votes cast (10.7m to 6.8m), and owing to the First Past The Post (FPTP) system 5.4 times more seats in the House of Commons (307 to 57). And this difference is duly reflected in the 8-page Coalition Negotiations document they published on 11 May 2010.

Manifestos have been chopped and spliced, and understandably Britons are not used to this. Capital Gains Tax was the first issue to crop up in June 2010, with Conservatives giving way to Lib Dem manifesto policy, and the pupil premium is another recent example. The Lib Dems have in turn acknowledged that coalition government policy takes priority over their party manifesto policy in a plethora

"Which do you put first: your party or your government?"

of other areas, most painfully on tuition fees.

Such issues are at the essence of coalition government politics. Which do you put first, your party or your government? To use a crude sporting example it is like a football player torn between club and country match commitments. Because few of us in living memory remember a British coalition, it may seem an extraordinary or a special situation. But take a simple glance at other nation states with frequent coalition governments, and it soon becomes apparent that our club and country analogy is very common. It is not fair to criticise the Lib Dems for often choosing their country. Soon we Britons won't be so surprised when similar issues arise again in future.



Do the Lib Dems need to regrow support from



Have the Liberal Democrats lost their way or

Demos betrayed voters continues

Nick Brown argues Lib Dems have lost support



From the grass roots level? Lembit Opik gets some early practice

“Building a Fairer Britain” – the slogan of the Liberal Democrat manifesto. Is this just another promise that the Liberal Democrats have compromised on in their frantic grasp for power? A question not only being asked by Liberal Democrat MPs, but one that is also at the forefront of public interest.

The announcement of the Conservative-led coalition government just 6 months ago is still fresh in the memory of the public, and the question from them still remains, can there be any gain for the Liberal Democrats from this? Even at the very outset of the coalition it seemed plainly obvious to everyone that it was the Liberal Democrats who would, and have conceded nearly all of their manifesto promises. Comments like these are often made in the media, but what has the Liberal Democrat Party really conceded in this coalition agreement?

Let’s address the long-nosed fat grey animal in the room first, tuition fees. It had been Lib Dem policy for some time now to scrap tuition fees. With this being the case it would have been expected that Vince Cable, Business Secretary and big campaigner against tuition fees, would have had a whisper in the ear of Nick Clegg before endorsing the Browne Report. So concession number 1, endorsement of possible tuition fee

rises.

The comprehensive spending review announcement last Wednesday is equivalent to taking a lightsaber to the Liberal Democrat manifesto. First and foremost it increased the rate at which the Liberal Democrats believe cuts to the deficit should be made. Along with this Nick Clegg endorsed and applauded the chancellor’s announcement of a 50% cut in social housing budget, reduction of the police budget by 16% over 4 years and 490,000 public sector workers becoming unemployed. All of which are unthinkable compromises from the Lib Dem manifesto promises of 3,000 more police on the beat, only minor cuts in 2011/2012 and a government that helps the poorer in society. So that’s concessions 2 – Lib Dem values 0.

Right back at the start of this saga in May, the Liberal Democrats made possibly some of the most damning U-turns on their electoral promises. One of the most decisive policies during the election was the commitment to not build a new generation of nuclear power stations within the UK.

This U-turn on policy took no more than a week after the formation of the coalition, announced by Chris Huhne, who described it as “failed technology”. At the emergency budget in June it was announced that there would be a

steep VAT increase to 20%, something which Vince Cable and the Liberal Democrats were unequivocally against. This U-Turn should have spelled out to the Liberal Democrats that taking such compromises wasn’t in the nature of their grass-roots members, with a YouGov/Brand Democracy survey, announcing that 48% of those who voted Lib Dem were less likely to vote for them again primarily due to the VAT increase to 20%. Along with this, Harriet Harman’s announcement that “half the 30,000 new recruits are previous Labour supporters but regard voting as not enough to change things. A third are former Liberal Democrat supporters angry with the way in which Nick Clegg formed a coalition government” is a sure sign that things aren’t all that good for them.

It seems that the only real thing the Liberal Democrats appear to have got out of the bargain is a vote in commons on a referendum on electoral reform, a bill which includes specific policies that are contrary to the their manifesto, such as reduction in the number of MPs. A referendum in which Conservative MPs are able to campaign against it.

The question in all of this is not whether this coalition will survive, but rather can the Liberal Democrats survive this coalition?

Stereotype of women wrong

Samiha Hayek

She’s probably uneducated and unfulfilled. Captive to her religion, subservient and invisible. These are just some of the inherent stereotypes that are embodied in our modern society, obscuring the Islamic female identity under the guise of oppression and inequality. But did Islam really intend to undermine the female existence? If so, are Muslim women victims of a chauvinistic spiritual ideology or simply a misrepresentation by an unchanging historical label?

‘Women in Islam – Dispelling Stereotypes’, held by the Imperial Ahlul Bayt Islamic society, sought to unmask and challenge this 3-dimensional debate, addressing and teasing those very stereotypes that are classically conditioned in our society. The event, held on Monday 18th October, attracted an audience of many demographics, faiths and ethnicities. Led by world-renowned speakers,

the audience were captivated in an interplay of historical and modern referencing.

Amina Inloes, who has an MA in Islamic Studies and currently teaches at the Islamic College for Advanced Stud-

“The audience were captivated”

ies, London, resurrected the silenced voice of the Muslim woman who was proactive, influential and well established even at the advent of the life of Prophet Mohammed, the rebirth of whom is testament alone to the strong female presence in Islam. Similarly, Shelina Janmohamed, named by The Times as one of the UK’s 13 most influential Muslim women, challenged the myths that stem from this polar debate. As this award-winning author, journal-

ist and blogger explored the levels of the Islamic gender hierarchy, and the presumed absence of female autonomy, it became evident that the roles of men and women in Islam were never intended to be consanguineous but rather complementary to one another, in perfect synchrony. Thus, to argue that the only escape for a Muslim woman is to abandon Islam, is unethical and misguided.

The discussion was topical, current and academically debated, exploring the many avenues of this tentative topic in an innovative and intricate manner. Whether or not the stereotypes that arguably define Muslim women have been eradicated is difficult to ascertain or judge. However, in all matters of stigma, it is indubitable that open discussion and freedom of speech are far more effective at uprooting and remoulding misconceived ideas, and it is fair to say that the Ahlul Bayt Society’s event achieved this.



On the journey towards acting on their values?

COMMENT

FELIX

Imperial is woefully unambitious when it comes to teaching

Imperial is proud of referring to itself as the university of the future. After all, few universities can boast graduates who predicted the 20th Century as keenly as H.G. Wells or who contributed to our advancement throughout it as significantly as Alexander Fleming, Dennis Gabor or James Ellis. It is therefore deeply disappointing that a university so keen to promote technical innovation in all fields should be neglecting an area much closer to home.

One of the most tired and overused clichés that new Imperial students are exposed to is that their departments do not care about them. Their priority, we have all been told, is to perform cutting-edge research. Students can come to the lectures, pick up the handouts, attend one or two tutorials and then find themselves shoved into the examination room. If they somehow manage to come out of the process with a high-quality degree, the system will suck them into a research position and force the next year's intake to run the same gauntlet.

While the truth may be nowhere near this bleak, students are given little reason to doubt the received wisdom. Teaching methods in most departments have changed little since they first opened, whereas the capacity for innovation has increased beyond measure.

We need look no further than our own Mathematics Department for proof of this. Professor Richard Thomas is embracing modern technology, not simply for the sake of it, but as an effective tool to improve learning and understanding. His students are full of praise for his techniques; again and again they say that the mobile app approach is helping them engage with the content instead of simply skimming through lectures, mindlessly scribbling down notes.

One would be tempted to ask "What's taken so long?" if the answer weren't so obvious. There is a lack of ambition and creativity when it comes to teaching at Imperial. And innovation is often not taken seriously, as Professor Thomas knows all too well.

The College believes that it can retain its reputation through high quality research and ruthlessly high entry standards. It doesn't hold itself to the same standard of excellence and innovation in teaching as it does in research, and it thinks that this has little effect on its image. The pitifully poor level of donations from Alumni is sure proof of their folly. Had H.G. Wells been told, over a century ago, that blackboards and chalk would still be used in today's lecture theatres – would he not be disappointed?

Pigeons of prey

The next threat to British security could be coming from closer to home than you think...



Rhys Davies

"We're living on borrowed time. If we don't do something, it will be too late"

It was a very ordinary day when I realised I was a superhero.

I was walking through Hyde Park with nowhere in particular to be. As I was by myself, I granted my tongue the freedom to do as it wished. It entertained itself with a delightful series of clicks and clucks as I walked.

I stopped – I had company. There was a squirrel in my path, watching me expectantly. My tongue's merry rhythm continued, unaware of its audience. My sciurine friend began to dance about me in rapture because of my lingual acrobatics. I then realised the power I held over squirrel-kind. It is my gift and my curse. Who am I? I am...the Squirreler! Ahem.

The reason I am not currently cavorting about the Royal Parks in my underpants is that, as a super-power, communicating to squirrels is over-rated. All they ever talk about are acorns of interest. That, and whether peanuts are nuts or not. (To any squirrels reading this: they're legumes – deal with it!). No, global conquest will not come in squirrel-form.

But watch out for the pigeons. Squirrels are very obvious. When you see a squirrel, you remember the encounter, perhaps even using it as a talking piece on social occasions if you happen to be that conversationally challenged. Conversely, when did you last see a pigeon? Can't remember? Of course not; they

Illustration by Mitesh Patel



Thought the biggest threat to Britain was from human terrorists? Think again

barely flicker on your perceptual registers. And why would they? Pigeons are just so commonplace.

Being hidden in plain sight allows pigeons greater room for manoeuvre. Are those in Trafalgar Square milling about or are they reconnoitering the strategic entries and exits into key tactical locations? Are those flocking about Big Ben trying to roost or are they clocking the security shift changes at Westminster. What better cover is there than being too innocuous for suspicion?

What's really worrying is that the leaders of this pigeon army may not just be among us – we might be training them! Exhibition Road is a great academic and cultural hotspot and plenty of pigeons call it home. With so much information passing back and forth, a pigeon could eavesdrop all it needs to know in no time. After all, who would consider censoring themselves because of a mere pigeon? How many times have you seen a pigeon flying about in the SAF building? It's there for a reason.

You might scoff at this and say that the average pigeon is no smarter than a scatter-brained squirrel. This is a mistake you make at your peril – never underestimate your enemy. B. F. Skinner demonstrated that pigeons show an uncanny capacity for operant conditioning. Through trial and error, they can quickly learn and adapt to their environment.

A leaked government dossier indicates that London could be buried under their guano in forty-five minutes.

Thus, they can take the fight anywhere without going on the back-talon. The SAS, the Taliban? Amateurs compared to a pigeon with a grudge.

There are 7.5 million people in London. Do you know how many pigeons there are? No? Neither do I. No-one has an accurate grasp of their numbers. How can we develop counter-strategies when we lack such basic intelligence? We are woefully under-prepared for a pigeon insurgency – a certain leaked government dossier indicates that London could be buried under their guano in as little as forty-five minutes.

The big question surrounding this columbine coup for total domination is not "if..." but "when..." We are living on borrowed time. If we don't do something soon, it will be too late. There is one thing I know for certain.

We won't be getting any help from the squirrels.

Have your say on this article at felixonline.co.uk

COMMENT

The opinions expressed on the Comment pages represent the views of the author only.

Is infidelity really such a crime?



Black Sheep

“Can you imagine getting chucked out of university because of your personal life?”

Our society pours so much scorn onto cheaters. After public outcry, John Terry was stripped of the England captaincy because of his infidelity. Can you imagine getting chucked out of university because of your personal life?

And speculation about whether Brangelina got together before or after his split from Jen dominated the press for what seemed like an age. Does it matter? Does it affect you?

I'm not saying anger is unjustified, or that being betrayed doesn't hurt like hell. Just that the punishment doesn't quite fit the crime. Many of us have done it. And if you are sitting there thinking you have never even been tempted...well I'm sorry, I simply don't believe you. When a relationship is on the rocks, we reach out to someone who can give us what our partner cannot. Making spurious judgments about the lives of others is such a waste of time, perhaps understanding might be a bit more productive.

Weirdly, my mother told me that when she was young, her relationships had a tendency to overlap. As you can prob-

ably tell, my upbringing was quite a liberal one. Her 'experience' illuminates an important point. We all follow 'patterns' in our relationships, even people as lovely as my mum. Many of us will leave our boyfriend or girlfriend only when we find another person worth the effort. It takes a great deal of courage to end a relationship as soon as you realize you are unhappy. Is it any wonder that some of us will cheat before we realise exactly what we want? For some, infidelity is a sign of inner turmoil. Not only should we avoid judgement, perhaps we should even be sympathetic to these lost souls.

I can just hear you now. 'You wouldn't say that if it happened to you'. Yes, fair enough, I've never been unfaithful, nor, to my knowledge, been cheated on myself. But I have felt my eye wandering. I can understand how angry my boyfriend would have felt if he found that out, how hurt, how disrespected. In a sense, my attitude is actually more judgemental.

Have your say on this article at felixonline.co.uk

I consider wanting to cheat as much of a betrayal as actually doing it. But I'm sure if we could see everything our partners were thinking, there would plenty to get angry about.

Don't get me wrong, I do have a conscience, there are some things that are just plain wrong. Repeatedly lying to someone, either to maintain an affair or to have a lot of little ones, deserves our scorn (step forward Wayne Rooney). But there are so many good people who have done this. I fully admit to being capable of doing it.

I guess it comes down to a sense that staying with someone you don't care about is just as hurtful as cheating on them. If you feel your relationship getting stale, either work on it, or end it. In my opinion, if people actually act on their adulterous impulses, it's a sign of weakness, or drunkenness, or both. It is not necessarily a sign of an immoral character.

To assume that you would never, ever cheat given the opportunity is a big claim. And one I think few people could honestly make. So why waste time judging those who do?

The Event went off with a 'pfft'



Angry Geek

“This genre of television is so vague you dream up the missing narrative so the writers don't have to”

I decided I'd sit down and watch Channel 4's latest purchase, "The Event", last week. Partly because the advertising campaign had caught my eye, but mostly because it didn't look anything like *Lost*. This turned out to be wrong on a level so fundamentally obvious it was only matched by the crushing inevitability of the show's own plotline. The Event is a pile of turgid poo-poo.

Let me summarise for you. A computer games programmer has...NO. WAKE UP. You see? You were beginning to drift off already, weren't you? This is what this entire genre of television relies on - being so vague you just start dreaming up the missing sixty percent of the narrative so the writers don't have to bother.

The first episode was a horrific mish-mash of plotlines which were presumably supposed to be excitingly open-ended - why is a plane being crashed into the President's summer home? Who are these crow-faced aliens with strange abilities to distort the laws of physics? Why is the saucepan-faced actor playing the protagonist incapable of expressing emotion through facial expressions? You're supposed to 'ooh' and 'aah' at these, and then immediately mash the 'Record Series' button on your remote

before the first ad break.

Except, as we all know, most of these shows are written in episode order, with little or no idea how half of the plot strands should end up. *Lost*'s laughable attempt at 'closure' in its final series turned out to be a hasty patching of plot holes and then a shrug of the shoulders in the direction of anything they couldn't explain sufficiently with a flashback. The Event will be no different.

Of course, it looks like it might. There's some edgy storytelling that flicks back and forth between timelines, cunningly re-using the same footage over and over again to pad out the episodes. There's a shady military advisor hiding a secret project from a sceptical and honourable president. It's all pretty groundbreaking.

But at the end of the day, you won't be watching it because of its vacuum-like absence of acting quality; or because the dialogue ever makes it beyond summarising everything that is going on around the actors; you'll be watching it because it's failing to tell you the whole story, and that has somehow become a 'technique'.

It's not a technique. It's just a lazy way to avoid doing anything that would require a full arse of effort. Half of the rea-

son people play videogames nowadays is that the dialogue and plot structure is no worse than the nonsense on TV, but at least there's the opportunity to jump on people's heads while they're spewing the pointless plot advancement out at you. And if it gets too mysterious, you can always just shoot the nearest, most confusing thing until it explodes. It's like being Sherlock Holmes, if the stories had been written by Quentin Tarantino.

Anyway, this leaves me at a loss for what to watch while I spike packs of Haribo with laxatives in preparation for this Sunday's festival of reminding people why children are a bad idea, so this weekend I imagine I will just borrow the CCTV tapes from a few local shops, switch between them every ten seconds or so, and try and work out a plot from the people coming and going. It'll be just as vague and equally enticing. Plus if I really come onto something, I might be able to pitch it to Channel 4 in time for next October's schedules.

If you'd like to bang on endlessly about the nuances of modern television, don't forget that my inbox is always open to useless twaddle - anangrygeek@gmail.com. Keep watching the skies.

Introducing... Black Sheep

Black sheep is our new anonymous column, giving you the chance to vent opinions which go against the common wisdom. Do you think old ladies should give up their seat on the bus for you? Or that Peter Andre is actually a misunderstood genius? Tell us why.

Send your articles or ideas to us at comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk.

Nothing racist/sexist/offensive, please - we won't print it, and it'll be a waste of your time and ours.

Next week... 'Why drugs should be legalised?'

Corrections and Apologies

We strive, at Felix, to ensure that all the content that we produce is accurate and without grammatical, typographical or syntactical errors. However from time to time we do not live up to our own high standards.

Last week there were a few major errors that we would like to account for.

1. In the story 'FiveSixEight opens' we incorrectly stated that the bar was three weeks late. It was actually two weeks late.

2. In the Science section, we printed the incorrect headline on the schizophrenia article. We apologise to the author Katie Tomlinson for this.

3. On the front page, the page number leading to the Fashion article 'Welcome to London' was incorrect.

4. We neglected to print the solution to the Sports' crossword and also printed an unsolvable nonogram. We hope that the extra puzzles this week will make up for that oversight.

Our aim is to avoid errors entirely but please email felix@imperial.ac.uk if you spot any mistakes - **The Editor**.

Comment Editor: Anna Perman

comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk

COMMENT

Freshers' initiations are a chance to do something special that we should embrace

A couple of years ago, at some rather remote University in England, a student died as a result of an initiation ceremony, apparently involving physical activity and alcohol. The details were never quite made clear, but it left many Universities and Colleges across the land with no option but to ban such ceremonies formally.

This of course, no one could argue with — it would seem dangerous and futile at best, to attempt to. Our own College was particularly clear on the matter. As one may expect, Imperial students were able to adhere to this but retain a pervasive sense of celebration. Thus, I am pleased to say that welcoming parties do still continue, despite the excesses reported of other places which would have otherwise damaged this tradition.

It does, however, raise the question of what they could or should be, instead. Added to which, from the perspective of running a club, it is unthinkable not to welcome new members and start proceedings off in a celebratory mood, and so the current crop of chairs/presidents/captains/[insert other pompous name here]s may be justifiably congratulated on their efforts in treading this delicate line.

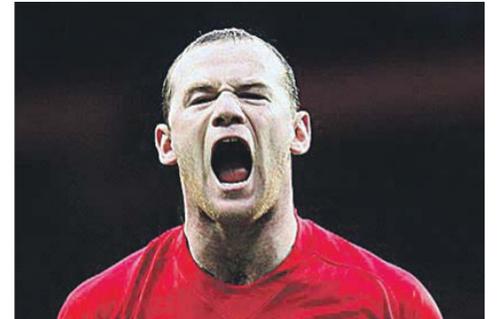
This year has seen several such parties, involving various sorts of fancy dress, physical exertion, food, venues, and even measures of (usually ill-advised) nudity. The knees-ups have been apparently spontaneous, starting as bar nights or 'meet and greet' affairs—suggesting that planning of these events is limited, for good or ill.

A range of parties and ideas and themes is all very well — possibly even statistically likely, given the number of clubs — but are we not missing a trick here? Some commentators would dive in here with a long-winded and self-important tract about 'disappointment and failure of originality and things not being as good now as they were in their day, and aren't these people supposed to be intelligent and don't you know about Oxonian or Cantabrigian tradition...' but even making that up is boring me. Even the more concise "Is getting pissed on blackthorn and stripping down to your knickers the best way to welcome freshers?" still retains something of being told what to do by someone whom should never be involved in doing it.

Trouble is, with welcoming fresh blood, and even re-kindling semi-past-it blood, we do have a superb opportunity to really create something immense and even special. Sabbaticals consistently make the effort to provide an arena for it — and why shouldn't they? — so how about we grab it by the proverbial and run with it? On your marks...

By Samuel Furse

After weeks of controversy, Wayne Rooney has signed a £250,000 a week contract with Man United. Fans are angry, Sir Alex Ferguson blames the agents but the big question is:



IS WAYNE ROONEY WORTH IT?



Tom Welch

Isn't it about time that everyone gave Wayne Rooney a break? Let's get things straight from the off. I am not going to try to defend some of Rooney's actions over the past few months: some of his off-field behaviour is quite simply indefensible.

As for his form, just go easy on Shrek. The age old saying that form is temporary and class is permanent will certainly stand up in this case. Yes, Wayne had a bad World Cup, yes, his form for Manchester United since his injury against Bayern Munich in March has been questionable. But he is the most talented English footballer of his generation and he is carrying a United side as weak as any since they first won the Premier League under Ferguson. Carrying not only the nation's hopes, but one having the additional weight of one of the world's biggest clubs on your shoulders is enough to wear anyone down.

It is important to remember that not only is Rooney no Ronaldo (in terms of pure footballing ability — Rooney more than makes up for this in his dedication and work rate) but in this weak United team there is no Rooney or T*** from Argentina to support him.

Last week, after announcing he wanted to leave Old Trafford for pastures new Rooney made a miraculous reversal and signed himself a new £250,000 a week contract. Should this make him Public Enemy Number One? No. All he has done is negotiate a fair deal for a player of his quality. In comparison to £250,000 a week for Yaya Toure of Man City, it seems a bargain. At the £90,000 a week he was on before, Rooney was arguably the best value for money player in any major European league.

Now for United fans. Should they be getting up and shouting abuse at him for his apparent disregard for their club? Again, almost certainly not — Wayne Rooney has arguably done the club a huge favour. With Giggs, Scholes, Neville and Van de Saar set to retire in the near future significant investment in the squad is essential to keep up with the likes of Chelsea and their noisy neighbours. Rooney has single handedly forced the Glazers to cough up some money to invest in high quality replacements who are ready to win league titles now and for this United fans should be singing his praise.

"All he has done is negotiate a fair deal for a player of his quality"

As we enter the thick of the winter job application season, final year students will doubtlessly be vying for a lucrative starting salary in investment banking. One 25 year-old has pipped the lot, however, by securing a ludicrous £250,000/week deal. And whilst budding bankers will be working 16 hour days, sacrificing their weekends, and experiencing skyrocketing levels of stress, all this bright lad has to do is kick a ball for 90 minutes per week.

To be fair to Wayne Rooney, he will also be required to attend the occasional training session when he is not busy spending valuable time with his £1,000/night prostitute. Well, come on, give the guy a break - he does have a moaning pregnant WAG to deal with.

Poor Wayne has had a difficult few months. The prime reason he is paid is to score goals. Yet he has not managed to net one from open play in all competitions this season, and tallied zero in the World Cup. But the fans were so unfair, being disloyal and booing him in South Africa — it transpires that the deprived chappy was demoralised and concerned that his counterparts at Manchester City were earning more than him. How dare we be so disrespectful, and how dare we intrude on his questionable out-of-hours habits

Wayne got so depressed recently that he threatened to leave Manchester United. Why? Didn't they pay him enough? Oh, no. Sorry, my mistake. "The club lacks ambition." Come again? A club that has won the Premier League and FA Cup 11 times apiece, and the Champions League 3 times lacks ambition? Well Wayne, you better leave — why not go to Manchester City, a club whose greatest achievement was the FA Cup back in 1969.

But Wayne, why did you take such a radical U-turn and stay at your club? Was it because they doubled your pay check? Oh, sorry, that's me being cynical again. It's because "the manager's a genius and it's his belief and support that convinced me to stay." Wayne, your excuses are as thin as Michael McIntyre's comedy routine. And the next time you accuse your fans of being disloyal, take a look in the mirror — you might just see an adulterous, club-hopping, bald ape staring back at you.



Charles Betts

"His excuses are as thin as Michael McIntyre's routine"

FiveSixEight.

The newest and best bar on campus
open daily for food and drink.

imperialcollegeunion.org



Arts Editor: **Rox Middleton**

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ARTS

If you read nothing else this week...

Take some time out from ghouls; **Matt Allinson** really loves this book and you will too, we promise.

To Kill a Mockingbird

by Harper Lee

As one of the film editors of this beloved rag, it's a tad embarrassing that I haven't seen the film version of this infinitely re-readable and mind-blowingly touching tour-de-force of mid 20th century American literature. British librarians voted *To Kill a Mockingbird* as the top book you should read in your lifetime. Having worked in the mighty Maidenhead public library in my teenage years, I shall in 400 words or less attempt to explain why my fellow comfortably shod and perennially be-cardiganed brethren feel this way.



Set in depression era Alabama; this first person account of 6 year old Scout Finch centres around the major events of the small town in which she lives with her brother, widowed father and maid. Throughout the book, Scout's candid observations of her surroundings combined with a precocious but endearing child's interpretation of events build a complete but unforced picture of the town, its residents, and their interactions with each other. The believable and amusing scenes of childish antics build within the reader a connection with their own memories of childhood and the connotations of trust and truth that come with them. As a result, when the story passes through its darker or more menacing passages, for example the night before the Tom Robinson court case and Scout's own response once the Verdict is given, the reader sympathises immediately and unreservedly with scout, making the novel incredibly emotionally engaging.

The book's other strength is its characters. It has been said that no real-world lawyer has done as much for the reputation of the legal profession as Atticus Finch, and it's not hard to see why. The bastion of truth, honesty and diligence in his daughter's eyes, Atticus' reputation is cemented in the readers mind by the occasionally begrudged but as near as universal respect from the rest of the town. While degrees of his character are hidden from the reader by the perspective of the narrator, it is easy to build a complete picture of the man from what can be gleaned. The same can be said of almost all the main characters, with the only possible exception being Aunt Alexandra, whom I find a bit underdeveloped. Faint criticism indeed for a book that, within its commuter friendly size and font will constantly and bountifully re-reward you each time you visit. So listen to your librarian, and borrow this book.

Which book deserves to be read next week? Tell us why in 300 to 400 words and send them to arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk

The most pant-wettingly scary Halloween ever

We braved London's darkest streets to search out the most terrifying theatre on offer this Halloween

Eccentric drama horrifies in Islington

Will Prince

As one of the bigger names on the Edinburgh Fringe Festival scene, Pleasance has nearly 25 years experience in giving highly unconventional productions a stage. Halloween thriller *The Insti2ute* is no exception to the trend, being poles apart from your West End night out in both setting and, sadly, in substance.

As an audience, we are taken on a promenade tour of a defunct genetic research facility, the Avernus Institute, recently the site of a "tragedy" - a reference to last year's prequel. Now acquired by the Coalition Government as part of its campaign to rebuild broken Britain, the delightfully servile civil servant James (the superb David Reed) and his hapless, blue-rosette-wearing Minister Hector (capably played by Paul Foxcroft) invite us to inspect the institute firsthand. Swiftly however the scene shifts from satirical Government publicity event to a hair-raising bid to escape the laboratory that forces us to confront the walking, groaning mysteries that abound in its corridors. Brilliant use is made of its semi-industrial surrounds, easing the audience's near total immersion in the warped world of *The Insti2ute*. Had I not failed in my attempts to pick up an Evening Standard, I might've missed the show entirely, such was the subtlety of the cheap-suited lackey entering the foyer and calling all those there for 'the tour of the Institute.' Sadly such finesse was not constant throughout the performance: whilst the show had some ingenious moments (the Tory MP taking time out to check the legality of everyone's presence in the country springs to mind) elsewhere the performance seemed at times wooden, a fault of the script or the acting, it's hard to tell.

Whilst I don't want to get bogged

down in debating what's theatre and what isn't, it was evident that *The Insti2ute* is sailing close to the wind. As a play, the plot seriously lacks depth, but as an intensely interactive and involved house of horrors, it fits the bill perfectly. Never did I find myself distracted and the only time I wondered how much time there was left I was driven by a genuine, tingling sense of terror. A little suspension of disbelief is necessary - the props and set still retaining an air of fringe - but the resultant fruits are plentiful.

At a fast-paced forty-five minutes, the show is a little on the short side but the maxim of quality over quantity clearly reigned supreme in the minds

"I was driven by a genuine, tingling sense of terror"

of David Puckridge, Dave Scullion and Brendan Dodds. The latter's involvement in 'Pappy's Fun Club' suggested great things, the show being described by a friend as the funniest thing he'd ever seen. And whilst I wouldn't hurry to beckon George A. Romero over the pond for a viewing, it certainly makes for a satisfying night out, if more in gore than in profound thought. I don't want to give too much away, but before *The Insti2ute* I had never been in a situation so eerily (and fantastically) reminiscent of the tunnel scene in *28 Days Later*; just substitute Cillian Murphy and that girl for me and a bunch of North London 20-somethings. It makes a highlight of the show that nearly singularly justifies the admission price.

'Til Sunday at The Pleasance Theatre, Islington. £15

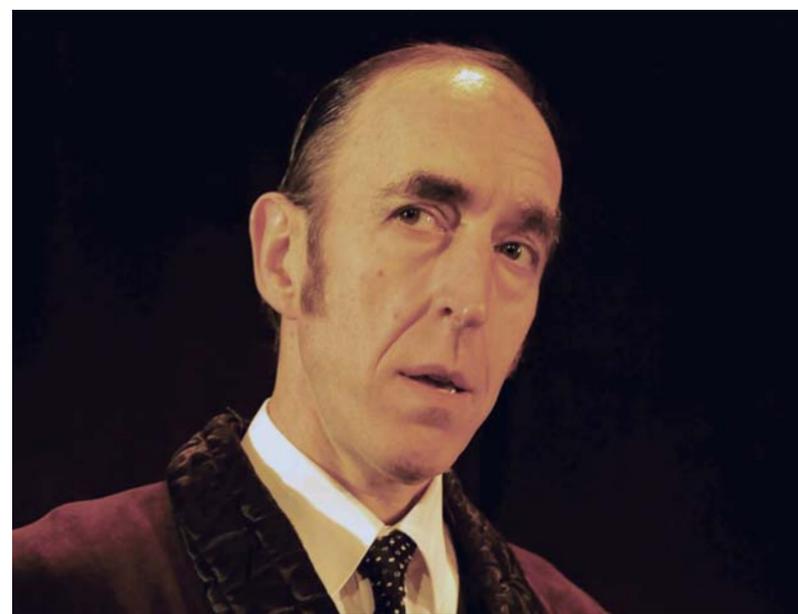


Bone-chilling West End Ghost Stories

Jack Jelfs

Now, let me make one thing clear - I don't 'do' horror. As in, it doesn't work on me. Those twin girls in *The Shining*? Whatever. The wild-eyed clairvoyant in *Don't Look Now*? I encounter scarier religious nutcases every morning outside Brixton Tube. *Ringu*? Boringu, more like. You get the picture. All brilliantly imaginative entertainment, of course, but collectively about as scary as a cheddar ploughmans. This, coupled with the well-known fact that anyone who believes in ghosts is a gaspingly incredulous dumbo of the highest order, meant that I was slightly disdainful of the warnings accompanying the posters for *Ghost Stories*: "...CONTAINS MOMENTS OF EXTREME SHOCK AND TENSION... WE STRONGLY ADVISE THOSE OF A NERVOUS DISPOSITION TO THINK VERY SE-

ARTS



This is the Woman in Black - obviously this is actually a man. Spooky eh?



The Insti2ute - Zombie Based sequel to the Institute

RIOUSLY BEFORE ATTENDING". Not even the sight of two St John Ambulance men conspicuously overlooking the audience (presumably armed with smelling salts and a copy of *New Scientist*) could prevent me from striding to my seat with the bravado and swagger of the terminally un-afraid.

Ghost Stories is co-written by Jeremy Dyson, one of the creators of superlative TV series *The League of Gentlemen*.

"blends classic horror-film elements with a twisted narrative"

Like this earlier work, the play blends classic horror-film elements with a twisted narrative and blacker-than-black humour. Production-wise, it's highly inventive - much of the play is set in near darkness, with the actors often illuminated by a single spotlight. The clever set designs, surround-sound effects and a host of other technical tricks all serve to keep the audience's senses in a state

of heightened and nervous awareness. (I won't give anything away, but suffice to say I'll never view a bottle of TCP in the same way again). The acting by the five-man cast is excellent throughout - special mention must go to co-writer Andy Nyman as the intense parapsychologist Dr Goodman..

Discretion prevents me from revealing any details of the plot, but it's an intelligent and engaging piece of writing that weaves several separate stories together. Although I had a feeling that the sense of apprehension could have been ratcheted up further in some of the earlier slow-moving sections, when the shocks do come they are sudden and effective. After a while, the pervading gloom and unease begin to have a genuinely unsettling effect, which slowly grows as the drama progresses. When the plot eventually starts to fold in on itself, the tension is brought to an almost unbearable peak until the final, sudden climax.

At which point, dear reader, I got a bit scared.

'Til February at the Duke of York's theatre, special performances this weekend, from £15.

The Woman in Black

Jordi Brown

If ever there was a play that led you in on false pretences it's *The Woman in Black*. This production in the small and poky Fortune Theatre is ideal to set the scene. Consisting of only two actors and a very limited set, you really wonder how this play will send a chill down your spine. Michael Mears and Orlando Wells play, respectively, Mr Kipps and The Actor. The two perform a play of Mr Kipps' experience as a young solicitor after the death of a client name Mrs Drablow. The old lady used to live in an old and expansive country house in the remote reaches of England. The Actor plays a young Mr Kipps and the other acts out the characters that he meets. The house sits beyond some quicksand and that in turn lies by a tidal body of water that prevents visitors from reaching the property for most of the day. Add to this a frequent and thick fog and the viewer starts to picture that typical haunted house so often depicted

in horror films.

Don't let this deter you from experiencing a first rate show though, the play is far from an imitation of anything you would likely have seen before. The success lies in the show's simplicity; for most, a dark room and torch conjure up images of campfire amateur dramatics but hell this scene will turn even the most hardened of people into insomniacs.

The fortune is a claustrophobic the-

"the most terrifying night out in a theatre you will ever experience"

atre, the seats pack tightly together and the upper levels near head height. This lends a hand in drawing the audience together; a creepy nervousness resonates through the rows as everyone anticipates that next fright. The simple ingredients of a small cast, humble set design and few sound effects really lay the foundations for what is a superb ghost story.

It is a wonder whether the actors are themselves scared to death as they act out this play within a play or find it hard to not laugh. Both are very adept and put in a solid performance, Mears' ability to jump from character to character is especially noteworthy as is Wells' emotional mastery. This is a good thing too, as the play relies on the grasp of the audience's imagination and emotional vulnerability throughout. Wells' character, shut out by the inhabitants of the local town, depends on his spectators to accompany him on his journey through Mrs Drablow's past. This works to great effect when, at one time in the play, he chooses to go back into the house and my friend beside me, turns around, cries "why, why?" and grips my arm with such intensity that it shows it is really scaring her.

This is director Robin Herford's 21st year in charge and *The Woman in Black* is still the most terrifying night out in a theatre you will ever experience.

The Woman in Black has run for 20 years, and is currently at the Fortune Theatre, from £16.50



Do you want to do a centrefold? Email felix@imperial.ac.uk

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MUSIC

Music Editors: **Greg Power**
Luke Turner
Christopher Walmsley
music.felix@gmail.com

Album of The Week



Steve Skaith
Latin Quarter Revisited
Westpark Publishing
2010

This album is a re-working of much of the back catalogue from the 80's band Latin Quarter, released with new technology but the same old message. Latin Quarter have something important to say, and they're not afraid to do so through music, with their political activism ranging from racism, to man's dominion over animals. The songs keep the old themes echoing harmoniously 25 years on, with their african touches and folk guitar, the music is diverse but simple, the lyrics however hit a harder note. Ideas of morality and fairness highlighting some pressing issues this world we live in has decided to neglect in an act of selfish ignorance. The point is that although released 20 odd years ago, the change has been minimal, this is coming from a band that predicted the abolition of the apartheid. So unless you believe we live in a perfect world, forget about the generation difference, as Einstein put it, "The only reason for time is so that everything doesn't happen at once". - **Luke Turner**

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

1. Bloc Party
2. Daft Punk
3. Florence + the Machine
4. The Killers
5. The xx
6. RHCP
7. Bon Iver
8. Yeasayer
9. Sufjan Stevens
10. Blur

Join in at: <http://www.last.fm/group/Felix+Music>

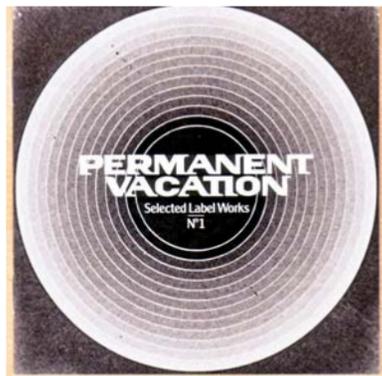
Make sure not to miss

The Black Keys & The Walkmen

02 Academy Brixton
2nd/3rd November
7:00pm

Get ready for some fat blues rock as the duo called the Black Keys hit up London town. They now several albums now under their belt, from the raw fuzzy debut 'The Big Come Up' to their slick Dangermouse produced 'Attack and Release,' all the way through to their latest groove monster 'Brothers.' Support comes from a band that drew alot of attention a few years ago from their epic angsty classic 'The Rat' and their feature on the OC. Don't hold that appearance against them; they since have quietly released some very good albums, just missing the killer single to get them airplay in a more public sphere. Their latest record 'Lisbon' has received much praise. This gig promises to be a good night.

TECHNO NONSENSE



The first in **Simon Hunter's** new series introducing the best electronic dance labels

Over the coming issues of Felix I will embark on a quest to dispel the popular belief that electronic dance music begins with Tiesto and finishes with David Guetta. I will try and dip into as many genres as possible; highlighting what's big at the moment, what was big 20 years ago and just generally stuff that I'm into at the date of publication.

This week I will start by testing your tolerances and try to persuade you that disco music is not just flares, 'fros and something to be buried in the depths of the 20th century. Over the past couple of years, disco has had an enormous resurgence in dance music and one of the biggest labels pushing many great, new producers through is Permanent Vacation. Founded in 2006 and based in Munich, Permanent Vacation champion a marriage of new and old disco with an overall ethos of having fun, something that seemed lacking in a lot of dance music for a number of years. The chiming guitars, rich synths and bouncy bass lines of disco of old are all still present, but a freshness has been injected into the

scene by the likes of Tensnake, Azari & III and Todd Terje. Tensnake makes classic, borderline cheesy disco that never fails to put a smile on your face. In fact the Hamburg producer's Coma Cat EP, originally released in January, brought summer forward by about 5 months. Todd Terje, on the other hand, has been providing some of the smoothest Balearic moments of the past few years. From his incredible remix of Balearic Incarnation by Dolle Jolle to other remixes for the likes of Jose Gonzales and Shit Robot, Terje has been taking music from across the spectrum and whipping it up into a cosmic bliss.

For a taste of Permanent Vacation try their Selected Label Works series. Or if you're still undecided as to whether you're willing to dive that deep, Coma Cat by Tensnake and Beam Me Up (Jacques Renault Remix) by Midnight Magic are essentials. As winter draws in and university work starts to consume your life, so that you may not be able to play World of Warcraft as much as you once did, the new wave of disco is waiting to restore a smile to your glum faces.

Yeasayer and Suckers bring down the Roundhouse

Yeasayer Roundhouse
21st October 2010
★★★★☆
Jamie Fraser

Halfway through Yeasayer's set singer Chris Keating pauses for a moment, looks at the crowd and says "Look at this place... Pink Floyd played here". It's a telling moment: Yeasayer have come a long way since the first blog hype for their stunning debut single '2080'. The live band has expanded to five members, replete with multiple keyboards and synths to aid the move away from their folkier debut to the '80s influenced prog-pop of the new album, and the light show is suitably slick, complementing the band's natural stage presence.

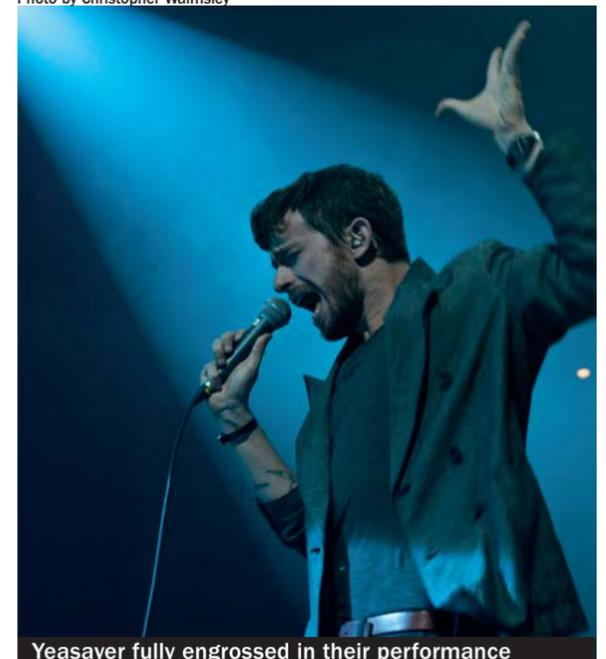
Opening with a slow pulse and red lighting that segues into a seamless rendition of 'Madder Red' to rapturous applause, Yeasayer know they have the crowd on their side and play with the force and precision that they have been dutifully praised for. After this storming entrance however, an early lull occurs when the band overindulge on too many weak album tracks. The switch to older songs, reconfigured and reworked to better reflect their new sound, has mixed results; while the approach strips 'Red Cave' of its intimacy, the stunning 'Tightrope' remains unblemished and is

an unmistakable highlight of their set. And when the band finish with the one-two punch of 'O.N.E.' and 'Ambling Alp', which the crowd go suitably wild for, it's easy to see their appeal as band and audience alike get lost in the vibrant lights of the stage and the music, as all around people sing and dance, enjoying every moment.

Suckers
★★★★☆

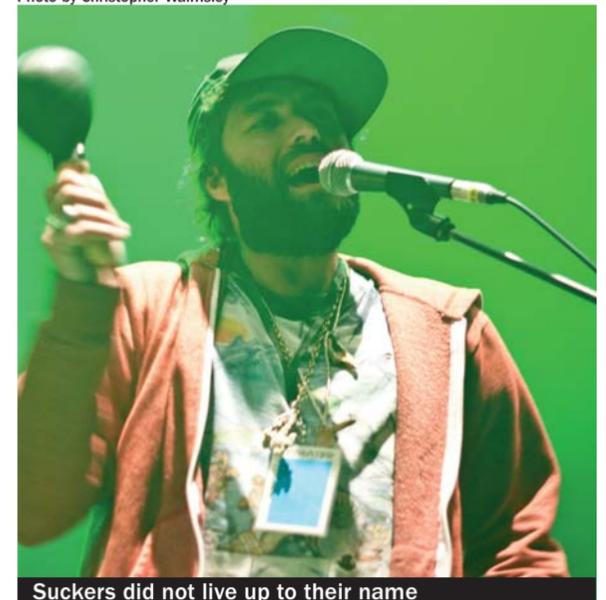
Suckers, crammed in front of all of Yeasayer's gear, burst out the gate with the simultaneously majestic and carefree 'Roman Candles'. The band show their influences on their sleeves - every Animal Collective-esque wordless chant breakdown is matched by a woozy chorus with freewheeling vocals in the vein of Frog Eyes - but are not bound by them, and the band pack in so many inspired moments in the first few songs of the set that it becomes hard not to sense a lull in the middle when they play a couple of songs too reliant on a singular melody. Despite this, any pace lost is regained when they play the dramatic, marching single 'A Mind I Knew', and they bring things to a powerful close with 'It Gets Your Body Movin'', where group singing and a regal horn melody culminate in a beautiful mess of crashing drums. Stunning.

Photo by Christopher Walmsley



Yeasayer fully engrossed in their performance

Photo by Christopher Walmsley



Suckers did not live up to their name

MUSIC

Your radio relaunches

The official sound of Imperial unleashed once more online

Monday marks this year's launch of ICradio, the official sound of Imperial College. The station broadcasts live at www.icradio.com and has shows put on by students like you encompassing a diverse range of genres. Here is a brief guide of what to listen to when you need a welcome distraction from your mountain of work:

An almost award-winning mixture of music and banter - **The Roushan Alam Show** features celebrity interviews and live sessions. Edgy and at times on the dark side of humour recent highlights of this fast paced show include a campaign to get Dave Benson Phillips to play a gig in the union, a live session from **Ou Est Le Swimming Pool** and an exclusive interview with Derren Brown.

"...Break Yourself is filthier than Jeremy Kyle's guest chairs..."

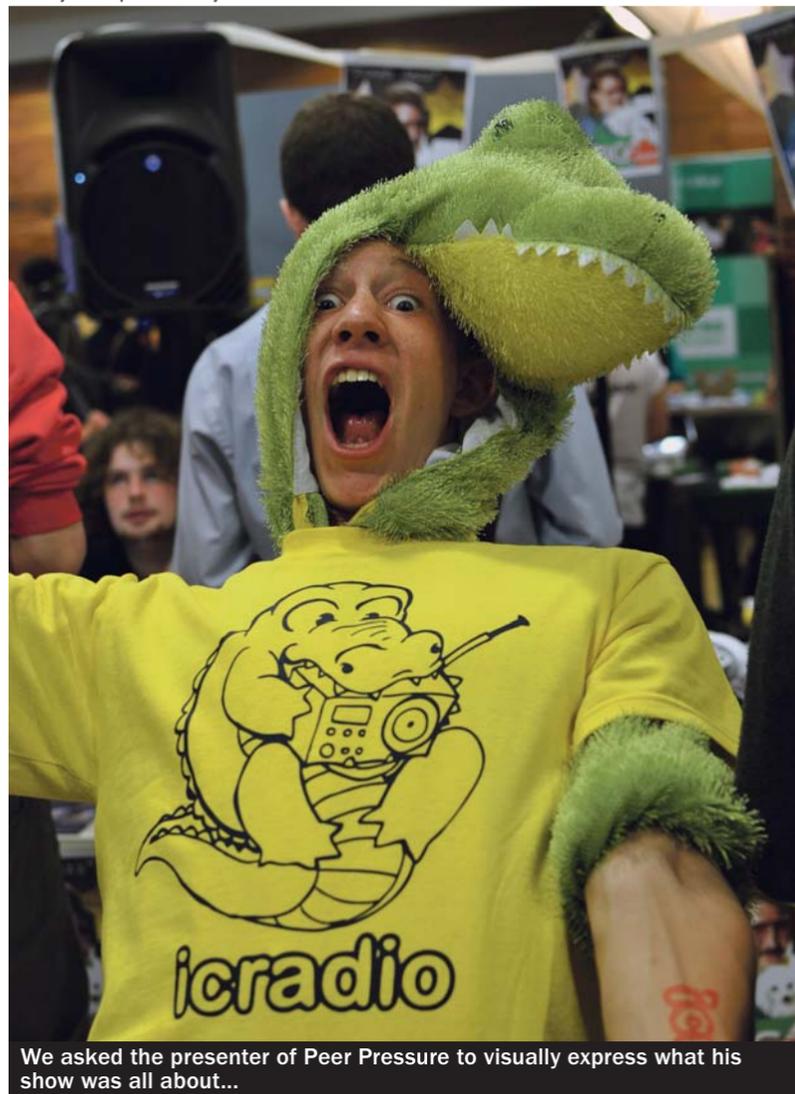
Come fuel your addiction to 90's crazes and indie/alternative music, as **FLUX** take you through an hour and a half of unabashed nerdiness, music and idle chatter. Siphoning off the best brand new electronic dance music and packing it into one seamless hour, every week **Peer Pressure** brings you the latest news and releases from disco to techno.

In contrast **Safe as Milk** provides nonsense quips and alternative bullshit unofficially endorsed by Danny Dyer. **The Al & Rich Show** will always entertain with some unpredictable chaos, while you can always count on the **Fez 'Not the hat' Show** for mum jokes, good music and whole lot of banter. **Break Yourself** is simply filthier than Jeremy Kyle's guest chairs.

Got a problem? Listen to **The Writing on the Wall**; hot chat, hot tunes, and hot girls and it even has its own agony aunt feature. Giving you the most important and entertaining features wrapped up in a radiogram-shaped bundle is **Papercuts**, or if you're looking for a whirlwind tour of the world of Rock, Metal and Punk then look no further than **The Breakdown**. If you want your pop/rock/hip hop/dubstep hunger filled in one bite-size chunk, then get into **Eclectic**.

Dynamix will start its themed shows with a handpicked playlist of cover songs, and **Best Foot Forward** is a weekly dose of Indie, alternative and electronica. Similarly **The Propaganda Show** broadcasts the cream of Rock, Indie and Acoustic music although if you're feeling more like a random walk through the realm of electro, house and chillwave then check out **Ideasyncratic**. **The Big Racket!** aims to scramble your synapses and elate your eardrums... bringing you sounds from the farthest reaches of inner space, acoustic adventures of the nth kind, a bizarre bazaar of existential musicalia.

Photo by Christopher Walmsley



We asked the presenter of Peer Pressure to visually express what his show was all about...

Petrifying Playlist: Halloween Special

Scare yourself silly with Jamie Fraser and Victoria Druce's truly terrifying tunes. ..

The Horrors-
Sheena is a Parasite

Joy Division-
Dead Souls

Murder by Death-
Those Who Left

Radiohead-
We Suck Young Blood

Villagers-
I Saw the Dead

Nick Cave & the Bad Seeds-
Red Right Hand

The Cure-
Lullaby

The Smiths -
Suffer Little Children

If you want to share a mind-blowing playlist send it in to music.felix@gmail.com

White Rabbits

The Salesman
Mute

★★★★☆



Jimmy Eat World

Invented
Interscope

★★★★☆



Darwin Deez

Constellations
Lucky Number

★★★★☆



Chase and Status

Hypest Hype
RAM

★★★★☆



A Genuine Freakshow

Oftentimes
Peartree Records

★★★★☆



You'd think anyone who repeats "RECOGNISE ME!" in an overwhelming manner would have accompanied said phrase with music to re-iterate; but **White Rabbits** seem to have merely suggested it in the hope someone will eventually take notice. Maybe that's why the song is so relatable - in that we all have a grand idea everyday that will obviously revolutionise the world, but we can't be bothered to get off our asses and get it acknowledged. Or, maybe it's just relatable in that indie-pop songs with standard piano, guitars, and drums that don't go anywhere and fill with no thrill have been done countless, soul-destroying times before.

- Lily Le

Invented possesses all the qualities of a classic **Jimmy Eat World** album. It rides along on their signature emo/American indie rock sound, their soft tear jerking tunes and their head banging, highly climatic songs. Invented, ironically and depressingly, is nothing ground breaking - they continue to show a lack of versatility as in previous albums. On My Best Theory (the first single off the album) and Higher Devotion have strong riffs and sound aggressive but the less weighty songs such as Cut and Mixtape are easy listens. Ultimately Invented is nothing new from **Jimmy Eat World**, but nonetheless it's an enjoyable listen.

- Sophia Goldberg

However tempting, comparisons to **The Strokes** are unfair. In both lyrical and musical subtlety, Darwin soars above them. Throughout, the chord progressions are fantastically odd, reflecting and enhancing the ironic, faux-philosophical content, "If freckles don't mean anything, does anything mean anything?" Blatant hipster sarcasm is turned into something quite moving thanks to the simplistic, bouncy rhythm, and Darwin's overly geeky voice. However I get the impression that the entire song is based on the fact that "constellation" and "consolation" sound similar; regardless, this is a rare example of a song that is both complex and danceable.

- Stephen Smith

Chase and Status have a lot to live up to following their multiple Drum and Bass hits and 'Hypest Hype' unfortunately fails to maintain the high standards. The vocals feel out of place and overpower the great sounds from the synth. The build up is repetitive and boring, however when the song comes in with a great mix between heavy guitar (giving the song a Prodigy-like feel) and genius drum beats, as anticipated, this song develops into something that is great to dance to. Despite not living up to expectations this song will probably be played over and over in a certain kind of London club during the next few months.

- Sean Harbison

To call this seven piece orchestral pop troupe's debut album a "freakshow" would be like having a middle class accountant as the headline act at Cirque du Soleil. While some more exciting moments do shine through the monotony (often at the very beginning or end of tracks), the drab remainder is choked by a thick layer of overproduction and autotune. The result is a sickly, saccharine and over anthemic mush reminiscent of **Alphabeat**, with synthetic sounding orchestral backing. Perhaps when unleashed from their oppressive production this band could perform well live, but they remain a disappointment on record.

- Charlotte Ridler

MUSIC

Music Editors: **Greg Power**
Luke Turner
Christopher Walmsley
music.felix@gmail.com

Easy Star All-Stars @ Scala

Could this be the 'Great Gig in the Scala'?

I have to admit that reggae and psychedelia is not an orthodox blend, come to think of it, it's hardly like anything out there, and that's what makes me admire the Easy Star All-Stars for doing something different. Different is not always good, and for those of you who hold the likes of Pink Floyd and The Beatles on a pedestal of progressive and glorious music, I would advise you to steer clear. However, there is no reason why one of the greatest conceptual albums in

history, 'The Dark Side of the Moon', cannot be opened up to a new audience of reggae skankers. I must admit that I regard some of the original music by these bands as a force that is powerful enough to change the world and at times the Easy Star All-Stars may have missed the point a little and do commit ruthless butchering of otherwise perfect music, but then again, I think, why the hell not?

As they kick off their set with several arrangements from 'Easy Star's Lonely Hearts Dub Band', the mood is that of

summertime blazing, cheerful reggae with energized horn parts chirping up with stylish syncopation, and to top it all off they're playing Beatles songs! The thoughtful arrangement of these songs comes from Michael Goldwasser, who himself plays on the records and has certainly 'stirred it up'.

Continuing their jiving set they move on to play songs from 'The Dub Side of the Moon', with in my opinion a little too much sunlight creeping into the likes of 'Money', but they deliver it without

apology. They're not afraid to take the risk and that shows in their performance.

There was a small appearance from their new album 'Dubber Side of the Moon', but they kept the good vibes with tasters from 'Radiodread' and a superb encore of 'Redemption Song'.

There is an essential ingredient to this gig I have left out, not because it's easily forgotten but because these people work out of sight, and out of sight is out of mind, but I want to add extra credit to these magic makers and praise

the sound guys, from the alien spaceship that is the sound-desk. These were some real geniuses of blending the reggae staccato with the psychedelic wavy echoing. As we all know, Beatles music or that of Pink Floyd requires massive attention to the sound waves and effects that create each respective bands sound. These guys delivered and to them I say thank-you. A dub filled evening that really shows the Easy Star All-Stars as the fearless force they are.

Luke Turner



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schedule

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Email manager@icradio.com if you want to get involved.

monday

17:00 - 18:00 Eclectic
 18:00 - 19:00 Fresher prince on the Air
 19:00 - 20:00 Felix
 20:00 - 21:00 Best Foot Forward
 21:00 - 22:00 The Breakdown

tuesday

18:00 - 19:00 Safe as Milk
 19:00 - 20:00 Break Yourself
 20:00 - 21:00 Addicated to Bass
 21:00 - 22:30 Peer Pressure

wednesday

12:00 - 13:00 Short Science
 13:00 - 14:00 The Writing on the Wall
 16:00 - 17:00 The Mo Show
 17:00 - 19:00 Supa Fine Sessions
 19:00 - 20:00 Papercuts
 20:00 - 21:00 The Al and Rich Show

thursday

13:00 - 14:00 Lets be Franke
 16:30 - 18:00 FLUX
 18:00 - 19:30 The Shipping Forecast
 19:30 - 21:00 The Roushan Alam Show
 21:00 - 23:00 Cake Thursday

friday

12:00 - 13:00 Dynamix
 18:00 - 19:00 The Propaganda Show
 19:00 - 20:00 Fex 'Not the Hat' Show
 20:00 - 21:00 Mad Craic

sunday

20:00 - 21:00 The Shaking Show
 21:00 - 23:00 The Big Racket



PHOTOS

LEONARDO SOCIETY ENJOY A PINT AFTER A HARD DAY PAINTING



Oooh-er, I say!



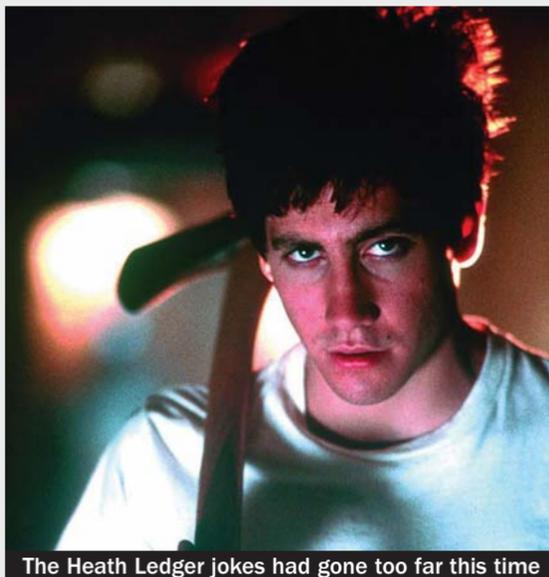
Film Editors: **Matt Allinson**
Jade Hoffman
Ed Knock

film.felix@imperial.ac.uk

FILM

Classic Cinema

Donnie Darko



The Heath Ledger jokes had gone too far this time

The eponymous character of Donnie Darko is a mentally disturbed, but in many ways distinctly average, teenager who barely escapes death when a jet engine crashes into his house while he is out sleepwalking. Aided by Frank, a hallucination of man in a Halloween rabbit costume, he realises that this strange event has created a time loop which will lead to the end of the world unless he can stop it.

This is a rather absurd concept but this is a story which thrives on the unusual and confusing. While some might find this infuriating it gives the film a unique feel and perfectly mirrors the uncertainty and fear of the main character as he tries to figure out what is happening around him. Leaving things unclear forces the viewers to come to their own conclusions, a sure sign of a good movie. The atmosphere is helped by the striking visual imagery. Particularly memorable are the scenes of Donnie's eye overlaid with other images, such as Frank's hideous mask.

While the film has a number of very unnerving moments, such as Frank's sudden appearances and his unearthly voice, I particularly enjoyed watching Donnie's interactions with his family. Heartfelt moments such as his talks with his parents make us believe in, and care about, these characters. Fortunately this complements, rather than clashes with, the main themes and makes the tragic ending especially poignant. While not contributing to the main story the moments of humour in the story were also very enjoyable, with Donnie's innovative use of swearing while arguing with his sister and his gym teacher's unbelievable naivety being particular highlights.

Surprisingly the film also manages to touch on some very serious issues. The best-developed is that of religion, as the characters realise that perhaps the time loop cannot be explained by science alone and that there may be some force guiding them. On the other hand we see the problems of authoritarian religious systems in Donnie's highly conservative school, where personal and educational development is often stifled by a rigid system of values.

This film rightly deserves to be called a cult classic and, if you want to see something that makes you think, I thoroughly recommend it.

Maciej Matuszewski

Felix's DVD Guide to October 31st

Halloween parties are like sex: either a dark, lusty and twisted extravaganza enhanced by elaborate costumes; or an over-hyped and disappointing charade we do once a year because we feel socially compelled to. Helping you make yours the former, here is our guide of some new and re-released Horror DVDs to get you going.

The Living Dead at Manchester Morgue

The title really gives most of the plot away before you've begun. I sat down fully expecting a cheap copy of every other zombie movie out there, with visual effects rivalling those of the original Dawn of the Dead (some poor introductory camerawork, a trashy critique on city life and some full frontal nudity in the first five minutes). This was going to be a long hour and a half. I was, however, pleasantly surprised. In this scenario, the dead, true to form, come back to life, but this time it's thanks to a parasite killer that uses "ultrasonic radiation" to make creatures with simple nervous systems attack each other. Now I'm not a scientist, but I thought most types of radiation were ultrasonic, however we'll let the ambiguous science slip. Also troubling was the questionable ethical committee that approved something which could enrage anything in a 5 mile radius, but then it is just a film. Apparently babies and the departed have simple nervous systems, with predictable consequences. Quite upsettingly, they didn't cash in on the mad baby swarm front. The eviscerations looked convincing, as opposed to someone bursting a balloon of ketchup (which has been tried before), and further bonus points should be given to the plot, as it held together well, and I did actually enjoy watching it, and not in a 'it's so bad it's good' way (think "Mega Shark versus Giant Octopus"). They had some nice self-parody with our protagonist stating that the dead come back to life only "in very bad paperback novels", and some comical scenes involving boobs being torn off. What more could you ask for?

The acting was adequate, the effects and plot were good, but the camerawork could have used a little oiling, and the sound-man was really quite capricious. Worth a watch all the same.

Jonathan Messing

...our disgruntled protagonist, a corridor of nude hippies; and a torrent of lesbian lust...



When nerds get vegetables and knives: The Death Star blowing up Alderaan. Awesome

The Woman With Lizard's Skin

If there's one thing that the movie industry has taught us in recent years, it's that movies can be so stupidly ridiculous that they can just about pass as 'cult classics' thanks to an equally stupid and easily amused general public. This is not the case for this bizarre 70s murder mystery horror, where the only mention of a lizard is a passing reference. That's not to claim that it's anything less than genius: with an eerie score to rival Psycho, blinding performances from the cast and twists and turns in the plot, Lizard is sure to be a great addition to your horror repertoire.

The trippy opening scene introduces our disgruntled protagonist, Carol, a corridor of nude hippies and a torrent of lesbian lust with a mysterious mistress. Needless to say this is possibly one of the most engaging openings I've ever seen and sets the standard for the rest of the film.

In a dream Carol butchers her mistress. Standard, were it not for the fact that the woman was also murdered in reality, which sets up a jamboree of questions as the whodunnit keeps you guessing. Action, suspense, and emotion throughout, it's sure to make you leap from your chair in surprise at several points. My only criticism of this masterpiece would be that probably the scariest thing in the whole film is the abundance of unkempt seventies pubic bush on display.

Chris Richardson

Zombies of Mass Destruction

Cue red sea, cue zombie, cue blind man and 80's text; I'm in for a good one here. The film in question is *Zombies of Mass Destruction*, a satirical comedy/zombie horror set in the small American town of Port Gamble. The main characters are the token gay couple, the hippie, the god-loving preacher, the fit Iranian girl and a shit load of wobbling, brain-eating, moaning, groaning Zombies.

When we first meet the *Zombies*, the thing that comes to mind is "Thriller" by Michael Jackson, then she/it gets pinned to a wall by the gay couple and a fire poker (insert pun here). After this attack it quickly comes apparent that *Zombies* are invading the town, and in true American form, it's terrorists that are responsible.

...more killing...

As with most horror films, we have a scene like *Big Brother*, where several people who don't match are trapped together in the church and can't escape. After many arguments, more killing, more arguments and a bit of comedy on the side, the few normal people are rescued by the US Army. Six months later and all is well with the town re-populated, God bless America.

To be fair I quite enjoyed the film, its piss take of America and zombie movies in general is spot on, not to mention there are some fantastic one liners.

Oliver Calderbank

While Roberts eats, prays and loves, Swank outclasses with Conviction

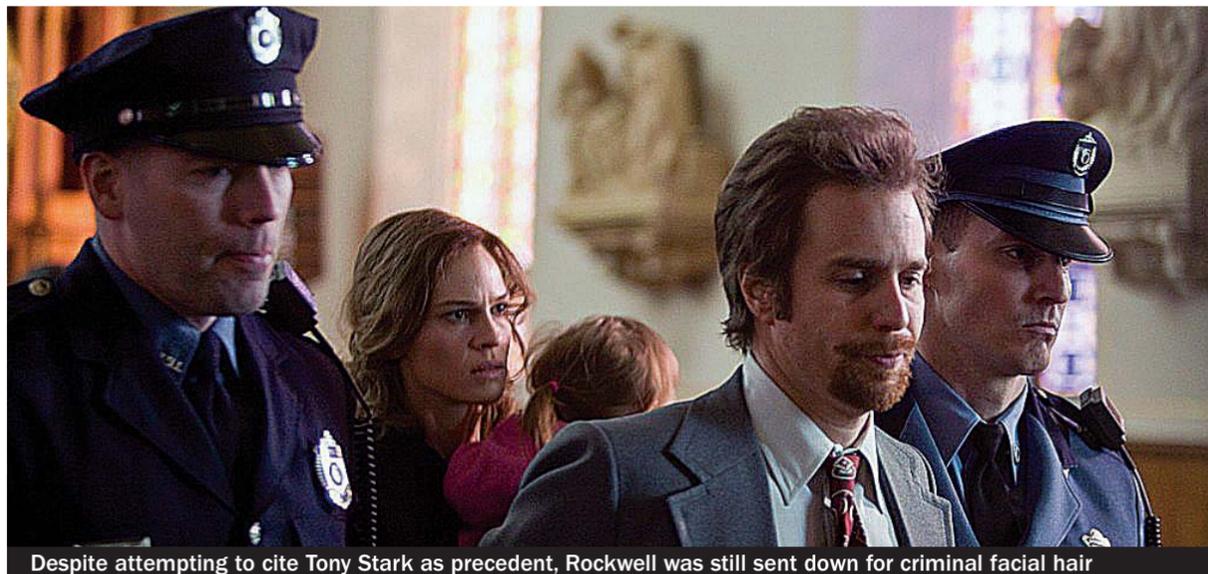
Director Tony Goldwyn
Screenwriter Pam Tyler Gray
Cast Hilary Swank, Sam Rockwell, Minnie Driver

John Park

Erin Brockovich, eat your heart out. We have another tough-as-nails, hard-working single mum who is going to court to fight an unfair, losing war. This time, it's Betty Anne Waters (Hilary Swank), who is determined to put herself through both college and law school to argue for, and hopefully free, her wrongly-convicted brother Kenny (Sam Rockwell). This is sibling love at its most powerful. Ms. Brockovich was up against a massive, evil corporation with Ms. Waters on the other hand facing the government and its judicial system. Take your pick on which is more challenging.

Kenny is not a nice guy. He is hot-tempered, foul-mouthed and rude, which is why it's hard to suspect something shady when he is pinned for murder and armed robbery. All the evidence is against him, and with no plausible alibi, he is sent straight to jail. Rockwell plays this character to perfect precision. He may be violent when under the influence of alcohol, but he can also be a genuinely nice guy as quite clearly shown in the touching scenes he shares with Betty Anne and Rockwell's beautifully nuanced performance is undeniably excellent.

Swank seems to have a knack for playing real-life characters and there is a



Despite attempting to cite Tony Stark as precedent, Rockwell was still sent down for criminal facial hair

reason why she keeps getting these difficult parts: her dramatic performance truly draws the audience in. Looking more seasoned and modest than Julia Roberts ever did in *Brockovich*, Swank, at the heart of the story, instantly wins the audience over to her side, and her magnetic performance makes us cry whenever she does.

Despite the growing tension in her marriage and the difficulty she faces whilst balancing law books, a part-time job and raising her two children, it's her determination that gets her through. In this seemingly impossible war, Waters

does have some help from a fellow classmate, "the other old lady", as Abra (Minnie Driver) so charmingly puts it. It's unclear why Abra is so willing to help – she is even willing to get up at five in the morning for our heroine – but Driver provides some excellent, comic relief that we don't mind whenever she tags along by Betty Anne's side, supporting her like all loyal gal-pals should. Not much is told about Abra, apart from the fact that she has a heart of gold and a cracking sense of humour.

Many crucial details are rushed past for the sake of pushing on with the core

plot. Betty Anne's supposed struggle at law school is only very briefly addressed with everything becoming so much clearer to our heroine in a sudden jump of several years in time. It reportedly took the real-life Betty Anne 18 years to crack the system. The fact that it only takes Swank two hours is inevitable, but because the film moves so frantically, both backwards and forwards, some of its focus is lost. Director Tony Goldwyn tends to use flashbacks whenever he is trying to make more of an emotional/dramatic impact on the screen. The problem is, he uses one

too many of those, and places them in awkward moments. Yes, we understand the fact that Kenny and Betty Anne depended on one another ever since they were young. The child actors (Tobias Kendall and Bailee Madison) portray this to impressive standards, but do we really need several individual episodes that mirror the various circumstances of the adult siblings?

"Conviction" is your typical, conventionally-told autobiography that could have worked just as well as a TV movie. But how does it manage to be so memorable? And how does this cheesy story pack in such a strong emotional punch? The flawless performances. Aside from Swank, Rockwell and Driver, the two actresses who have very brief moments to shine make the most out of their key roles. Juliette Lewis, playing a low-life, white trash with the scariest set of teeth is an unforgettable scene-stealer. Melissa Leo's character, the vengeful cop who has it out for Kenny, remains shockingly one-dimensional throughout, but Leo manages to bring a touch of humanity out of the otherwise unrealistically soulless character.

Not as courtroom heavy as "Erin Brockovich" but with as much emotion and a set of actors who have been perfectly cast, "Conviction" feels manipulative at times, but as the film crescendos to the grand finale, you can't help but being swept up by the sustained drama, no matter how predictable.

ICU Cinema's glory

Matt Allinson

As reported in the last issue of Felix, ICU Cinema re-launched this week with a showing of *Inception*. The event was a runaway success, completely selling out within 10 minutes. A combination of brilliant choice of film, perfect timing at

the quiet end of the beginning of term and incredibly friendly pricing – £3 a ticket – taken altogether resulted in the perfect first night for the reborn Cinema Society.

So much so that they have decided to re-show *Inception* next week after the scheduled showing of *Toy Story 3*: Tuesday 2nd of November at 6.30pm, resulting in perhaps the most endearingly bonkers double-billing this film editor has ever seen. A staggering amount of work from very committed people went in to getting the Cinema back on its feet, and those of us down here in the Felix basement who love our films on the silver screen for cheap wish them every success in the future. Bring on next Tuesday.

For more information about Tuesday's *Toy Story 3*/*Inception* double-bill, email cinema@imperial.ac.uk



17 hours after *Inception* ended, the sit-in protest at the lack of closure at the ending was still going strong

Do You Like Films?

Whether you do or not, or if you just find your eyes drawn to boxes on pages, then you should write film reviews for Felix. The whole box thing is actually a test. People who make good reviews are 80% more likely to find their eyes drawn to boxes. So do it. Email us. film.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Games Editor: **Simon Worthington**games.felix@imperial.ac.uk

GAMES

Web Games

Each week we're going to bring you a selection of fresh, free and fun web games that you can play right away in your browser. Unless otherwise specified, you're going to need the Adobe Flash Player plug-in which can be installed from <http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>.

Gretel and Hansel Part 2

newgrounds.com/portal/view/550407



This role-playing point-and-click adventure game is really not the sort of thing you should be playing on Halloween night. Don't let the beautiful hand-drawn beige graphics lull you into a false sense of security, this one is a genuine chiller of the blood. After a fairly normal start (despite a rather odd introduction) the game quickly turns up the weird level to a truly shocking magnitude. Five minutes is all that's needed to freak out even the most hardcore of players.

That's not to say the odd content is all that's on offer here, as the game is technically perfect and a joy to wander around in. The walking around sections mix flawlessly with the point-and-click puzzles, and thought and speech balloons provide a very intuitive way to control Gretel. There's also a substantial amount of things to do and secrets to find and it should keep you playing for a very long time indeed.

Haunt the House

tinyurl.com/haunthouse



A twist on the classic 'haunted house' idea, in this game you play a disgruntled ghost trying to scare a boatload of party-goers out of his once peaceful mansion. There are lots of objects for you to inhabit all with unique actions which you can use to terrorise the guests, and more can be unlocked later. A cute style and spot-on physics add up to great visuals.

Felix's guide to surviving the zombie apocalypse

Laurence Pope

So we all know the zombie apocalypse is coming at some point, most likely arising from some combination of a genetically modified virus, a dodgy business venture and a mad Imperial graduate. When it does strike, what on Earth do you do? No idea? Well, after days of careful thought I've come up with a list of five important things you need to take into consideration when you're battling though the infected hordes, with additional notes supplied by my celebrity guest Chuck Greene, star and survivor of *Dead Rising 2* and true zombie killing expert.

1. Keep taking the pills



So someone's infected, and you both know it. Maybe it's you – maybe you were careless and got scratched or bitten. Maybe you can feel that growing headache or that sick feeling in your stomach. Either way, you know it's the end of the line for someone. There's no shame in putting someone out of their misery, and if you're the unfortunate one... well, I'd always advise you keep one bullet with you at all times. Maybe Chuck can spread his words of wisdom on this very dark subject...

CHUCK GREENE'S INFECTION INFO:

"I recommend Zombrex™, the revolutionary over-the-counter drug available at all good pharmacies. Bitten? Scratched? Knowing the end is near? Never fear, Zombrex™ will forestall your zombification in handy, easy to use epipen-delivered doses. It truly is the 'gift of life'. See your local pharmacy for more information... sponsorship? What gives you that impression?"

2. Get the right tools

Another issue of paramount importance, what weapon you use very much depends on the type of zombie about. Fast and ferocious? Bullets are your safest bet. Slow and shambling? Melee might be a wiser choice. If you're going down the gun route, for God's sake make sure you know how to use them. If you pick melee, get something that's actually going to last a good few whacks, like a cricket bat or a frying pan. Maybe Chuck could back me up here?

CHUCK GREENE'S WEAPONRY WISDOM:

"Try and get your creative juices flowing and think outside of the weapon locker. A fire axe is a good weapon, but then so is a sledgehammer. Try taping them together and bam! Axe-hammer! Pugilists might want to try out oversized/flaming boxing gloves to get the adrenaline pumping, or, for the more mechanically minded, jam three power drills into a rusty bucket for a novel way to liquidize zombie heads."

3. An apple a day...



Food and water will be in limited supply when the world goes to hell. Looters will have pilaged many food stores, so scavenge what you can, when you can. If possible, grab multi-vitamins from any chemist you find – a lot of the time you'll end up eating tinned food and you'll need every nutritional advantage you can get. Mr. Greene, your thoughts?

CHUCK GREENE'S NUTRITIONAL NUGGET:

"Snack food and booze, snack food and booze... it's like being a student again! Snack machines are common as muck, and booze is free to enjoy in any abandoned bar. Just try not to drink too much... 'scuse me... *blughhh...*"

4. Start your engines

Moving about in a zombie infected world is perilous on foot, yet most roads will be locked up with abandoned cars and trucks. If travelling alone, a motorcycle or dirt bike may be your best bet. If in a group, finding a heavy truck to plough through the vehicular blockade would be a shrewd decision. Don't forget to scavenge for petrol and diesel as both will become very sought after resources. Let's get Chuck's word on this:

CHUCK GREENE'S TRANSPORT TIP:

"When fighting off the zombies in malls or close quarters, gasoline based transport is impractical. Two wheeled bicycles are too unstable, so my preferred method of transport is the tricycle. My favourite one was a pink kiddie's bike – others laughed, but they weren't the ones smugly pedalling their way to safety."

5. Dress to impress



A vitally important issue, trust me on this one; what you wear determines how long you'll last outside in the cold, cruel world of the undead. Body armour is probably a sensible bet, as is any form of protective headgear. A belt or two to hook weaponry onto wouldn't go amiss either, but let's see what Chuck has to say on this point.

CHUCK GREENE'S ATTIRE ADVICE:

"Comfort is extremely important when trying to survive. Since there are very few people around to judge you, feel free to wear whatever the hell you want. My personal preference is split between pink floral dresses and superhero green spandex, both of which can be looted from any abandoned clothing or fancy dress store."



Next week in the Games section...

We've got an exclusive review of **WWE Smackdown Vs. RAW 2011**, another fresh selection of **web games** and... **your article!**

Here at Felix, we need your input! E-mail games.felix@ic.ac.uk with your articles, feedback or suggestions!

New Vegas comes up trumps

Fresh out of his Vault, Sean Harbinson is bowled over by *Fallout: New Vegas*

Fallout: New Vegas brings us back to post-apocalyptic America to travel the vast wastelands once again. The story begins with you awaking in a room to discover you've just gone through surgery after being found shot and left for dead.

You immediately are given the option to design your character. The options here are very limited – you are forced to start from a small number of presets with little room for change. Trying to create a character resembling you is nigh on impossible or at the very least extremely time consuming. Next you choose what style of character you wish to be by varying your stats, skills and perks. There is an extensive array of choices for what style you want to use: a confident speaker, an agile thief, a technological expert or a raging semi-automatic wielding gunman. The possibilities really are endless and I feel this is an integral part of the game.

This whole chapter of the game is essential. It very quickly closes off doors you may wish to follow in the future – you can't be a heavy-gunner shooting down every enemy in sight whilst charismatically charming your way into massive discounts at stores. The vast amount of choices you have makes New Vegas feel unapproachable. You must play to your characters strengths and it's impossible to fulfil every role in one playing of the game. This can, of course, be considered a positive as you can return to the game hundreds of times, each playthrough ending up with a completely different character.

Gameplay will easily be recognised by experienced Fallout players yet is also easy to pick up for newcomers. The tutorial teaches you all the basics and is very easy to follow, and thankfully it's possible to skip if you're a veteran Fallout player. While you can carry straight on to the main story, the game allows you to explore for yourself and find the quests that interest you. I personally love the fact that I can wander through the wasteland exploring new areas without feeling pressured to stick to the main plot, which can often be a problem in modern games.

It is easy to see that the game shows many similarities to the earlier Fallout 3, for example: the combat, with the same VATS (Vault-Tec Assisted Targeting System) allowing you to target limbs or gun arms to cripple the enemy's ability to fight back. The aesthetic follows the same idea of crumbling buildings and vast amounts of dusty wasteland with the occasional shrubs and ruins giving a glance into a happier past. The PIP-Boy still organises all your weapons, armour, quests and allows you to see the map. The theme remains in a 50s style with many old songs which give an eerie atmosphere to the game as you wander the far-reaching wasteland. The bizarre mixture of futuristic laser guns along with old themed clothes and music gives the game a very surreal atmosphere.

New Vegas is, however, a very different game from its predecessor and that's due to how well



This guy's meant to be dressed up as Darth Vader for Halloween. Oi mate, you're doing it wrong!

it's written. The writers understand that sometimes morality is not just black or white, that there is ambiguity and that it can be subjective which I feel is a great addition to role playing games. You are forced to make awful decisions for a greater good or to decide the better of two horrific options. The central conflict between the New California Republic (NCR) and Caesar's Legion sometimes hides this morality, and although it may seem like a simple fight between lawmakers and barbarians, it is impossible to say that either is a force for good and in the entirety of the game you quite easily see the worst of both factions.

Black humour is very prevalent in New Vegas. On one corner of the map NCR Rangers are slowly changing into Ghouls due to over-exposure to radiation without noticing. The absolute preposterousness of the situation forces you to laugh despite the darker undertone running beneath it. The game leaves the depression of the apocalypse to express itself via the ruins and the landscape, which the writers play to their advantage to bring a more realistic feeling from the characters. They don't portray their

“Futuristic laser guns along with old themed clothes and music give the game a very surreal atmosphere.”



depression through their words but through their actions. This gives room for much darker characters to develop.

The greatest part of *Fallout: New Vegas*, as with *Fallout 3*, is that you are never forced to follow the main story line. It is possible to play the game for hours whilst completing only side quests. The immeasurable wastelands give you 400 locations to visit with 163 individual quests to complete. The Mojave Wasteland, where the game takes place, is incredibly realistic and not only through the impressive graphics. It's a continuous mystery with so many unexpected turns. Unprompted by the main storyline you may stumble across a terrible event that it would have been easy to miss. Merely a side story in the game, and yet so striking. Simply by exploring the ruins of Nevada you might find the most interesting part of the game despite it not being part of the main quests. The pure attention to detail of the smallest characters and the areas to explore keeps the player interested throughout. The clever dialogue returns along with great writing and quest design. Characters are desperate, deceitful, suave, crude, or a mixture of all these features. This produces a more in depth story and a much more relatable game. The voice acting has also improved allowing you to connect to the game's hundreds of interlocking stories.

The new hardcore mode forces you to become a true wastelander. You must follow a normal sleep pattern, keep hydrated and fight off hunger. You will end up collapsing onto whatever roadside mattress you can find, lapping dirty water from toilet bowls and going through every bin and abandoned building to find scraps of food just to survive. Skills which you would normally ignore, such as Unarmed and Survival, end up being a necessity. It's not like a 'Hard mode' which ends up giving your enemies vast amounts of ammo and infinite hit points – it changes the way you play the game. Ammunition has weight giving you more reason to explore the improved variety of melee weapons. Stimpaks (the health packs) heal over time rather than immediately and crippled limbs can only be healed by doctors. Instead of focusing on your next quest you are forced to hunt for water, food, a bed, or a 'doctor bag' to fix your wounded appendages. This is a great new idea for the game and I thoroughly enjoyed it as it forces you to think outside the box in order to complete even the most basic of quests.

The combination of realistic graphics, great storyline, in-depth characters and massive variety of choices make *Fallout: New Vegas* an impressive game. It would easily be possible to play hundreds of times over without getting bored, especially with the new hardcore mode. Despite the similarities to *Fallout 3* the game reinvents itself with the style of writing and clever quests. If you enjoyed *Fallout 3* then *Fallout: New Vegas* is definitely a game for you. Anyone who hasn't played *Fallout* before, I suggest that you start now!

Food Editor: **Dana Li**food.felix@imperial.ac.uk

FOOD

Your review

Alvin says:

If you tire of jostling for a space to eat in the mosh-pit that is the JCR, or find the cuisine of the SCR a tad too monotonous, then you could do worse than to make a visit to Bugis Street. Less than 15 minutes walk away and conveniently located for a college lunch, Bugis offers a good value set price lunch menu with decent sized portions, and whilst not completely authentic, it's close enough that you won't be too bothered. The Hainanese Chicken rice is especially delectable.

Share your favourite restaurant or cafe in 80-100 words with us, send it to food.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Buttered prawns with tomato and olives



This prawn doesn't cost £18.90

4 plum tomatoes
12 tiger or king prawns
50 grams unsalted butter, softened
1/2 teaspoon dried chilli flakes
50 grams Kalamata olives, stoned
20mL mirin
3 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
2 tablespoon chopped basil
salt

Prepare the tomatoes by first cutting a small cross at the bottom and put them in boiling water for 30 seconds. Remove, and run under cold water. Unpeel the skin and cut into 4-6 wedges. Set aside.

To prepare the prawns, peel the shells but keep the tail segment of the shell on. Cut a shallow slit along the back of each prawn and remove the dark vein.

Place a frying pan over high heat. When very hot, add 20 grams of butter and sauté the prawns quickly for about 2 minutes, shaking the pan as you go.

Add the tomatoes, chilli and olives and cook for another 2-3 minutes, until the prawns are nearly cooked. Add the mirin and simmer for a minute before adding the remaining butter, garlic and basil.

Toss for a second for everything to come together in a runny sauce then serve immediately with bread.

Lunch at The Rembrandt

This Knightsbridge hotel doesn't do snooty or pretentious

Dana Li

The mere mention that I am having lunch at The Rembrandt in Knightsbridge brings gasps of excitement and jeers of disbelief. It's not everyday that you dine in the Knightsbridge area, so I made every chance to boast about it!

Home to Harrods and resident restaurants such as Zuma, Petrus and Ottolenghi, it is not uncommon for students to have the 'Look, Don't Touch' view on eating in Knightsbridge, apart from say, Wagamama and Yo! Sushi along Brompton Road. Well, fear not, The Rembrandt answers to the problem of having a decent lunch without jeopardizing the meagre student bank balance.

Located on the doorstep of the Victoria and Albert Museum, the hotel prides itself on its Edwardian style architecture and furnishings, in particular the 1606 lounge in which guests, like me, are able to have their G&T before being served in The Palette Restaurant. Of course, there's plenty more than just gin and tonic on the menu.

Lunch here is a relaxed affair and can be served as a three-course carvery, in which guests first help themselves to an overflowing counter of platters that include salmon terrine and various cured meats as well as countless vegetarian options with grilled aubergines taking my fancy, and other vegetable salads. There are usually two meats available for the carvery on the day, with tender roast beef and a very brilliant pink gammon steak on the day that I visited. The best thing is that what you choose to put on the side of your mains is entirely up to you, portion-wise and selection-wise: and with that thought in mind I loaded three Yorkshire puddings, slithers of grilled salmon, spinach in the most brilliant form unlike the normal boiled



Highly unreflective of The Palette Restaurant, it isn't normally empty...

greens I frequently find myself eating... and a dozen more sides I could bore you to death with the mundane details of. As for the best course of the meal, that is, if you aren't bursting at the seams from the two previous ones, is a choice of dessert cakes and other miniature fancies.

On quieter days, lunch is the more conventional 3 course set menu, with an impressive array of choices that changes with seasonal produce. Lunch and dinner is priced at £24.95 including service charge, a steal when you could think about Zuma along the road charging £18.90 for one prawn. I exaggerate not.

The Rembrandt also serves as a brilliant choice for evening functions with its location being just five minutes walk from the South Kensington campus and tube station as well as its superb dining facilities. Whether it is simply a drinks reception, Christmas dinner for the residence halls, or an annual sports club function – The Rembrandt has an answer to any Imperial College student's needs with a special evening function package, prices from £30.00 per person.

The Rembrandt, 11 Thurloe Place, Knightsbridge SW7 2RS. 020 7589 8100

Let's talk about coffee - what else?

Charles Betts snubs George Clooney's Nespresso for coffee at the EEE café

Dark, very intense, balanced, unique, mysterious, delicate and smooth with a strong character, body and deep sensual aftertaste. Or at least that's how the ladies in the Nescafé Nespresso adverts put it (much to the disdain of George Clooney). Indeed, not much compares with the pleasures of an early morning espresso.

Sadly, Taste Imperial generally miss the mark when it comes to coffee. A good espresso requires employees who are experienced in handling a traditional espresso machine and a ceramic cup. Cardboard, whilst great for people on the go, will taint and destroy a coffee. Yet the Mechanical Engineering café doesn't seem to know what a ceramic cup is and the chaps in the SCR hate serving coffee in one, sighing heavily if you ask for a proper cup. It's as if you had personally asked them to go to John Lewis,

"Not much compares with the pleasures of an early morning espresso"

buy a cup, bring it back, wash it, and serve your drink. And the Business School always makes the coffee too strong.

Surprisingly, then, there is a place on the South Kensington campus where you can find a decent cup of coffee. Laura, Barbara, Paulo and Driss of the Electrical Engineering café are all well versed in the subtle art of handling an espresso machine, and manage to consistently make a cup of java that's not too strong or weak and with just the right level of bitterness. You get a perfect coffee everytime, served in a posh cup by enthusiastic and cheery staff that take pride in serving good quality beverages to its customers.

Hopefully Taste Imperial learns from this brilliant microcosm of coffee loveliness, and improve the other cafés around campus. "What else?" as Mr Clooney would say.



The awesome staff at the EEE café

An Argentine legend in South Ken

Elizabeth Mann reviews the world renowned Argentine steak at El Gaucho

Situated underground, just a stone's throw from the station, lies South Kensington's best kept culinary secret. Those with a proclivity for excellent steak can often be observed venturing down the narrow steps into the basement area. Those curious enough to discover its visceral delights will follow. And those who are vegetarians, well... look away now.

This is not your standard clinical bistro seen on the main streets of pseudo-upscale areas. Instead, El Gaucho is an intimate restaurant that radiates warmth and character – from the friendly attentiveness of the service, to the cosy décor. But I was here for their steak. I'm not referring to the sort offered by the typical Aberdeen Angus Steakhouse chain littered around most tourist hotspots. Nor am I alluding to the wholly unsatisfying, thin-cut variety served slathered avec une sauce-we-cannot-pronounce. I'm talking about the no-nonsense, unadulterated steak - and the Argentines are the experts.

So, does the product live up to its reputation? Absolutely.

El Gaucho's selling point is flavour backed by authenticity. On tasting a selection of their most popular cuts, neither was compromised. Rib-eye, Sirloin, Rump and Fillet are all on the menu, and the staff are more than happy to explain the differences between them with regard to flavour, fat and texture to those of us who are not yet aficionados on such epicurean subtleties.

Bife Angosto A Caballo (£16.90), twelve ounces of prime Argentine sirloin, arrives on a sizzling hot-plate, served the authentic way – topped with two fried eggs. Without even cutting into it, you know this steak is going to be plump and juicy. Smoky, charred and slightly caramelised all around, with a good amount of give when the all-important fingertip test



If you're not salivating at this, the Churrasco steak, there is definitely something wrong with you

I'm talking about the no-nonsense, unadulterated steak - and the Argentines are the experts

was carried out. The taste did not disappoint – perfectly seasoned on the outside, allowing the natural flavour of the succulent pink meat to follow through. This is a steak that speaks for itself. No need for sauces, no elaborate garnishes, just a cut of Argentina's finest export, served in the traditional manner.

The waitress, Anna-Maria, tells me their meat is imported weekly from Argentina, from cows reared on open ranges, fed on rich green pastures. In short, bovine mecca. As we emerged discreetly from the basement of this hidden establishment, satiated from our meaty fix, we smugly yet seamlessly blended back into the throng of the crowd. Happy cows. Tasty meat. Happy customers. Simple – the best pleasures in life usually are.

El Gaucho, 30b Old Brompton Road, SW7 3DL. 020 7584 8999 Nearest tube station: South Kensington.

Union food worthy of a Michelin star?

A far-fetched idea but new Union menu is a hit
by George McIntyre

So, I was recently asked about the best perk of working behind the new bar at the Union. Now, before you say, it's not the verbal abuse from the pretty much universally hated miners and no, it's not the funky shirts. It's without a doubt, the free food.

Mid-shift there is absolutely nothing you want more, than to get your Jäger stained hands on a juicy impala burger with some curly fries. I'm not just an isolated case either. Ever since the new bar, kitchen and menu have arrived I've heard ethereal whispers of 'guest burgers', 'did he say bison?!' 'What even is an Impala!?' all around campus. Either that or it's in my head...

which, on second thoughts, it probably is.

Being a newbie to IC means I didn't have the privilege of enjoying the old menu, but I've done my extensive research (asking the boss) to find out what's new and most improved.

Most of the snacks are new to the menu like the samosas and haddock and spring onion fishcakes and you can even get yourself some wasabi tempura vegetables, all these bringing a bit of much needed diversity to the menu. Nachos return as an old favourite, now with a combination of three dips and they even comes in sharing size! Nice. For the healthier of you, there are two new salads to choose from. A simple 'bistro' salad or a pretty decent Caprese. However, if you're normal, like the rest of us, you're going to be focusing on the right-hand side of the menus looking at pizzas and burgers. The new Texana pizza has been an instant best seller as well as the classic Napolina, both of which are just £5.50 for 12". However, winning the award

for best newcomer has to be the FiveSixEight burger. Having not actually had one myself, I'm basing this on the fact the entire stock was eaten in two days. As they're made out of bison, the environment side of me is slightly worried at this. To top it all off they also do desserts now too! A lemon tart, chocolate fondant and pecan and maple cheesecake. Come on, you must be a little tempted?

Anyway, I just want people to know, there's a new menu and it's fairly cheap. It's not Michelin starred dining and yes the menu is made from greaseproof paper, but who cares? It does the job. The menu is well-priced so even if you just fancy a few (12) onion rings with some sweet chilli dip, you can get them for just £1.50.

So, if you can't be bothered to cook (or microwave) get down to the Union have a cheap yet ultimately satisfying meal and possibly (as I heard one guy, who I won't name, call it the other day) a "cheeky snakey B" too. Ouch.

Halloween happenings

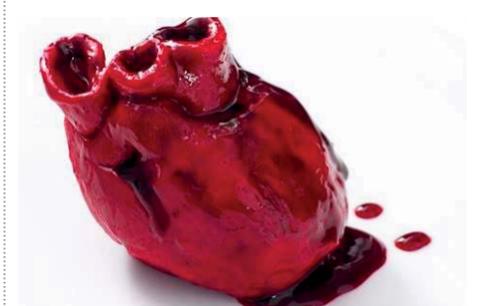
Eat Your Heart Out & the PRETOX Potion

Halloween is on Sunday this year... so no excuse not to dress up and embrace the festival of the dead then! Though the United States has significantly influenced how Halloween is celebrated around the world, London is leading the pack in showing that we Brits can do it just as well.

Forget the spider web cookies in Sainsbury's and the skull-shaped marshmallows at M&S. The 'Eat Your Heart Out & The PRETOX Potion' cake shop in the 'dungeon' of Maiden (classy card shop located on Shoreditch High Street) has fun with porn and gore inspired cakes and miniature fancies. The patisserie is given an 18+ rating, need I say more? Well, yes I do, because I just can't rave about it enough. Forget the kids. 'Eat Your Heart Out' slams every dainty looking cupcake in the face with its eccentric concept. Road kill cake decorations by David A. Smith; pornographic images by George Morton-Clark brought to life on cupcakes and a heart cake by Lily Vanilli that, if you're not a medic, might make you heave if you saw someone tucking into it in public. That's not it: there is also a Russian Roulette... with cookies. Harmless, you say? All fine and dandy until you chance upon the cat food-flavoured cookie. And the Hangover cake that is the project of bakers, artists and potion makers to induce a student's worst morning-after feeling. The only quick-fix remedy is the PRETOX Potion that features in the name of the cake shop, unless it is your desire to nurse a cake-induced hangover.

So if the idea of food looking pretty and dainty really grates you the wrong way, and the Saw movies are what you'd sit down to on a Sunday afternoon, check out 'Eat Your Heart Out'. Open from 11am on Friday and selling 666 items everyday until Sunday 31st.

Maiden, 188 Shoreditch High St, London E1 6HU. Nearest tube station: Shoreditch High Street.



Hannibal would find this delectable...

Bompas and Parr Chewing Gum Factory

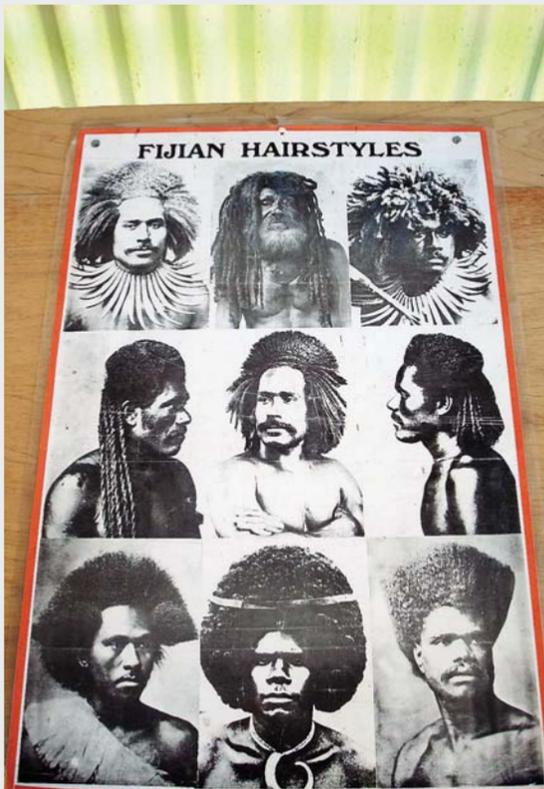
Renowned for their glow in the dark jelly and a bowl of punch large enough for customers to row across, Bompas and Parr brings their chewing gum factory to Whiteleys in Bayswater, where customers are treated to one-on-one sessions creating their own artisanal chewing gum. Let your imagination run wild with what flavours you'd like. Just head to the atrium, and look for a golden ticket. **Free admission ending 31st Oct. Opening hours 10am-6pm.**

TRAVEL

Travel Editor: **Dylan Lowe**
Chris Richardson

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Wishing You Were Here



Fijian hairstyles by Dylan Lowe

Want to see your travel photograph featured here? Send it to travel.felix@imperial.ac.uk.

Travel Blog of the Week



Who: 'y Travel Blog' is the brainchild of Caroline 'Caz' and Craig Makepeace, seasoned travellers from Australia who brought their passion to their marriage.

About: Combining their eight-year travel experiences and memories into their mission to inspire people to travel, Caz and Craig aim to eponymously justify your appetite for travel and encourage you to enrich your life through travelling.

Why: Extremely knowledgeable in this field, these life-enthusiasts are two of the most outspoken travel bloggers within the community. Their travel advice is fantastic – ignore at your own risk. Their sense of community is reflected by their 'Favourite travel blog posts of the week' – a fantastic starting point for anyone getting into travel blogging literature. Craig and Caz regularly interact with their readers on social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook.

Recommended: Tips for staying in backpackers hostels; 5 best Mother Earth natural wonders of the world; Land of exoticness; Favourite travel blog posts for the week of.

Link: <http://www.ytravelblog.com>

Twitter: @ytravelblog

Needing inspiration for a weekend getaway? Or some travelling planned ahead of the next break? Join the discussion #FelixTravel on twitter for ideas.

It scared me shitless

How far will the tourism industry go to empty our bowels and our coffers asks **Dylan Lowe**

A couple of things you can never forget about a bungy jump: the expression of your co-conspirators' faces, and the fateful countdown that mount to your eventual plunge.

Conspirators because you and your fellow jumpers are cheating on death, defying gravity and your natural instincts.

As for the countdown, there is nothing more mesmerising than the trickles of adrenaline dripped into your ears, the urge represented by mere numbers, the suspense that spans for as long as Johnny Cash's *25 Minutes to Go* when, in fact, the deal is sealed within seconds.

Bungy jumping doesn't just represent one of the highlights of my excursions – it simply epitomises my appetite for travel. Likewise with skydiving, hitchhiking, sandboarding, anything involving overdoses of adrenaline – thrill-seeking essentially provides me with the motivation to un-hang my rucksack and trot.

Which isn't that dissimilar to other travellers out there.

The evidence lies with the positive feedback the 'fear' tourism industry has been enjoying for the past decade: with ever-increasing num-



Yup, this is what you think it is – bungy jumping from a helicopter

minutive, yet distinguishable.

Yet, we still jump for things for that extra kick of excitement.

The 'danger biz' works and receives popular acclaim because it allows people to stretch their limits – limits often imposed upon them in normal-day lives of which travelling is a

"The 'danger biz' works because it allows people to push their limits and conquer their worst fears"

bers of adrenaline-junkies looming from the horizon the market is expanding at an unprecedented rate, giving rise to popular adventure destinations like New Zealand and Namibia as well as new inventive ways to entertain oneself while on the very brink of death.

And, whilst I may bemoan about how squeamish the modern-day tourist has become, given the right circumstances and safety procedures the holiday-makers and vagabonds can display some admirable boldness.

But then, the whole point of danger-lusting is that it's not entirely safe – one may even take risks for granted.

Urban legend has it that, while the jet boat he was on was speeding through a crevice, a Japanese tourist disregarded instructions to remain seated and – rather predictably – stood up to take a shot at photographic perfection. Horror ensued when the remaining passengers were splattered with crimson and found a decapitated body in their midst.

Another equally as far-fetched, yet frighteningly practical, story depicts a female bungy-jumper slipping out of her harness mid-freefall and tumbled, concluding her near-death experience with a few excruciating breakages.

And I've recently been told that doctors have a way of identifying bungy jumpers by looking at an X-ray of their spine – the recoil could leave behind a signature dislocation that is di-

liberation – in the somewhat-full-but-not-quite knowledge that their wellbeing is safeguarded by regulations and constraints. And much to the delight of post-activity 'phobes', they find themselves having conquered their worst fears.

Despite the sequential warnings the *Jaws* series has beseeched its audience, despite the number of swimmers and surfers recovered from beaches mauled and dismembered, shark cage diving remains a hit because of the metal bars which separated spectator and beast – by all means still an alarmingly close encounter with the infamous big-whites.

Though how far will our affinity for 'fear factor' stretch? Once our gutsy selves exhausted the Edinburghian ghost tours and charging downhill encased in inflatable orbs, what will we come up with?

A J Hackett, man who commercialised bungy jumping and daredevil-ism, is now rumoured to be expanding his business interest to include BASE jumping, a highly-technical and hazardous thrill-seek, which regularly sees even the most-experienced veterans end up on the list of fatalities. To virtual novices, this is practically suicide.

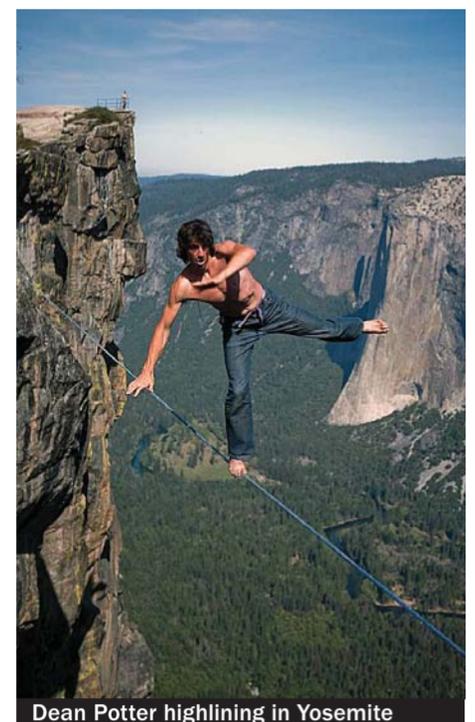
And with characters like Dean Potter continuing to put their lives at risk to achieve nail-biting yet awesome feats, little wonder that the general public would seek to mimic them.

I cannot predict how the industry will devel-

op as, unlike the horror-movie industry, sparks of imagination and innovation are in no short supplies. Nor are would-be entrepreneurs. Are we descending from the status of holidaying adrenaline-junkies to that of voluntary lemmings? I certainly hope not.

What is certain is that our society wouldn't beg to have all the action rebuked and condemned like a Class-A drug. The element of thrill-seeking is too firmly incorporated into our nature as humans – it'll continue to urge us to discover new ways to test our capacity for danger.

In the meantime I'll stick to what is already available – mind you, the 'already-availabilities' still translates as an endless list of opportunities, enough to shower me with adrenaline for a lifetime.



Dean Potter highlining in Yosemite

Drifting Through South Central 'Nam

Aggressive off-road biking, token temple exploration and a cheeky mud spa – cruising along Vietnam's South Central Coast. **By Chris Richardson**

I was already well-acquainted with Vietnam's somewhat inconvenient electricity shortages and Facebook firewall (hey, who needs an international social networking site when you've got access to 'go.vn', where the Communist Party are more than happy to be your 'friend') by the time I arrived in Nha Trang, a quaint little town in the South Central Coast. Unfortunately this place is often twinned with Koh Phangan, Thailand's infamous full moon party island, when in actual fact it has a lot of hidden pleasures beyond the cheap beer and easy girls (and/or guys).

Night buses and trains are the way forward: not only do they save you money that you'd otherwise fork out on accommodation (negligible as that amount may be), but they also allow you to maximise your exposure to sunlight in these exotic places. I relied on them

“Who needs an international social networking site when you've got access to 'go.vn', where the Communist Party is more than happy to be your 'friend'”

heavily throughout my travels and got used to the sleep deprivation induced by the stench of nearby feet. In retrospect the smell was probably coming from me. So I hopped off of the bus and was in sunny Nha Trang. I wandered aimlessly attempting to find a guesthouse based on a recommendation from back in Cambodia, and eventually stumbled across it, only to find that single and dorm rooms were full. Thankfully the extrovert within compelled me to have a two-minute icebreaker with a guy in the lobby who was also looking for a room: after a quick assessment I decided that he wasn't going to kill me and he'd be a suitable room buddy for the time being, and we checked into a twin.

For some reason we were charged the full amount for an air-conditioned room (an extra 50p – big whoop) despite the fact that the power was set to be off for a couple of days for reasons I still don't fully understand. So we took off to the beach with Lonely Planets and beers in

hand and began to set the agenda. After soaking up some rays we hopped on some bikes and headed for the mud spa. The mud spa was the beginning of the end of my camera but did my skin wonders: obviously its claims of healing powers weren't at all mythical. It was quite the hotspot for Asian tourists who all wanted photos taken with me for some reason, which kind of killed the mellow atmosphere, but whatever. We smothered ourselves in tepid, creamy mud before showering and heading to some good old temples.

By this point I wasn't 'all tempted out' and the novelty of all things old was still glistening. The Po Nagar Cham Towers, built by the Cham civilization sometime between the 7th and 12th century, were quite spectacular. I guess it's a little like Angkor Wat but much more condensed and placed on a hill. The intriguing architecture, lively dancing from performers and agreeable aromas from incense sticks made the climb well worth it. I don't know why but I still find it a little weird when Buddhist monks ride around on choppers and whip out their digital cameras to take some cheeky snaps – it just doesn't fit the image at all. Anyway, the hill offered a superb view of the town below.

If you haven't tried Vietnamese cuisine I'd highly recommend it, particularly the obvious choice of 'pho', 'nam's national dish. Like most of the dishes in this part of the world, such simple ingredients somehow manage to conjure up amazing flavours that get you craving for more. It was also here that I developed my undying passion for Vietnamese coffee, best mixed with

a drizzle of condensed milk and poured over ice. But the real gem is Bia Hoi, a pitcher of mighty fine beer that'll set you back a whopping 50p and get you absolutely tinselled. We indulged in all of the above and checked out the allegedly booming nightlife. Unfortunately the punters were mostly disillusioned Aussie diving instructors and their newly-found Vietnamese wives: isn't true love magical?

The next day was a little more cultured as we got well off the beaten track

“In spite of the horrors imposed on them, these people are still amongst the most hospitable and cheery I've come across to date”

and motorcycled up the coast and into the mountains. Travelling by bike certainly beats the bus, and I'll be bearing this fact in mind on my next trip. We got to interact so much more with the places we visited: every time we rode through a fishing village we'd slow down to soak up the atmosphere a little, and every so often we were greeted by local children who just wanted to say 'hi' or wanted us to join in on a ball game. In spite of the horrors imposed on them, these people are still amongst the most hospitable and



A bit of strategic photo-cropping and you're left with paradise

cheery I've come across to date. It's a shame that a lot of travellers don't do this more often: the breeze in your hair as you zoom around on your bike is a great substitute to bus air-conditioning and you get to converse with the local people so much more. It may seem intimidating to do this kind of thing but in reality, you're probably a lot safer in these kinds of places than walking through Central London.

A few of the characters I'd met decided to head over to Vin Pearl, a water park much like the ones you can find back home. I'm still not sure why you'd jet across the world to get involved in this kind of thing when there are so many better things at your disposal. Instead I went on a mission in search of the Ba Ho

waterfalls, famous for their crystal clear waters – the perfect place to unwind and get away from the clutches of the water park. Two hours and a bucket of sweat later and I was stood atop the ultimate waterfall gazing into the distance, admiring the forest and the lack of people in the vicinity.

After an unexpected encounter with a bloody massive (and probably harmless) spider I took another little trip to Bia Hoi, quickly guzzled down a few glasses of beer, and headed further up the coast to Hoi An. A far cry from the anticipated reclusiveness induced by a bitter regime, fun-loving Vietnam was quickly turning out to be a favourite destination: my only real regret is that I didn't stay for longer. Next time, next time.



Inspired by Aussie divers, we set off in search of wives



Little did I know that my camera was in my pocket all along

HANGMAN



hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Twatter



SexyOsama69

Obie, whys ur Shelly tryin to add me on facebook?



Barack_attack_I33thaxor

she thinks ur a bad influence on me and wants to keep an eye on u lol



SexyOsama69

lol



SUPERACEGORTHEROAR87

tbh Osie you did keep taggin him as Samuel L Jackson



SexyOsama69

lol



Barack_attack_I33thaxor

Yeh and u tagged me in those torture photos. Not cool



SexyOsama69

lol. I didnt know da whole wikileaks fing was gona happen. Gor wat u up to?



SUPERACEGORTHEROAR87

Writin my play



Cameron_DA_Maneron!!!

hahahahahahahahahahaha. wats it called?



SUPERACEGORTHEROAR87

'Prime Winister' its a semi-autobiographical dark satire

DRUNKEN MATE OF THE WEEK

Send your photos to
felix@imperial.ac.uk (go on...)

Ever tried explaining quantum theory to a cat?

They usually catch on quicker than the cashiers at Asda...

As Imperial students, you will often find yourself confronted with the task of explaining and diluting science for stupid people. This is no easy feat, as most Imperial students find it difficult enough to talk to each other, let alone some amoeba sitting behind the Asda checkout, repeatedly

scanning the same pack of biscuits and staring at you blankly with those unusually large pupils. Apparently amoebas simply don't care about the amazing science behind barcodes and laser scanners, LOOK WILL YOU JUST GIVE ME THE BISCUITS AND LET ME DO IT!!!!?

So how do we go about breaking down com-

plex theories into simple digestible facts for simple detestable people? Well firstly we need to be aware of the universal stupidity grading system. There are three grades of stupidity that you should be aware of when approaching the sticky challenge of communicating with the mentally-inferior. You will need to tailor your explanatory discourse accordingly.

The Hangman Gradient of Stupidity

GRADE 1 (Ignorant Stupid)

These people normally have a non-academic qualification of some kind, such as a degree in History of Art or English literature or Poetry or something else illogical. They tend to think that they have a heightened understanding of their surroundings and an ability to see things that others do not. This means that you can tell them absolutely anything and they will believe it. They will then try to make their own interpretation and find some way of applying it to 'the human condition' or a pretentious philosophical statement, e.g. 'If the gravitational force simply brings us closer together, then perhaps love is also a force.' You can write that in your facebook quotations if you want.

GRADE 2 (Stupid Stupid)

Avoid any word that is even vaguely scientific. You will have to turn every theory; every formula into some really tenuous analogy involving elephants and monkeys. They only understand spatial dimensions in units of football pitches or buses and you should always try to involve friendly talking animals in your analogies. They have an average attention span of about three seconds, so try to bring in a new talking animal every time you see them switching off.



GRADE 3 (Clown Stupid)

It is futile even trying to explain anything to these people. This is because everything amazes and confounds them. They wake up and go 'Wow, I just woke up! That's awesome! How do we wake up? What is waking up?' After thinking about this for an hour they will walk down stairs and open the fridge, 'Wow! How is it so cold? Everything inside here is cold! Fridges are awesome'. After grabbing a bottle of milk and marvelling at its unworldly shape, they sit down and have some cornflakes, 'Oh my God! Cornflakes! What? What are they? What are cornflakes? What? Who am I? Am I a cornflake?' As of yet, no-one has successfully managed to explain anything to a GRADE 3.

How to explain the Large Hadron Collider to these people... well, I say 'people'...

GRADE 1 – (just regurgitate some Wikipedia and make up the rest) The large hadron collider is the world's largest particle accelerator with a circumference of 27 kilometres. This synchrotron is designed to collide opposing particle beams of either protons or lead nuclei, with the hope of answering some of physics' most fundamental questions. The collider operates on a quasi-symmetric dipole oscicallimator and the protons travel in a Guassian-Einsteinian vector-matrix formation. Analysis of the collision residue should determine the existence or non-existence of the Higgs Boson and quasi-anti-per-string-dimensions.



GRADE 2 – Ok, the elephants are having a big cycle race. When the starting gun blows, half the elephants cycle in the opposite direction. The circuit is about the length of 270 football pitches, so when the elephants meet half way around, they're travelling near the speed of light – elephants are really good cyclists. Because they're travelling so fast, there is no way of stopping the gruesome collision. There are elephant limbs and bike wheels flying in every direction. The scientists – who are monkeys – are observing the horrific crash scene. Why? Because they're looking for something special; the Higgs Bos- err – a special key, which holds the answers to many questions. They think the elephants have swallowed the special key and that smashing them up is the only way to find it. No, they can't just ask the elephants, or X-ray them, or make a duplicate key – LOOK THIS IS THE ONLY WAY! No, the monkeys haven't found the special key yet. No, that doesn't exonerate the elephants. No the monkeys aren't working for anybody. What do you mean you think the giraffes are behind this? It's an analogy. An ANALOG- ok, yes the giraffes are behind it all.

GRADE 3 – The LHC, sorry the large hadron collider, sorry the large proton collider, sorry the large particle collider – the large really really small football collider – What's a collider? Ok, the large really really small football smasher-upper. Imagine a big race track and all the elephants are having a big cycle race. Why? I don't know, to raise money for dying gazelle or wounded zebra or something. Because they all got shot by the giraffes. What? I don't know, because one of the zebras was having a secret love affair with one of the giraffes. It's like Romeo and Juliet, but with giraffes and zebras. I DON'T KNOW WHY THE ELEPHANTS GOT INVOLVED, GOD-DAMNIT CAN WE JUST GET BACK TO THE FUCKING RACE! Right ok, so it's the big day and the elephants are getting their bikes ready. However, half of the Elephants think it would be funny to race in the opposite direction. Of course it's not that funny when they meet halfway round the track and smash into each other. There are limbs and bike chains flying in every direction; a truly gruesome scene of blood and entangled guts.

THE NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS



“TV was ready for HD, but the house wasn’t”

DRUNKEN MATE OF THE WEEK



Oh Luke Lombardo, what would your mother think? Wait, she's right here I'll ask her. She says you're a naughty boy and when she gets back from my house she's going to ground you forever...

Aunty McPickle is here to solve all of your problems

Dear Aunty McPickle,

I want to dress up as a gladiator from 300 for Halloween to impress a girl from halls, but I have virtually zero muscles and body fat and pale yellow skin. Help!

Leonidas Spasticus

Dear Leonidas Spasticus,

Buy a shitload of lard and inject it into your body – get it right or you'll look like a whonky squinty Popeye. And OMG you need some history education!

This isn't Sparta, Aunty McPickle

Horoscopes

Aries

On Tuesday, you are a man. You find a need to desperately pee, running to the closest bog. You decide to treat yourself by sitting down to take your wee. In the process, you see words of wisdom on the wall “The only difference between having a shit and anal sex is vectoral.”

Gemini

This week you are a welfare benefit lazy git of a cuntish chav. You collect your weekly government allowance on Saturday morning, only to splash 40% of it on Simon Cowell's teeth by repeat dialling the X-factor hot line. You then have a wank while listening to Mary.

Leo

This week you walk in on your Libra flatmate shagging the holy grail that is your mum...

... you take remedial action.

Libra

On Monday, you shag a Leo's mother. DAMN FUCKING YES!! You question your judgement after said Leo grabs your balls, wrenches them off with a set of pliers, and forces them down your gob... But you are still sure you made the right decision as you slowly die.

Sagittarius

Did you know you have thirty-two teeth and can touch all of them with your tongue?

I bet you are actually trying that out now. You sad, lonely, deprived fuckface of a human being.

Aquarius

You experience excessive wrist strain this week. Your doctor advises that you have been excessively masturbating due to a lack of decent women at Imperial. You are told to take a four week rehabilitation break at the department for Enhanced Breasts at Santa Barbara, Ca.

Taurus

This week your sub-warden rapes you. You raise your concerns with the Head Warden, who bemoans the excessive paperwork you have caused him. He tells you to grow some balls, and that you'll be better for the experience. You jump off a roof and die in a bloody splatter.

Cancer

This week you become an astrologist. You come to the realisation that Mystic Meg is full of battery chicken scented crap, so don't bother with the relative positions of celestial bodies. Instead, you release your hate on the world. YOU FUCKING BASTARDS.

Virgo

GO FUCK YOURSELVES. YOU VIRGO PIECES OF SHIT. ARGH!!! Just because you were born in September, doesn't make you so fucking special. Actually, you ARE special. In the special sense. You dyslectic, dispraxic penis eating whores.

Scorpio

You piss all your mates off this week by insisting on conversing “liiiiikkeeee...Daaaaaaaavidd Attennnnnnborrrrough...” They slice your throat, and feed your tonsils to some cheap-skate first years desperate for some protein.

Capricorn

Fuck this. Your star sign isn't good enough.

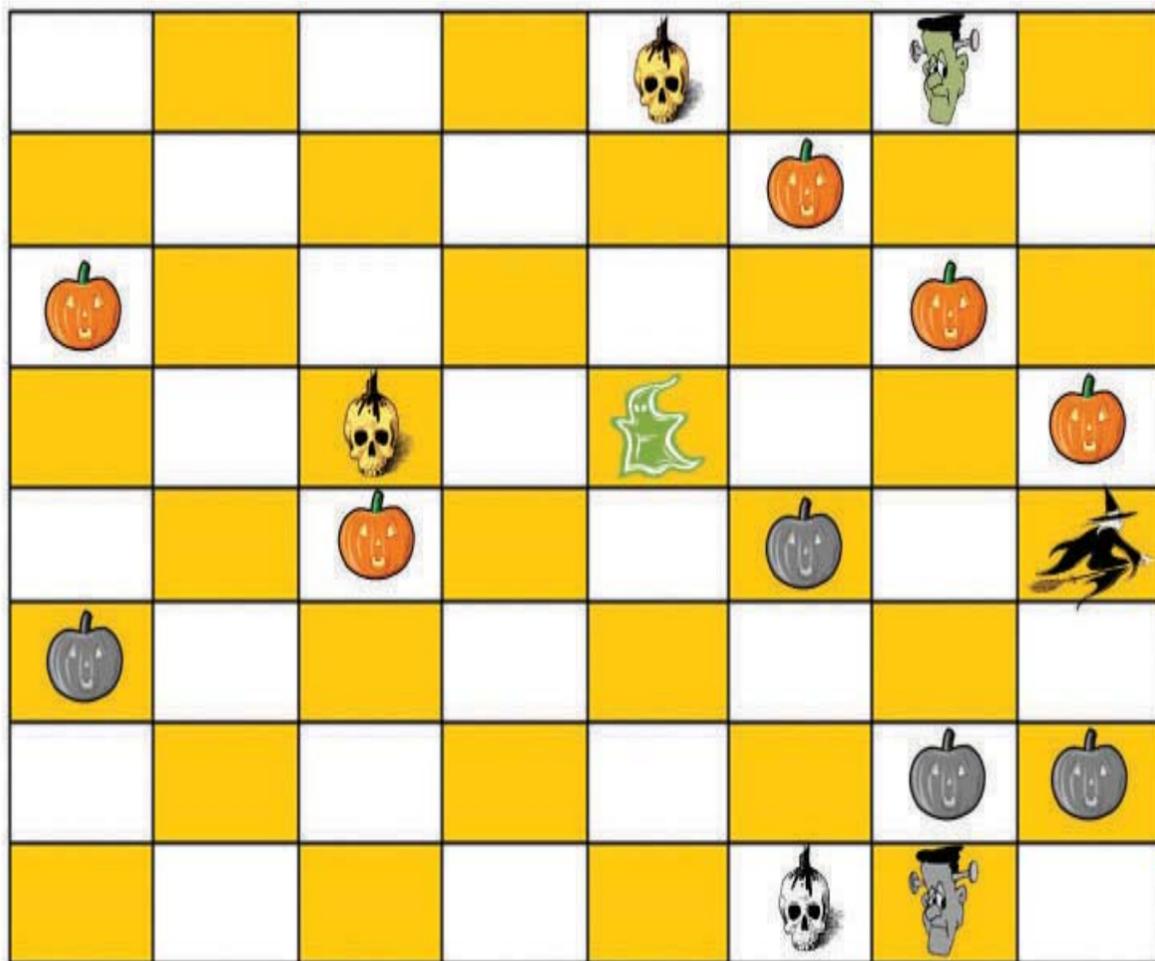
Yeh... go on... CRY FOR ME!!!

Pisces

This week you solve the England footballing crises by killing Paul the World Cup octopus. The Queen knights you for your efforts. In the process, you catch a glimpse of her vag. Yes, fucking yes, she has a brazilian. You make a mental note in your wank bank.

PUZZLES

CHESS MAZE Colours mate in 3 moves



Witch = Queen



Frank = King



Skull = Rook



Pumpkin = Pawn

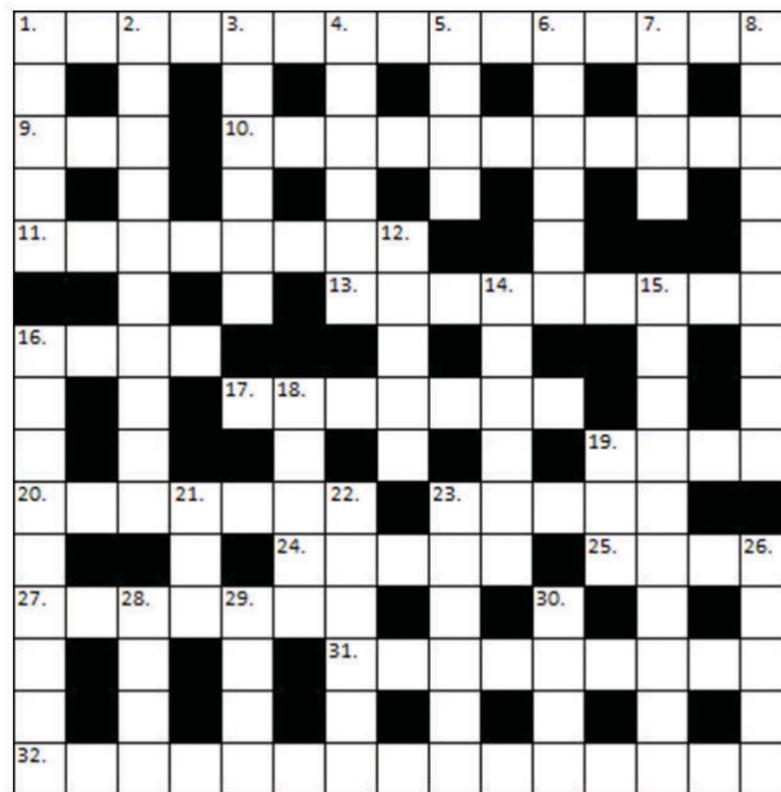


Ghost = Bishop

Crossword

Welcome. I'm afraid you're not safe even in the quick crossword this week, as it has been taken over by a terrible horror (17 Across). You must defeat this famous horror through the power of clue solving. Once the clues have been solved and the horror has been revealed, you must change one letter in three of your answers, which will simultaneously reveal three things known to combat this beast and leave the horror in a messy, unrecognisable state.

It is my regret that, due to a reshuffle, the cryptic crossword is now in a completely separate section, thus ruining my chances of a "CRYPT-ic" Halloween pun. Apologies for any convenience caused due to lack of said pun.



Across

Down

- 1. Lacking understanding (7,3,5)
- 9. Remaining after deductions (3)
- 10. Bringer of desires in folklore (7,4)
- 11. Highly susceptible (8)
- 13. Sensible (9)
- 16. Indicate; frequency plot (4)
- 17. **HORROR OF THE NIGHT** (7)
- 19. American plum (4)
- 20. Commit forever (7)
- 23. Voluntary contribution to religious organisation (5)
- 24. Chaos (5)
- 25. Reverberate (4)
- 27. Regrets (7)
- 31. Plant extract used in lotions, creams etc. (6,3)
- 32. Instantly (2,3,4,2,1,3)
- 1. Intelligence society (5)
- 2. Marry (6,4)
- 3. Direction of the centre (6)
- 4. Rumor-based banter (6)
- 5. Acclaim; precipitate (4)
- 6. Organised persecution of ethnic group (6)
- 7. Object (4)
- 8. Visual aid for long distances (9)
- 12. Reptiles (inf.) (5)
- 14. Relating to France (6)
- 15. Furniture covering (10)
- 16. European city (9)
- 18. Correct (5)
- 19. Personal pronoun (3)
- 21. Visualise (3)
- 22. Motorsport organisation (6)
- 23. 50/50 (4,2)
- 26. Young bird (5)
- 28. Rendez-vous (4)
- 29. Assign label to (4)
- 30. Upper-class person (inf.) (4)

Decipher



How to Play: Decipher

Huh? Is this the standard of our newspaper nowadays? A space-filling muddle of orange blobs and green jelly babies?

An inferior person would leave it at that and go eat some spray-on cheese, but Imperial students know otherwise. For what initially appears to be a random jumble of symbols is actually a coded message.

What is the code? That's up to you to figure out. Look at the frequency of the symbols present to try and determine what code is being used. When implemented, the correct code gives a thematic message.

puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk

After receiving a barrage of angry e-mails concerning last week's unsolvable anagram, Felix apologises for the error, and all who did complain get a shiny reward in the form of FUCWIT points. There, isn't everyone happy?

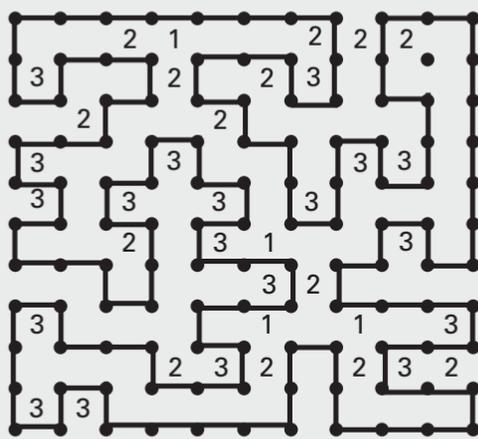
Puzzles Editors: **Polly Bennett**
James Hook
Aman Nahar

puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk

PUZZLES

Last Week's Solutions

Slitherlink



Nonogram



Caption Competition



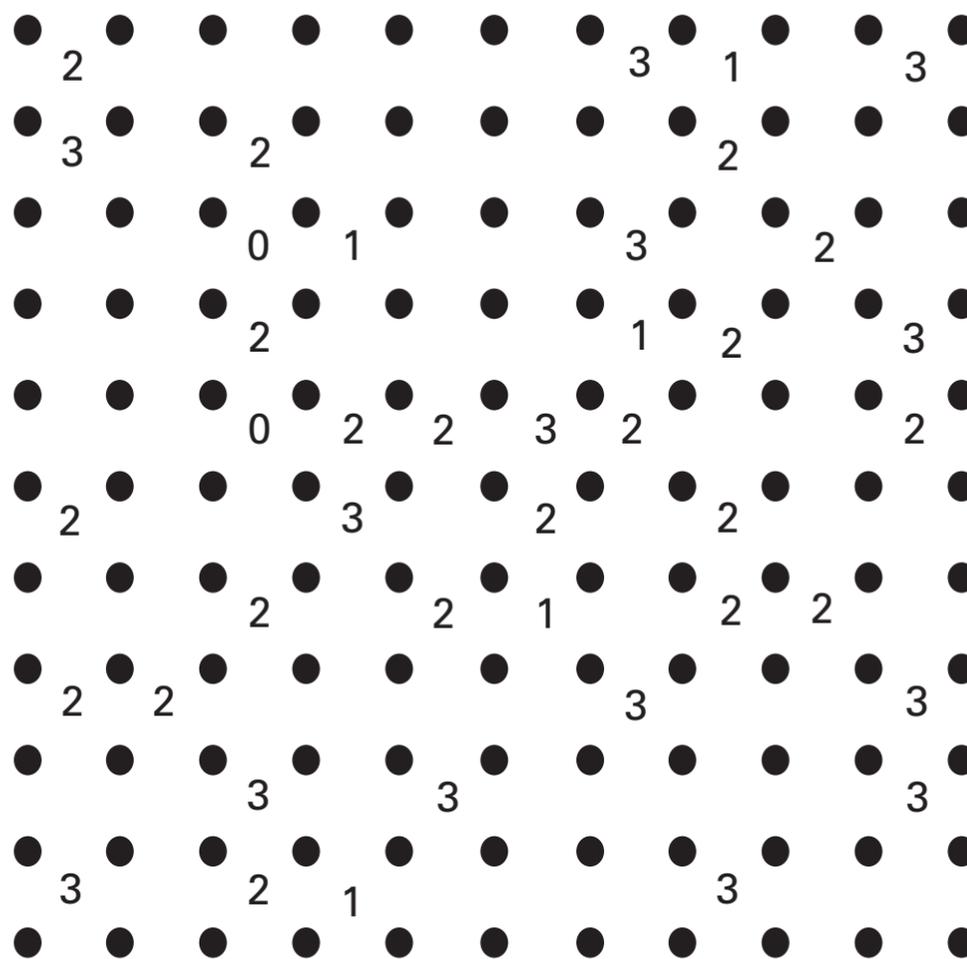
Clegg: That way is south, Ed, so East side is the best.
Osbourne: I agree with Nick.

This week's winner is Jonathon Messing

Going Underground

W	E	S	T	M	I	N	S	T	E	R
23	5	19	20	13	9	14	19	20	5	18

Slitherlink



How to Play: Slitherlink

You love it, your mates love it, even your gran loves this mental, mind fuck of a puzzle. I've even seen the lecturers do them in their spare time. No jokes..... If you've ever played minesweeper, then you should be able to understand this puzzle. The number in each box represents the number of lines that can exist around it. Lines can never cross! In the end, you will end up with a closed loop. Just have a look at last week's solution. Send your finished puzzle to:

puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Pictogram

The letters in red spell something of **DREAD**



Water spirit, form of a horse that reputedly caused drowning



The souls of the dead, according to Romans



A wailing female ghost, appears when someone is about to die



Lycanthrope



A phantom duplicate of a living being



The letters spell...



Wordoku

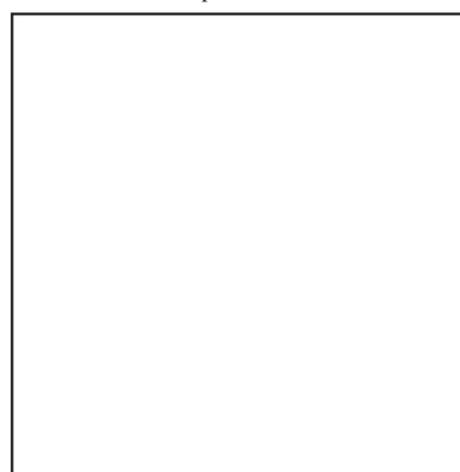
The Wordoku is back with a vengeance, and a brace of puzzles are present for your solving pleasure, though lacking the normally offensive final phrases. As you might have guessed by now, they are Halloween themed instead.

You know the drill: it's the same as regular sudoku in that every row, column and 3x3 box must contain all 9 symbols. The difference is one of them will spell out a word or phrase. Send the finished puzzle(s) to:

puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Scribble space... OF DOOM



PUZZLES

FUCWIT League Table

Teams:

Mike the Crossdresser	20 Points
Killuminati	19 Points
I "Am" Squidhead	17 Points

Individuals:

Shadi Sharbain	16 Points
James Ko	10 Points
Gene-leigh Tang	6 Points

The Felix University/College-Wide Invitational Tournament League is new and improved, with prizes for both the winning team and the winning individual.

Points will be awarded per individual puzzles solved. The first person/team to send in a correct answer for a puzzle will receive 2 points per puzzle. After that people who send in correct answers will be awarded 1 point per puzzle. Double points are awarded for cryptic crosswords, therefore 4 points for the first correct answer and 2 points for others. Individual and team leagues are separate. The number of puzzles may change from week to week, which may not be fair points wise but its only a bit of fun.

Now then FUCWITs, answers to puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk. Go!

Caption Competition

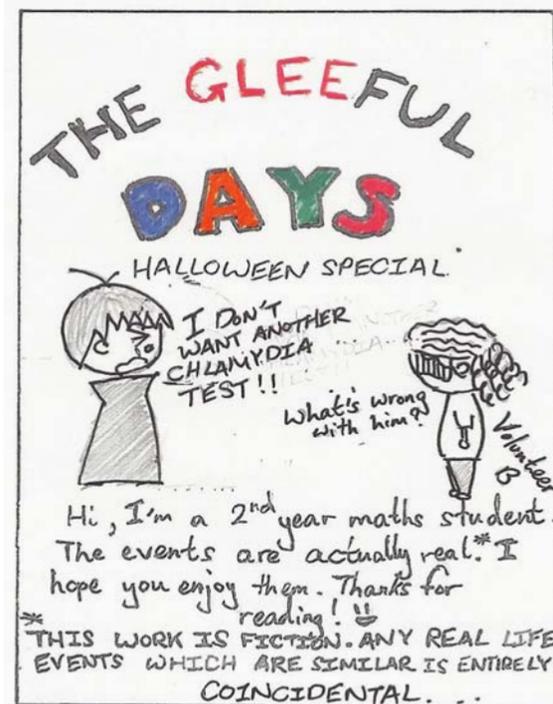


BLOOD SQUARE

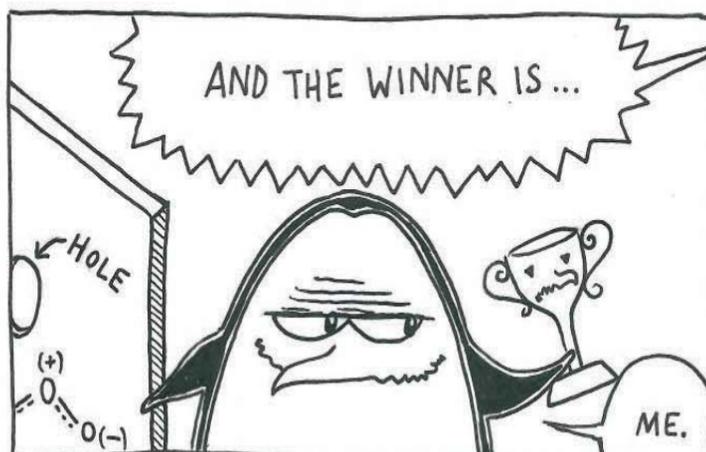
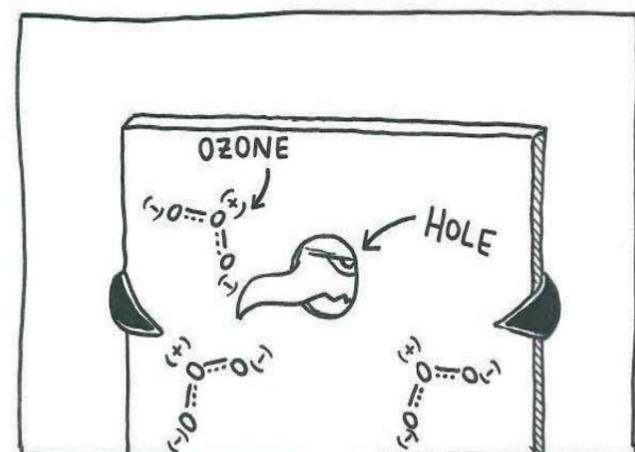
H	E	G
I	M	R
A	N	T

Make as many words of at least 4 letters as you can, always using the central letter.

TARGET: 40



PASSI PARABOLASHAPED PENGUIN



2010 Out:

SPORT

Sports Editor: Jovan Nedic
David Wilson

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Forgotten Sports

Archery



This week, Felix Sports leaves the ice rink and heads into the forest, as that is the logical place for Archery, as **Carina Carter** finds out

What is Archery?

Modern target archery has two main disciplines, categorised by two different types of bow. The recurve and compound bows.

Recurve archery is the more familiar, since the bow most resembles a traditional bow, and uses the same basic principles. However the equipment has become considerably more advanced in the last 40 or so years. The riser, or handle, is usually made from aluminium and the limbs (the bendy bits) are made from carbon fibre or laminated woods. Arrows have also come a long way, and are now made from extruded aluminium or carbon.

Target archery in its current form has been an Olympic sport since 1972, where it was reintroduced after a 52 year absence from the competition. This year saw the successful reintroduction of archery into the commonwealth games, where the English team won a total of seven medals, with four golds! There are over 250 archery clubs in the South East of England alone, and over 40 university clubs actively competing.

Despite the technological advances in archery, the fundamental principles of accurate shooting remain the same, which may explain why long after the bow and arrow's use in warfare is over, it still remains an enduring sport.

Jordan Muscatello

Want to be Robin Hood? Then go to IC Archery

Carina Carter

"It's fun, it's social, it's different" are the wise words of this year's archery club captain Stephen Wood when asked why people should try archery. Founded in 2000 when it split off from the rifle and pistol club, the IC archery club is a highly successful university archery team that welcomes both experienced players and novices. The club competes against nine other teams in the south east archery league and are current indoor and outdoor champions. They also compete in BUCS, where uni teams from all over the country turn up to compete against each other. "It's a very inclusive competition, we take as many competitors as we want, there's no A and B team; everyone who wants to can shoot". The club did well finishing fourth in the indoor competition this year.

In terms of new members, the club had an excellent freshers fair with 265 people signing up- something of a record for the club. "Turn out has been great, at the first have a go session there were 60-70 people, it was manic. The freshers are showing great enthusiasm and everyone's integrating really well which is nice to see". Their new captain is also keen to emphasize that no previous experience is needed: highlighted by the fact that they kindly (or foolishly) let me have a go at one of their novice sessions. Having managed to avoid shooting my fellow archers, I can also confirm that it's not a problem if you've never done it before.

The novice training course has now been running for two weeks and allows the novices to shoot on their own, receiving coaching from the senior members of the club. The sessions seem to be fairly relaxed and flexible (you don't need to attend the whole two hours if you don't want to) and focus on a specific area of the shot each week. With sessions on a Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday night (8-10pm) at Wilson House it's quite easy for anyone who fancies giving it a go to fit it in one night a week.

Sessions in the hall seem to be followed by sessions in the pub but the social side of the club is something that the current committee are trying to improve. With the appointment of a social sec for the first time this year the club is looking to add another string to its bow (apologies) by introducing more social events like curry nights and a presence at ACC bar nights.

So how much will joining set you back? "It's £39 to join and this includes all your equipment and all your tuition for the year", says Stephen, "if you want to buy kit you can but you don't have to". Pretty reasonable then really compared with other ACC clubs. If you fancy giving it a try pop along to Wilson house or email archery@imperial.ac.uk for more information.



What you don't see is the next image, where his arrow splits the winning arrow in two! Oh, wait, no, that was Robin Hood, my bad...

Hockey: Slow start to season for hockey men's 1sts against Hertfordshire

Ed Lacey

Men's Hockey

Imperial 1's 2 - 4 Hertfordshire 1's

In the first game of ICHC 1st XI's BUCS campaign, confidence was riding high, on the back of a solid fresher intake into the 1st XI and the improving JD making his 1st team debut. Having been relegated at the end of last season, ICHC are looking for an immediate return to the top flight of south-east BUCS hockey.

The first half was a hard fought affair, with mistakes on both sides leading to plenty of goals. With seemingly any offence in the '25 warranting a short corner, it was a battle of these much practised routines, a battle in which Herts came out on top, scoring 3 goals from short corners, despite some heroic (read suicidal) defending from Matt James on the line.

As IC pressed in the early stages, a 60 yard aerial from the herts defence caught IC napping, as the herts forward rounded the keeper to slot in. The IC response was emphatic, with

a deadly break from midfield from Tom Koch, which ended with him rifling the ball into the bottom corner past a helpless goalkeeper. A herts short corner saw the home team take the lead again, but within minutes IC had equalised as captain Ewan Quince selflessly passed across goal to leave a sitter for veteran Nick Jones. With the scores level at 2-2 after 15 minutes, a high scoring game looked likely. After a couple of defensive errors from IC, herts converted another 2 short corners, leaving IC trailing at half time 4:2.

After the break, with IC backing themselves to turnaround the 2 goal deficit, the dominance of IC was clear. With the majority of possession and a series of clear cut chances, the herts goalkeeper was the only obstacle, making save after save as IC ripped through the defence. As the last 10 minutes dawned, with IC still failing to find a breakthrough, the start of season lack of fitness began to tell, and IC became more and more desperate. The second half ended goalless, a rare occurrence in hockey, and herts walked away 4:2 victors.

SPORT

Japan gets its second dose of tourists, this time IC Judo

Edouard Desclaux

This summer saw three players of IC Judo visiting Japan in the frame of a British University Judo Association training tour. Wilhelm Kleiminger, Ben Browne and Edouard Desclaux, all part of the team who secured a Bronze at the BUCS Team Championships in March, were the three College representants; with the rest of the delegation including UCL, Cambridge and Oxford players.

Shortly after landing in Tokyo, we rapidly realised we were not the only gaijin (understand foreigners) in town. Passing the door of our very first hostel, we encountered our fellow IC Rugby Boys, recovering from what had seemed to be a very intoxicating night.

After a week of travelling around the mainland Honshu, including sake brewery and temple visits in Takayama, Sumo tournament in Nagoya, Gion traditional festival in Kyoto, we got back to Tokyo, all set for the start of the training camp.

Tokai University, just outside Tokyo was our first stop. Tokai was renowned for excelling in Sports and most importantly had recently won the National University Championships, which represents the biggest of all team championships in Japan.

There we also met the rest of the coaches and players, most of whom we knew from previous competitions.

After a warm welcome by our Japanese host we got to settle down in our student accommodation where Portuguese and Swiss nationals team were also headquartered; in preparation for the Judo World Championships held in Tokyo the following month.

We were then guided to the dojo gymnasium for our first training. Upon arrival, we were not disappointed by the training facilities: 1600m² of mat surface area filled with hundred of coli flowered eared bust most importantly stocky and very well trained Japanese judokas. Gym training started every morning from 7am, followed by three



The British University Judo training camp members in Tokyo

hours of Judo in the afternoon, 6 days a week on top of their university course.

Technically, it seemed like they came from another planet. They use a very supple and explosive judo. Their very upright stance allows them to combine sweeps, hip and shoulder throw with style and elegance. What we were mostly amazed by was probably the culture of respect. On and off the mat, people always minded great respect and dignity, especially towards the older senior. This didn't prevent us, from time to time, to end up getting thrown in the wall by the youngsters who wanted to show what they were made and establish themselves in front of the head sensei (understand ex-world champion Coaches).

Slowly we got used to the intensity and technical level of the training, eventually, managing to give the Japanese some good fights.

Our next stop was at Tokyo Univer-

sity, number one academically speaking, which were not as physically tough, although the quality of Judo and intensity was unchanged: 10 times 4 minutes practice with no rest killed more than one of us. Highlights of our time spent in Tokyo also included a formal reception at the British embassy as well as a memorable night in the Keio University old boys' members club. Finally we headed to our final destination, the International Budo University near Chiba, south east of Tokyo, which marked the last 5 days of our two week trip.

The very modern designed university was based on the top of a hill and the block of concrete reminded us of a prison. The intensity of training was the same, although this time we could enjoy some technical session with their ex-World Champion head coach.

At night, the delegation found comfort in a delicious local tempura fried food restaurant, before ending at the

local convenience store for ice cream for some and cold Asahi beer for others. Sometimes we were joined by a few Japanese players to go to some local Isakaya, Japanese typed pub, who could escape from their daily routine, although everyone was up at 6.30 the next day for the morning jog... Apart from a few dislocated toes and broken fingers, everyone survived to what was a once in a lifetime and very unique experience.

The club would like to thank our coaches Joe Doherty from ULU, Chris Doherty from Oxford and Tony Sweeney from British university Judo for their kind support.

This year's committee is looking forward to more success in this new academic year and would like to invite any new beginners or advanced players to our sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays in Ethos and at the Budokwai. For more info, please contact judo@imperial.ac.uk.



TOP: Probably more suited for the Travel Section, but if you do stay in Tokyo, the ACE INN is the place to be, as can be testified by both IC Rugby and Judo. BOTTOM: Two of our Judoist's outside Tokai University

Despite the scrappy start, 1st XV gain third win

Continued from back page
the gain line.

Imperial opened the scoring through man of the match Chris McGeough; the ball was worked through the backs who were attacking within the Kent 22 before reaching McGeough who was lurking out wide; a recurring theme within his playing style, who charged for the line brushing off the lame tackle from Kent's outside centre with Max Joachim unable to convert the try.

Fly half George Lane scored a drop goal to increase Imperial's lead at the break although Imperial's backs coach, Joe Brown, let it be known to everyone

he felt the team could have gone for the try.

Imperial's performance in the second half was much better than that of the first with the penalty count vastly reduced. Imperial found their lead reduced to three points soon after the restart but their response to this was exceptional. Centre Joe Harris scored Imperial's second try of the day which Joachim converted before Ollie Garnett scored an opportunistic try following a terrible attempted clearance from Kent.

Kent had no answer to the strong mauls that Imperial were producing and on more than one occasion Imperial

produced a drive which surged up the pitch, deep in Kent territory.

Playing in a calm and collected manner allowed Imperial to score a fourth try for Nathan making his first appearance for the 1s; carrying out the basics of clearing rucks effectively produced quick ball allowing the backs to run attacking lines. This eventually paid dividends; sucking in the Kent defenders and producing space out wide for XXX to run in his debut try for the last play of the match.

Despite having a player called 'Big Time', Kent never threatened upsetting Imperial's unbeaten early season form.

SPORT

Felix Sports League



sponsored by

 ERNST & YOUNG
 Quality In Everything We Do

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Index
1 Rugby M1	3	3	0	0	84	24	60	10
2 Netball W1	2	2	0	0	73	51	22	10
3 Hockey M3	2	2	0	0	5	1	4	5
4 Hockey W1	2	2	0	0	5	5	2	5
5 Basketball M1	1	1	0	0	76	58	18	5
6 Football M3	1	1	0	0	10	0	10	5
7 Squash M3	2	1	0	1	5	5	0	1
8 Fencing M3	2	1	0	1	246	237	9	0.5
9 Basketball W1	2	1	0	1	55	47	8	0.5
10 Hockey M4	2	1	0	1	4	2	8	0.5
11 Rugby M2	2	0	0	2	22	31	-9	0
12 ICSM Rugby M1	2	0	0	2	34	54	-20	0
13 Rugby M4	2	1	0	1	43	74	-31	0
14 ICSM Netball W1	1	1	0	0	42	24	18	0
15 Table Tennis M2	1	1	0	0	17	0	17	0
16 Table Tennis M1	1	1	0	0	16	1	15	0
17 Tennis W1	1	1	0	0	9	1	8	0
18 Table Tennis W1	1	1	0	0	5	0	5	0
19 ICSM Football M2	1	1	0	0	5	1	4	0
20 Netball W2	1	1	0	0	34	30	4	0
21 Squash W1	1	1	0	0	4	0	4	0
22 Tennis M1	1	1	0	0	8	4	4	0
23 ICSM Badminton M1	1	1	0	0	5	3	2	0
24 ICSM Hockey M2	1	1	0	0	3	1	2	0
25 ICSM Hockey M3	1	1	0	0	4	2	2	0
26 Squash M2	1	1	0	0	3	2	1	0
27 Squash M4	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0
28 ICSM Badminton M2	1	0	0	1	3	5	-2	0
29 ICSM Football M1	1	0	0	1	0	2	-2	0
30 ICSM Hockey W1	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0
31 Badminton M1	1	0	0	1	2	6	-4	0
32 Netball W3	1	0	0	1	18	22	-4	0
33 Lacrosse M1	1	0	0	1	14	21	-7	0
34 ICSM Hockey W2	1	0	0	1	0	13	-13	0
35 ICSM Netball W2	1	0	0	1	22	45	-23	0
36 ICSM Netball W3	1	0	0	1	9	42	-33	0
37 ICSM Rugby M2	1	0	0	1	10	86	-76	0
38 Badminton W1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
39 Fencing M1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40 Fencing M2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41 Fencing W1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
42 Ice Hockey M1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
43 ICSM Badminton W1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
44 ICSM Football M3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 ICSM Hockey M1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
46 ICSM Hockey W3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
47 ICSM Rugby M3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
48 Lacrosse W1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
49 Lacrosse W2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50 Squash M1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
51 Volleyball M1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
52 Volleyball W1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
53 Water Polo M1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
54 Water Polo W1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 Football M1	2	0	1	1	2	4	-2	-1
56 Rugby M3	3	1	0	2	10	19	-9	-3.5
57 Badminton M2	2	0	0	2	5	11	-6	-4
58 Hockey W2	2	0	0	2	0	7	-7	-4
59 Football M2	2	0	0	2	2	10	-8	-4
60 Hockey M2	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	-4
61 Hockey M1	1	0	0	1	2	4	-2	-4
62 Football W1	1	0	0	1	1	6	-5	-4
63 Fencing W2	1	0	0	1	107	135	-28	-4
64 Tennis M2	2	0	0	2	0	22	-22	-8

IC Surfers head to the warm beaches of Newquay for BUCS Championships

Lizzy Griffiths

On Thursday October 18th, Imperial Surf Soc headed down to Newquay for our first ever competition. Friday marked the beginning of the BUCS annual surfing championships – the biggest surfing competition in Europe – and we had four surfers ready to do it justice. The long minibus journey was soon forgotten as we jumped in the sea to catch some waves and get some practice in before the first heats the following day. After showers and supper, drinking ensued, but the four entering the competition (Will Hunt, Elliot Taylor, Adam ‘Hardcore’ Harvey and Dario Mazza) packed in early to get some sleep before the big day. The rest of us (supporters and reserves) decided the night was still young and headed to the campsite bar. A few pints later, the Sambuca shots were on. Unfortunately, Serkan ‘Duncan’ Karaagac couldn’t handle this and opted for a safe vodka and coke, prompting Thom to empty all the shots into his glass. Serkan was obliged to Down It, and imminently became the first casualty of the weekend. Luckily he wasn’t wearing his ‘pulling shirt’.

The next day, the competition started at 9am and we only just made it in time. Our surfers were in the first heats, and we’d been misinformed about the start time! We arrived at

Fistral Beach to final calls for Elliot, so some super-quick wetsuit changes were required. Fortunately, our surfers held their nerve and pulled off some very respectable surfing. They had 15 minutes to impress the judges; each wave they caught was marked out of 10, and their two best wave scores were added together to give a final mark out of 20. The two best surfers in each heat went through to the next round. Unfortunately, none of our team got through, despite their best efforts. Frustratingly, Will and Elliot were both third in their heats, so came very close. The competition was fierce (it is a national contest) and they didn’t get a warm-up, so for a first attempt we were not disappointed with the result. With the pressure off, we retired to the other end of the beach and had an enjoyable afternoon’s surfing, followed by complementary massages provided by the competition organisers.

The upside of not getting through to the next round was that no one had to worry about getting a good night’s sleep that evening, so we could all enjoy the nightlife in Newquay. Our stomachs lined with spagbol and Doritos, we began a customary game of Ring of Fire. After round 2, we stumbled to the camp entrance to catch the last student-packed shuttle bus into Newquay town. The official party was in Sailors Club with Nero headlining, so we followed

the crowd there. Needless to say, the rest of the evening was a glorious haze of dubstep and drinking.

The effects of the previous night did not hamper Saturday’s surfing potential, with a morning trip to a beach we call ‘Thom’s Secret Spot’ and an afternoon surf at Watergate beach, all accompanied by perfect sunshine. The evening led to some unequal and controversial pizza cutting, and more alcohol consumption, with some vicious variations on the game Spoons and obligatory fines, including one for Serkan’s pick-up line ‘it’s illegal to have an ass like that’ the previous evening. The night took us to the club at the campsite, and on our return, culminated in setting the fire alarm off cooking garlic bread, decorating an unconscious Adam and Serkan with socks, and discovering someone’s regurgitated supper in the sink.

The next morning, Dario owned up to the mess in the sink, and we missed our checkout time by two hours. Slightly jaded, we packed up and made for Fistral beach to watch the finals of the competition. The waves were tiny, but the finalists still managed to pull off some inspiring moves. After the presentation, we stopped off at a pub for a much-needed Sunday roast before returning to London. All in all, it was an amazing few days, and we’ll definitely be back next year to build on this year’s result.



Suns out, guns out. IC Surfers at the ‘sunny’ Newquay beach

Sports Editors: Jovan Nedic
David Wilson

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SPORT

Work hard, play harder: The collegiate American Football player's mantra

John Matthew Stafford. That name is likely to mean something to only a very select few. Stafford was the number one draft pick for the NFL in 2009. That is to say that in 2009 Stafford was seen as the best young football player in America. NFL rules require players to be out of high school for to full 2 years before they are eligible to compete; the NBA and NHL have no such requirements and thus players including LeBron James are drafted from high school whilst the number one and two picks in the NHL draft were Taylor Hall and Tyler Seguin, both of whom are 18. American sports are a huge deal from high school through college and eventually the professional leagues. The Alamo and Memorial Stadia are both high school stadia; they seat 23,000 and 20,000 respectively. The importance placed on sport suddenly becomes clear. Due to the eligibility rule associated with the NFL, aspiring football players tend to target a college sports scholarship where they can showcase their talents by playing for their college. Top collegiate teams have their games broadcast on American television networks. At first glance a system which encourages emerging sport talent to progress through college allowing them to hone their skills, play in front of crowds of up to 100,000 as well as providing them with an education is a good thing. However, all that glitters is not gold. Many college football players playing in the top tier divisions are not at college for an education, they're using college as a stepping stone towards the NFL. Therefore, top collegiate football

teams are extremely professional in their structure and how they're run; many coaches go back and forth between the NFL and top college football teams. The football players are thus under extreme pressure in order to train, attend analysis of games, attend team meetings, play matches and then spend time on their academic studies. In order to be eligible to play, the members of the squad are required to maintain good grades, with many players having private tuition in order to produce the necessary grades. Even so, the demands of the collegiate football means that many players choose relatively easy classes in order to achieve the grades they need and focus intently on their sporting progress.

Many believe that American colleges are being transformed and it is coming at the expense of the players; official figures suggest that around 70% of football team members from the top division graduate from college. However, only 53% of the Varsity team of the University of California, Berkeley, an Ivy League school graduated last year; such a low number was blamed on the demands which are put on young athletes.

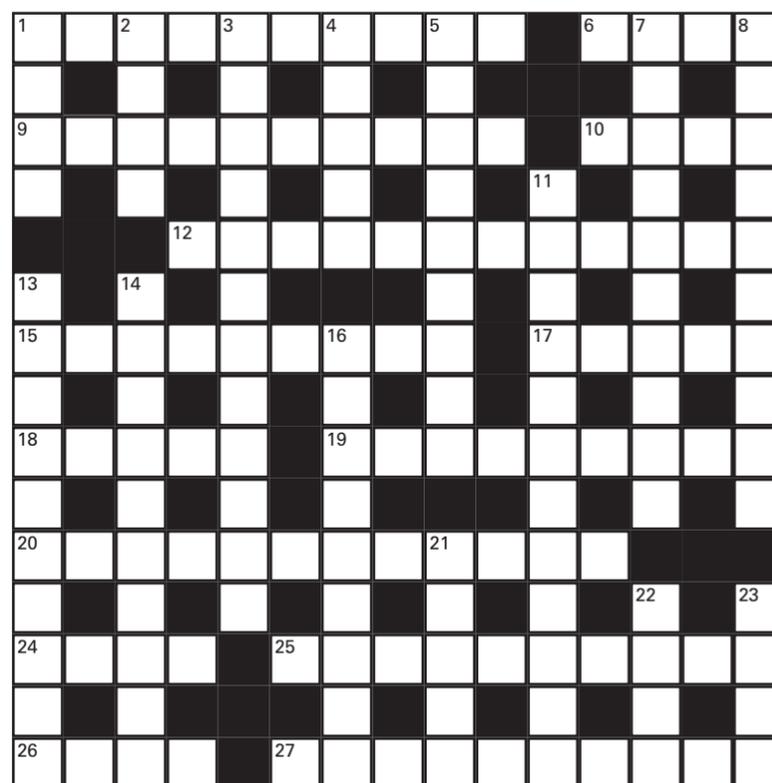
Indeed, Michael Orland who played in the NFL and at Notre Dame University believes that his experience of collegiate football is much different than that experienced by youngsters today. Orland feels he got the best type of education on offer at Notre Dame as well as playing football at a very high level. According to Orland, the televised games and analysis on the television program 'Sports Centre' provides an opportunity to over scrutinise the players and that the demands placed on the players is just

David Wilson

too great with sporting gains coming at the expensive of academia. But, if you make it to the NFL, if you are a John Stafford does it matter? Well of course not, providing you prolong your career, avoiding serious injury and continually playing at the highest level in what is a very fickle sport. The figure that do that is very small; 2.4% of college football players make it to the NFL, of those some will succumb to serious injury or will be end up being released from their team. So what becomes of those who don't fulfill their dreams and don't make it to the NFL; some graduate although it would seem with questionable qualifications others don't graduate at all. And so the years of both studying and training it would appear, come to nothing and the future doesn't look so bright.

Many are asking if such a system makes sense? For the colleges it does; the University of Texas made a revenue of \$87million in 2008 with many suggesting that college players should be paid. Others believe athletes becoming professional, earning large sums of money so young can be detrimental and college promotes maturity. Could the structure of English sports be used to help, whereby young athletes progress through academies affiliated with professional clubs for football, rugby and cricket among others. Such a system may encourage only those who are likely to succeed to pursue a career in sport and turn professional. Such a system has its own pitfalls and is open to scrutiny. Surely something needs to be done, after all there are only so many high-school coaching jobs available for those talented athletes who don't make the grade for the NFL.

Cryptic Crossword 1,471



Across

- Bear needing huge amount of stuffing? (10)
- Transport from Paddington, perhaps (4)
- As my mentor's incapable, it's a wise investment (5,5)
- Devonshire river race (4)
- Vicar redeems queer soldiers (5,7)
- Cross line and hope to move foreign lover (9)
- Refuse to tease (5)
- Mathematician's equal jeers oddly (5)
- A swift one off the wrist from literary type? (3-6)
- Hammered last nail into artwork (12)
- Catch Spike (4)
- We hear Constitution State's moving installation (7,3)
- Work on old rowing machine (4)
- Red chamber in Socialist Hall (4,6)

Down

- Finished most of Italian meal (4)
- Dull poet turns up (4)
- Priest learns new way to sow seed (12)
- Feel good with hemp (5)
- Kinky pet lovers spent too long in bed (9)
- Unusual bead, a relic that can be rooted out (10)
- He isolated nitrogen and he turned it into oxygen (10)
- This guy's a bum doctor! (12)
- Suffer Wilde's mistakes (10)
- Removing make-up? Shameless! (10)
- I'm tortured with vile pus and rash (9)
- Stealing businessman's newspaper (5)
- A scholar and a soldier - wise men? (4)
- Chemical unit imprisoned by Great Omar (4)

Want to know how you did last week? Go to the Puzzles section >>

Fixtures & Results

in association with Sports Partnership imperial college union sport imperial

Monday 25 October 2010	Wednesday 27 October 2010	FOOTBALL	Men's 6s ULU	Men's 4th	4	RUGBY UNION	TENNIS
NETBALL ULU	BADMINTON	Men's 6s ULU	CSSD Men's 1s ULU	Middlesex Men's 1st	0	Men's 4th	4 Men's 1st 8
Women's 4s 31	Men's 2nd 8	2 King's Medics 5s ULU 6	Men's 7s ULU	Men's 3rd	2	Reading Men's 4th	0 UCL Men's 1st 4
Imperial Medicals 5s	Kent Men's 1st	6	Heythrop College 1s ULU	Portsmouth Men's 4th	0	Men's 1st	1 Men's 2nd 0
Women's 1s 43	Women's 1st 21	3 Brighton Men's 4th 5	Men's 2nd	1 Men's 2nd	27	Kent Men's 1st	2 Brunel Men's 1st 12
St George's 1s	UCL Women's 1st	5	Bucks New Men's 2nd	6 Reading Men's 3rd	8	Essex Men's 2nd	1
SQUASH ULU	Men's 1st	2 Creative Arts 2nd 6	GOLF	Men's 1st	4	Men's 2nd	1 VOLLEYBALL
Women's 1s 4	Men's 1st	2 Royal Holloway 1st	Men's 1st	4 Hertfordshire Men's 1st	2	Hertfordshire Men's 1st	4 Men's 1st
Imperial Medicals 1s	Royal Holloway 1st	6	Essex 2nd	1	4	Women's 1st	16 Women's 1st
Men's 2s	FENCING	Men's 4s ULU	LACROSSE	Men's 1st	14	Middlesex Women's 1st	1 Reading Women's 1st
LSE Men's 1s	Men's 2nd	UCL Men's 5s ULU	Men's 1st	5 Portsmouth Men's 1st	21	Men's 3rd	10
Men's 1s	Reading Men's 1st	6	Portsmouth Men's 1st	1	4	King's Men's 2nd	19
Royal Holloway 1s	Men's 3rd	128	Royal Holloway 1st	1	4	Men's 3rd	10
WATER POLO ULU	City Men's 1st	111	Women's 1st	1	4	King's Men's 2nd	19
Men's 1st	Men's 3rd	111	Royal Holloway 1st	1	4	King's Men's 2nd	19
UCL 1st	City Men's 1st	111	Women's 2nd	0	4	King's Men's 2nd	19
	Women's 2nd	107	Brunel Women's 3rd	1	4	King's Men's 2nd	19
	London Women's 1st	135		1	4	King's Men's 2nd	19



Mind the arrows!
Archery: Page 44

Felix Sport sponsored by
ERNST & YOUNG
Quality In Everything We Do

Tennis: IC edge rivals UCL

Avi Murthy & Pio Monti

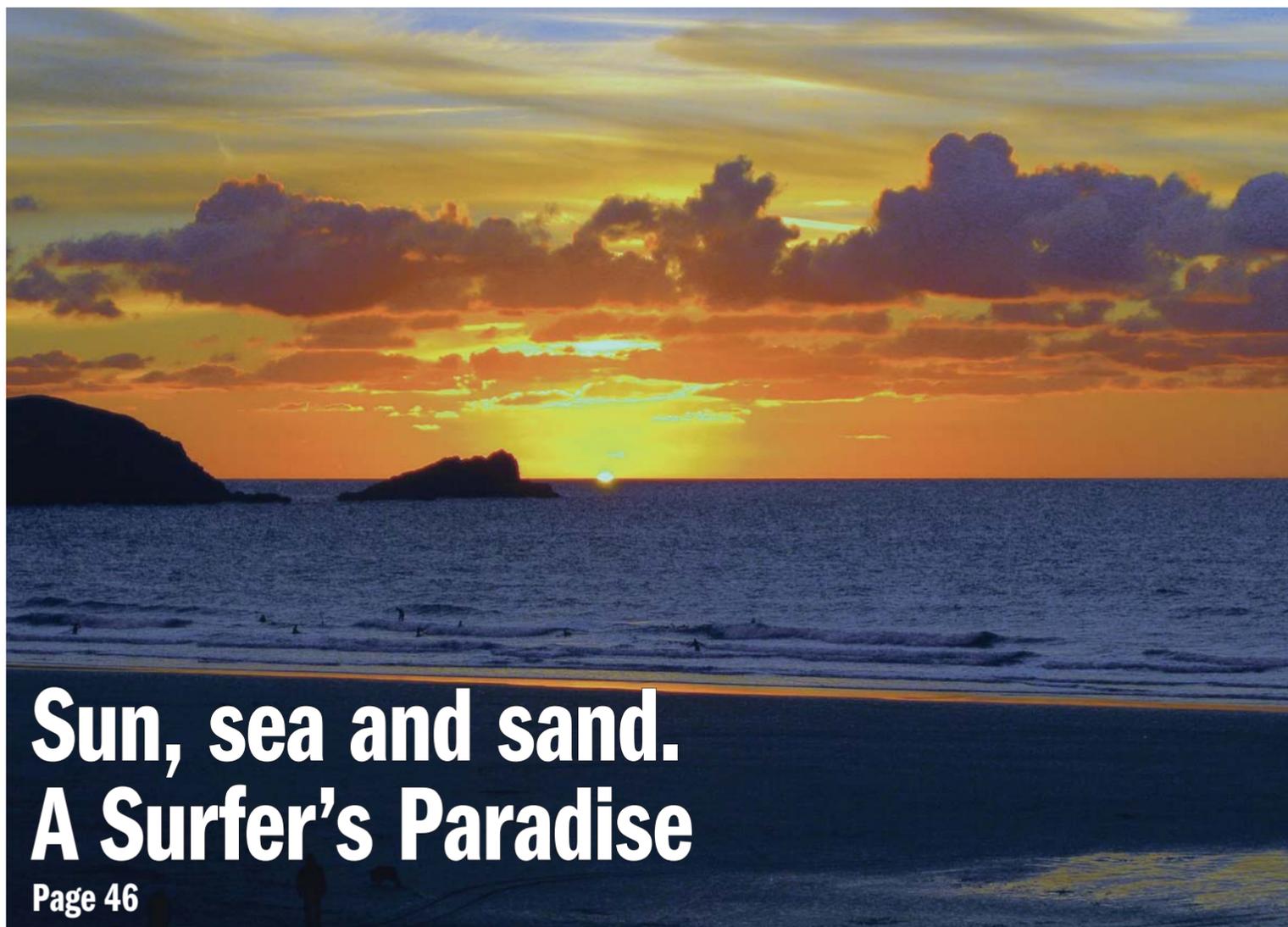
Tennis - Sponsored by KPMG

Imperial 4 - 2 UCL

The Men's 1st team arrived at our temporary home of Teddington eager to put last week's demoralising defeat against a scholarship laden Roehampton team past us. However initial optimism quickly turned to nerves and doubt as the weather and our opponents made their presence felt. Whilst there were some familiar faces in the UCL 1st team had narrowly scrapped victory against us twice last season, there were also some new ones. The club's President Rob Bush and fresher Victor Knobe, fought hard to take a satisfying win 7-6, 6-3 despite being 3 set points down in the 1st set tie-break. The other pairing did not fare so well as Captain Pio Monti had to retire with an injured shoulder and 2 cracked rackets....

Adam Gunasekera, who went unbeaten throughout last year, opened up the singles against the UCL number 1. This was a match of high quality, in which Adam's opponent showed why he was once the Slovakian number two before he put his education ahead of tennis. Adam fought valiantly but unfortunately came out second best in a tight encounter. Victor Knobe and Rob Bush both won their singles matches with relative ease.

Therefore, with the tie at 6-4 to IC it was down to Avinash Murthy to bring home the points. He played out a long match against a crafty opponent who appeared to adapt to the conditions very easily. After splitting the first two sets, Avinash battled through in the third 6-4, to achieve a vital win below the fading evening sun and allow the team to celebrate. Overall an outstanding performance and a heartening result which they will seek to reinforce with another big match against LSE 1st next week at Hyde Park.



Sun, sea and sand. A Surfer's Paradise

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Rugby: Third win for 1st XV

David Wilson

Rugby Union

Imperial

Imperial's 1st XV secured their third win of the season after seeing off a spirited Kent team who were determined to cause an upset. Despite not reaching their top gear, Imperial were able to produce a con-

trolled display emerging 27-8 victors.

The overcast weather and intermittent rain produced greasy conditions with a lot of the early exchanges producing pick and go drives from both sets of forwards. Imperial had focused intently on such situations in training during the week and it paid off as the forwards prevented their Kent counterparts from gaining valuable ground with props Toby Spittle and Angus Tenison-Collins provid-

ing strong defence around the breakdown. However, Imperial were not able to reduce their penalty count and were still being freely penalised for infringements at the breakdown. The Imperial forwards dominated the scrums continually forcing the bearded Kent number 8 to pick from the base of the scum, however, scrum half Olly Cox routinely pressurised how refusing to allow him to get over

...Continued on Page 45

SCIENCE



Imperial attempt South Pole speed record: **Page 8**

TECHNOLOGY



Will Wikileaks survive the media onslaught?: **Page 13**

GAMES



Want to survive the zombie apocalypse?: **Page 32**

TRAVEL



Is 'danger' tourism the future of holidays?: **Page 36**

HANGMAN



How to explain QCD to cashiers at ASDA: **Page 38**