



VINTAGE VEHICLES

Imperial's rich motoring history: [Page 7](#)

"Keep the Cat Free"

ISSUE 1485

FELIX



11.03.11

The student voice of Imperial College London since 1949

Lecturers to strike

National walkout to hit Imperial unless pensions dispute is resolved

Haralambos Dayantis
Kadhim Shubber

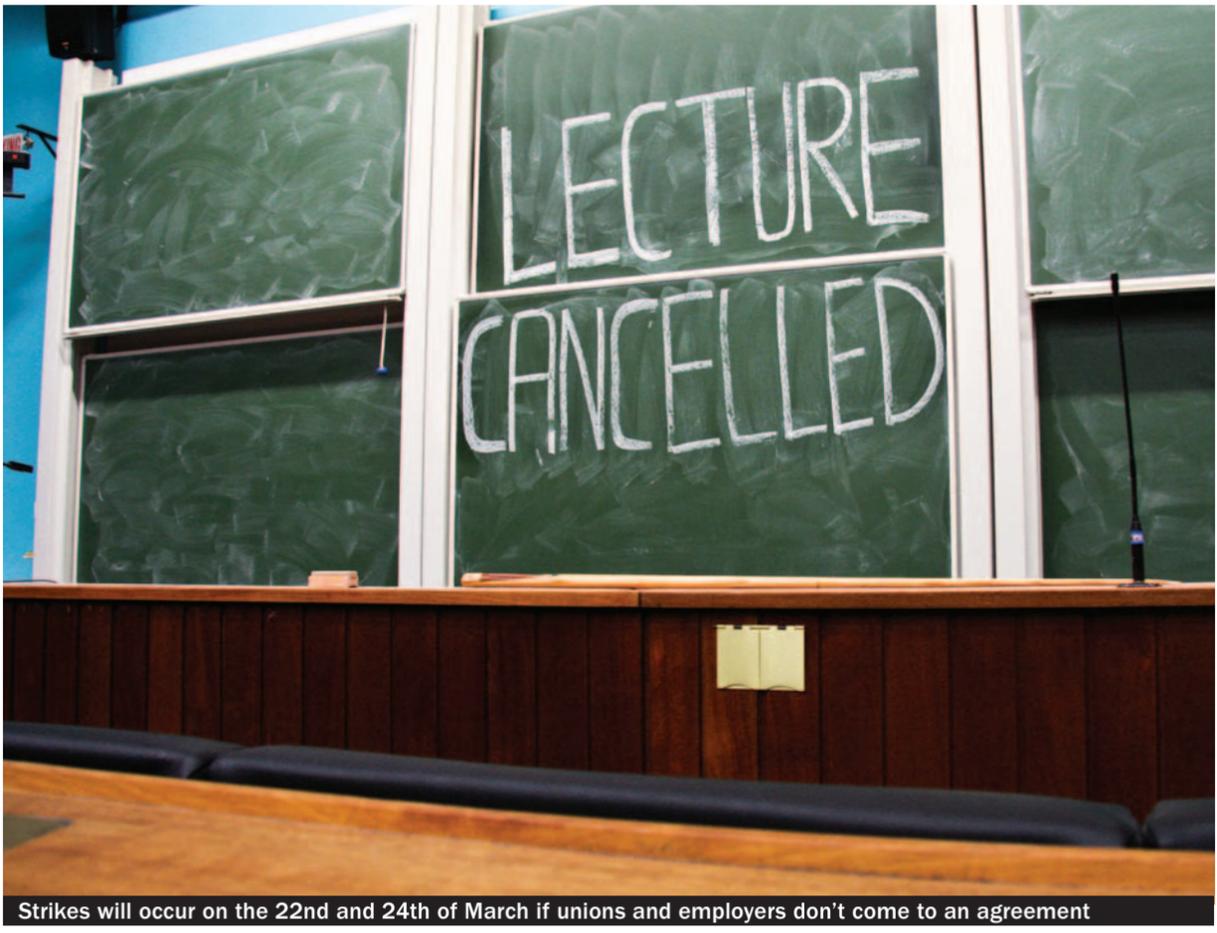
The University and College Union (UCU) has scheduled strikes over changes to pension schemes of university staff, with English universities due to be affected on the 22nd and 24th of March. Falling in the last week of term, the strikes could have a damaging effect on lecture courses across many departments, if employers and unions don't come to an agreement.

The changes include an increase in employee contributions, an increase in the pension age and reduced pensions for staff who are made redundant.

With no time to reschedule lectures, and many exams falling straight after the Easter break, undergraduate students could suffer significantly from strike action. The UCU represents thousands of Imperial staff for collective bargaining purposes, but according to the College, of the 520 UCU members at Imperial, only around 290 are academics and lecturers. The President of the UCU at Imperial, Dr Michael McGarvey, declined to confirm or deny these figures. However, it is unclear as to how many members of staff would walk out; although Dr McGarvey

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Miles Robertson



Strikes will occur on the 22nd and 24th of March if unions and employers don't come to an agreement

FEATURE



How immigration changed the Mirpuri community: [Page 6](#)

FASHION



The future of fashion after Galliano: [Page 25](#)

FOOD



Is there anything better than Nandos?: [Page 29](#)

Post-study work route could be saved

Sophia David

The government is reconsidering its student visa proposals announced at the end of January. These included raising the minimum level of English proficiency required for entry, limiting opportunities for work experience and part time work for students, total abolishment of the post-study work route and restricting

the number of dependants that can enter the UK with students. After "profound concern" expressed by sixteen university vice-chancellors in a letter to the Observer, universities minister, David Willetts, has said that the government is considering reforming rather than scrapping the post-study work route as well as re-thinking its restrictions on entry of dependants.

After a consultation on the student visa regime launched by the immigration minister, Damian Green proposed scrapping the post-study work route completely, Willetts has now said that the government is considering a "range of options". The post-study work route allows international graduates who have studied here to stay and work in the UK for up to two years, without needing to

have a sponsor. In 2009, 38,000 foreign graduates were permitted to stay after they had finished their studying via this route along with an additional 8,000 dependents, which includes partners and children less than 18 years of age. Abolishing the post-study work route would force international students to leave the UK as soon as they finish their course,

...Continued on Page 3

HIGHLIGHTS

On campus

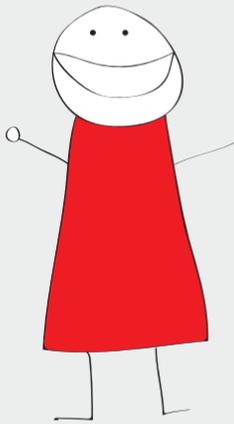
Carbon Footprint Reduction

Staff and students interested in learning about and promoting the College's carbon reduction campaign, StepChange, take note. On Tuesday, members of the Facilities Management Division will report on the College's progress towards its target to cut its carbon footprint by 20% by 2014. Email sustainability@imperial.ac.uk if you would like to attend.

Royal School of Mines, G20
15 March 17:30

Sabb Election Results

Fingers crossed that nothing will go awry in the Sabbatical elections. Hopefully none of the candidates will cry "RECOUNT!" If our hopes come true then the results of the elections will be announced in FiveSixEight and we'll discover who the people have chosen as next year's Sabbatical team.



The Union, FiveSixEight
16 March 12:30

Serpentine Charity Run

IC UNICEF is organising a charity run around the Serpentine. The person who raises the most money and the person who finishes the 5km first will both win a brand new iPod. The entry fee is £7 in advance or £9 on the day. Each runner gets a free t-shirt and a bottle of VitaminWater. Sign up in the JCR on Monday or Thursday or just turn up on the day. Email unicef@imperial.ac.uk for more information.

Hyde Park, Bandstand
19 March 11:00

Sexual Health Survey

(A proper one!)



Does anyone actually wear coloured condoms? They're just silly; seriously, do one night stands need to be any more weird and hilarious?

It seems that everyone wants to know about your sexual lives, Imperial. However, while the Felix Sex Survey was mainly tongue-in-cheek (giggidy) this survey from three local doctors and an Imperial medical student is aimed at gauging the quality of the sexual health services that Imperial students receive to find a way to improve them. The responses are anonymous (you aren't asked to sign in with your College ID) and every entrant will be entered into a draw to win a £50 Waterstones gift voucher (if you choose to enter your email address, your survey response cannot be linked to it). Complete the survey at surveymonkey.com/s/imperialsurvey

Techtonics

A Cappella at Metric

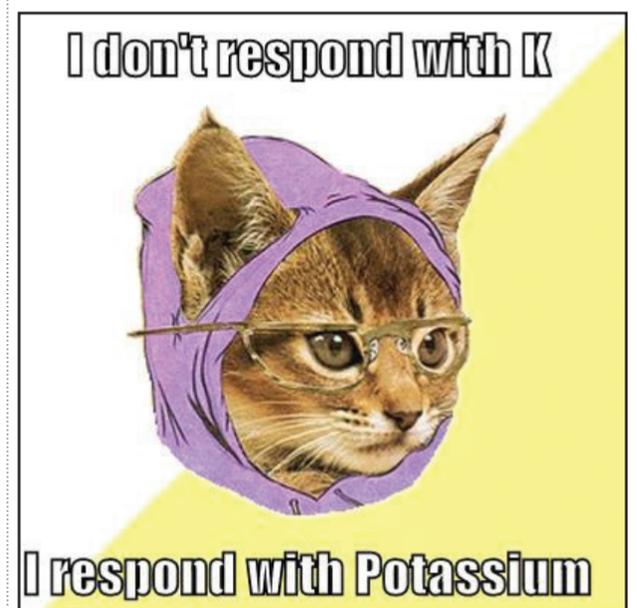
Thursday 17th March. 19:00-23:00



A Cappella music has really kicked off since 2010. People are addicted to Glee and singing programs such as last choir standing. The Techtonics is one of three A cappella groups at Imperial and have decided to host an entire night dedicated to A cappella music in Metric. Fortunately for people who like alcohol the evening will be held on St Patricks day so the newly formed A cappella society is looking to show off its talent to all the Guinnessed goons in the union!

The Techtonics are hosting the night in the name of the newly formed A Cappella Society and have invited groups from all over such as the Kings Chix, Oxford Belles and All the Kings men. **Luke Johnston**

Lolcat of teh week



FELIX

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Strike over changes to pensions

...Continued from Front Page says that the expectation is that UCU members will strike, he said that they do not "dictate" to members and that it will be up to individuals to decide whether to participate in the strike. Imperial College UCU members were balloted on Wednesday the 3rd of March about strike action: 84 of the 132 that returned ballots voted in favour of the strike.

Although preparations are being made for the strike action, the UCU has yet to give formal notice, which legally must be given at least seven days in advance of any action. An Imperial College spokesman said that once notice has been given, they will "ask any staff intending to participate in industrial action to declare this." Following this they will assess the possible disruption to teaching and "take steps to minimise the impact"

Postgraduates such as taught masters students are thought to be less vulnerable to possible strike action, since there

is more flexibility in rescheduling their classes. However, the Divisional Administrator for Biology and Cell and Molecular Biology, Pat Evans, said that rescheduling undergraduate classes would be "more tricky."

Dr McGarvey said that any disruption to students' courses would be "unfortunate". He argued that it was not the union's intention to negatively affect their studies and claimed that the strike was necessary to protect university education in the long-term.

UCU General Secretary Sally Hunt has called on employers to return to the negotiating table but the Employers' Pension Forum (EPF), who are representing universities in the dispute, have rejected calls for further talks, saying "we are not persuaded that it is appropriate to re-open formal negotiations". Sally Hunt accused the EPF of engaging in "a macho stand-off" and said that although striking was a "last resort", UCU members "feel they

have been left with no [other] choice".

Criticising the UCU's decision to strike, Brian Cantor, chair of the EPF, said: "We do not believe that industrial action is an appropriate step for UCU to take. We do not agree that students and their parents will share your view that there is 'no choice' but to strike."

The dispute originated in late 2008, when the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), the central pension fund which covers the majority of university pensions, set up a committee to review the pension arrangements of its members. A consultation period on the proposals ran from October to December last year and the final proposals, including changes following the consultation, are due to be implemented on the 1st of April. The changes, which amongst other things would see employees making increased contributions to their pensions, were called "the most radical" in the history of the scheme by a USS

spokesman. At present, employees must annually pay 6.25% of their total salary into the fund, whilst employers pay 16%. Under the new proposals, employees would see their contributions increase to 7.5%.

Other changes include raising the pension age to 65 and introducing a cap on inflationary increases to pension payments at 5%. Following the consultation period, during which concerns were raised about this proposal, the cap has been raised to 10%. Additionally, new members joining the scheme would be have a career-average pension rather than a final-salary pension, which would leave them significantly worse off.

Perhaps one of the most contentious proposals would see staff who are made redundant after the 31st of March 2013 receive a reduced pension. The proposals would leave it up to universities to decide whether or not to offer a full pension as part of a redundancy package.

Employers say that the current pension arrangement is unsustainable in the long term. They argue that people are living longer (therefore drawing their pensions for longer) and that salaries have risen faster than previously anticipated. Therefore, they say, the scheme is in "danger of becoming unaffordable".

The changes are aimed at reducing employers' long-term liabilities. The consultation document readily admits that "the scheme is not in crisis" and the USS's annual report for 09/10 shows an £8.5 million positive return after pensions have been paid. Dr Michael McGarvey said that the Union do not wish to jeopardise the scheme, but argued that the proposals "are more extreme than are required." A USS spokesman told Felix that the dispute has arisen, partly, because employers want to mitigate future risk now, while the UCU is reluctant to increase the burden on employees based on predicted trends.

Rethink on visas

...Continued from Front Page leaving them with no opportunity to acquire valuable work experience.

"There may be ways we can tighten it up and make sure it is not abused by becoming a route to settlement. There are a whole range of options between complete closure of the route and the *status quo* and we are discussing with the Home Office what these options might be," said Willetts.

The post-study work route currently enhances the UK's overall offer to international students and universities have expressed concern that scrapping the scheme will make them less competitive with other countries in attracting students. Dr Wendy Piatt, director general of the Russell Group of universities, said that, "If we do not offer international UK university graduates the opportunity to work for a short period in highly skilled jobs, some of the world's brightest students will choose to study elsewhere."

After Damian Green argued that the student visa system was subject to "widespread abuse" and said that the government would limit the number of dependants entering the UK with students, David Willetts now indicates that these proposals are also still under consideration. He questions "to what extent does people's ability to bring in dependants affect their own willingness to come to study?"

University vice-chancellors have also argued that a visa reduction would have devastating consequences for the funding of higher education in the UK, even forcing the typically more expen-

sive science and engineering courses to close. Data from the government's Higher Education Funding Council for England also indicates that universities are increasingly reliant on fees from foreign students to boost their finances. Imperial is a notorious example, charging international fees of up to £26,250 whilst fees for British and EU students are capped at £3,290 this academic year (rising to £9000 from 2012). Despite the 3934 students from outside the EU making up less than half of the student population enrolled in 2009, their fees generate twice as much income: £75.1m to be precise, compared with the £31.3m from the 9539 UK/EU students.

The proposals to reduce the number of student visas form part of a major coalition pledge to reduce net migration from "hundreds of thousands to tens of thousands" by 2015. With two-thirds of non-EU migrants entering the UK on student visas, tightening this system is a crucial part of the strategy.

"This government want to ensure that the primary reason for those who enter on a student visa is genuinely to come here to study. We are working closely with the Department for Business and will make an announcement in due course," a spokesperson for the Home Office said.

University and Colleges Union general secretary, Sally Hunt has recognised the reconsiderations as "encouraging" but claims that "we have a long way to go before anything this government is doing to higher education could be considered welcomed."

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NEWS

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

£9,000 fees conditions revealed

Ian Wei

The Office for Fair Access (Offa) has published new guidelines that could force universities charging over £6,000 in tuition fees to invest a percentage into fair access schemes.

Universities are advised to spend between 15% to 30%, based on the proportion of under-represented students, of any extra amount charged above the standard £6,000 tuition fees on access schemes which will have to be approved by Offa on an annual basis. The guidelines would see top universities spending up to £900 of the £9,000 fee on fair access schemes. In 2009/10 Imperial spent 17.5% of the income from home and EU students' tuition fees on fair access schemes.

However, some are skeptical about Offa's ability to regulate universities. The body has only three full-time and one part-time member of staff, aside from its director. NUS President Aaron Porter has called the body a "weak and toothless regulator."

The guidelines are not binding and universities will continue to set their own targets. Additionally, it will be up to universities to decide whether they have

"Universities asked to invest up to 30% of fees over £6,000 into fair access schemes"

a low proportion of under-represented students. Each year, under the 'access agreement' system universities submit plans to Offa detailing the measures to ensure fair access for under-represented students, such as outreach and improvement of school and college links. However, the plans are rarely if ever rejected and Offa has never imposed sanctions on a university.

The announcement comes after a month of confusion in the higher education sector as the government delayed the publication of its plans to reform universities. It was forced to retreat after it became clear that it didn't have the legal power to prevent universities from charging the maximum £9,000 rate of fees. Currently only three universities have said that they plan to charge the maximum £9,000 rate: Cambridge, Im-

perial and Exeter. Oxford University has said that it would need to charge at least £8,000 to simply "maintain the status quo", and many have warned that there will be a 'race to the top' as universities will want to avoid damaging their image by charging less than the maximum rate.

Imperial College Union has backed Imperial's decision to raise fees to £9,000 arguing that it will protect bursaries. President Alex Kendall has said "By increasing the fees to £9,000, those from lower income will have a much greater bursary scheme available to them."

The Director of Offa, Sir Martin Harris, said that while access for higher education has increased considerably over the past five years, the "progress in improving access to the most selective universities has remained virtually flat". He warns that under higher tuition fees that "There is a real risk that disadvantaged students in particular will start to feel they cannot afford to go to university".

Offa's director added that such changes have an unpredictable impact on student behaviour and the assessment of agreements will be amended in future years. Universities have until April 2011 to submit their 2012-2013 access agreements.

Union launches Welfare and long-awaited Halls Surveys

Kadhim Shubber

The Union's delayed survey on hall rents has launched this week. It comes after weeks of debate about the value of the halls Amenities fund, which subsidises social events and is paid into by all students in halls. The survey asks a range of questions including whether or not students think that Ethos should remain free or not.

Imperial College Union said that the survey was intended to "gauge student opinion on how they view their Halls experience and to present some options given to us by College Commercial Services on how to reduce rents."

However, a detailed breakdown of hall rents and where the money goes has not yet been released. Despite calls from students and efforts by the Union to get such information, the College has resisted releasing a breakdown or the mechanism by which rents are calculated.

Director of Commercial Services, Jane Neary, declined to comment except to say: "All the services we provide are financially interdependent."

From the respondents so far, over

70% of students say that they want a full breakdown of their rent on their bill.

The survey originally asked to students to rank the services that they receive in halls in order of importance, including water, electricity and heating. President Alex Kendall originally defended the question saying that they were all costs that formed part of the halls rent but later removed the question, admitting that it was "perhaps a bit stupid."

A welfare survey has also been launched separately which asks students a comprehensive set of questions regarding all of Imperial's welfare services. This ranges from the Health Centre to Personal Tutors. It also asks questions about student depression and crime on campus. Deputy President (Welfare) Charlotte Ivison said that she hoped the survey would lay the foundations for the future of Imperial's welfare services and that it was "the most wide-ranging survey the Union has ever done."

Both surveys are available on the Union's website, www.imperialcollegeunion.org. The Welfare survey is open until the 1st of April. The Halls survey closes on Friday.

In Friday's issue of The Daily Felix (4th March), the incorrect text was printed for Stefan Bauer's manifesto. It is printed correctly below (along with his competitor's, Jason Parmar). Felix apologises for this error.

Deputy President (Education)

Stefan Bauer



During my 4 years at Imperial, I have enjoyed the responsibility of holding many positions in clubs & societies' committees within the Union, such as the Handball Club, the German Society and the ACC and I have grown fond of the college and its students. Now, I want to use my experience and commitment and represent the student body on the highest level.

In the past year, many decisions

have been made that will have a significant impact on student lives in the near future and it is crucial to ensure that everybody gets the best out of their time at Imperial.

The changes to feedback quality and timeliness, including a feedback code of practise have been a step in the right direction, making Imperial a more efficient and dynamic academic environment. I aim to ensure it is implemented to its full potential and

to iron out problems where they may occur, so it can succeed.

Postgraduate representation is important, but there is a long way between the first point of contact and the Sabbatical Officers. Providing a solid PG representation system that works well will help information to flow in both directions more efficiently.

With the upcoming and unavoidable increase in tuition fees in

2012, it is important that the university's academic commitment mirrors the financial commitment of the prospective students. It will be crucial to deal with any issues that arise in the forthcoming year with the student body in mind in order to ensure that Imperial stays as good as it is.

Jason Parmar



My name is Jason Parmar and I have what it takes to be the next Deputy President for Education.

I'm currently a Chemistry undergraduate studying towards a four-year degree with Management.

Being an Imperial student isn't the easiest of tasks. It's difficult to balance the demanding workload we get from our respective courses with our other commitments.

The proposed timetabling changes

are something I take very seriously. I will fight to make sure that any changes are effective, yet reasonable, and are in all of our best interests.

If elected I will work with all students and staff to find a timetable structure that fits everyone's needs. We're not all perfect; sometimes we do miss lectures, be it because of the Eyjafjallajökull volcanic eruption or from not knowing your limits the night before.

I believe it's time for us to bring in

recorded podcasts for all our lecture courses.

We study at a world-class university; we deserve to have ALL our lecture material to be of a world-class quality so we can be world-class graduates.

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Voting closes on Saturday 12th at 23:59

Go to www.imperialcollegeunion.org/elections to vote and for live election statistics. The Department of Life Sciences currently has the highest turnout at 36%.

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FEATURE

felix@imperial.ac.uk

From Mirpur to the Midlands

Omar Hafeez-Bore and Kahfeel Hussain on how Pakistani immigration to the UK changed not only this country, but parts of Pakistan and Pakistanis themselves

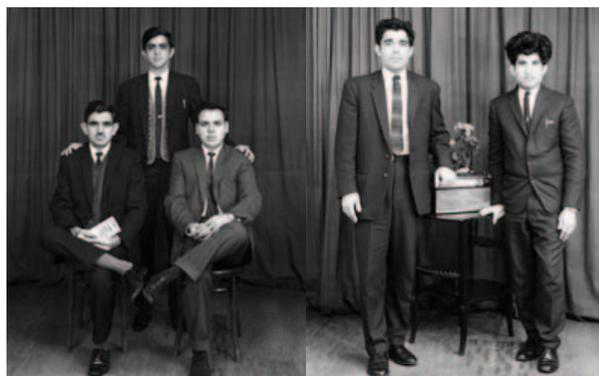
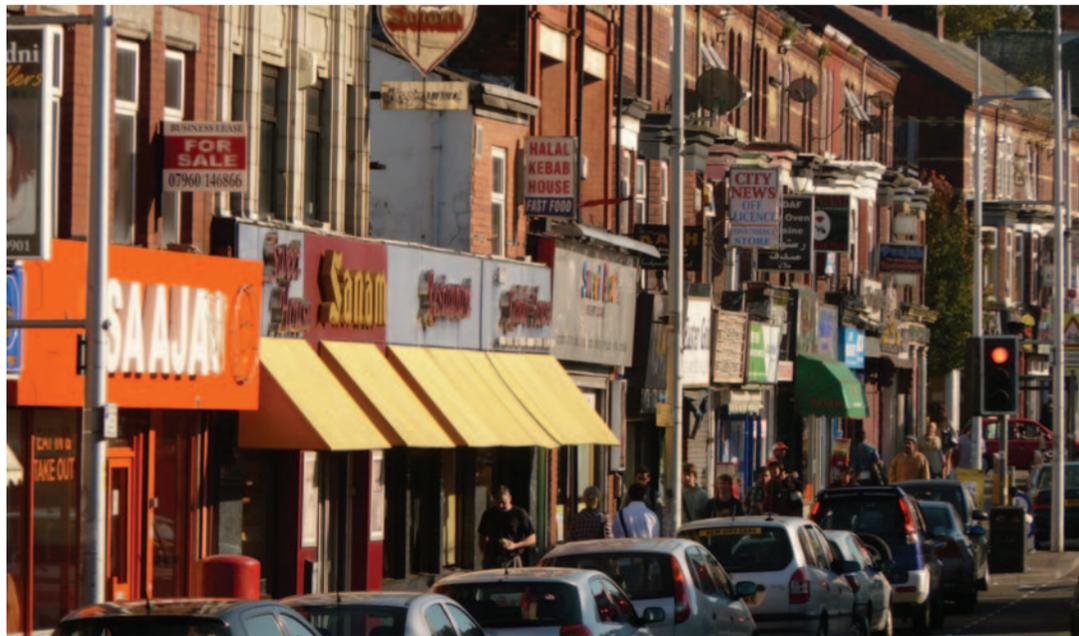
For an international student from Pakistan, London is an explosion of new experiences. People form queues, food is bland, the police actually care (but families hardly seem to), dogs are walked, old men jog, commuters are silent, 'smiling shop staff' are rarely as described, and under the ground men sit and let women stand on tubes, whilst above it buses actually arrive on time. Compared to Islamabad, it might as well be Oz.

What anchor can such a student reach for in this sea of change? Perhaps the Pakistani communities who settled here years ago, who still cling on to their rocks of religion and tradition like barnacles in this cultural storm? Not quite. The Pakistanis here have changed. Many were originally from Mirpur, a land just 68 miles from the people of Islamabad, but a world away from their thoughts. A land whose people are almost unknown to the rest of Pakistan, yet make up the overwhelming majority of Pakistanis here in Britain. And because of this, it is a land whose future is now tethered to the insulated communities that have grown in England, a bond of people stronger than any international alliance or diplomatic gesture.

Every year another kind of Pakistani leaves home to study in London. He is a British Pakistani, brought up here but on a solid foundation of Pakistani-ness, evident in his view of punctuality as a quaint pursuit of white people and his casual mistrust of British authority. His parents came from Mirpur but his home is in those old industrial towns of the midlands and the north. He comes to Imperial College, having worked hard to come to London, the big city. It is the land of opportunity and diversity, of exciting events and important happenings.

It is crap. People are antisocial, no one drives, proper *apna* food is a rarity and tasteless frauds all too common. The fashion is over-flamboyant, cricket is under-revered, no one has any community contacts and even fewer seem to have common sense. Suddenly uprooted from his community, from his *Biradari*, our man looks for commonality in the university's Pakistani Society, one built, surely, upon the values by which he defines himself. One built upon his code of Pakistani honour, of *izzat*, of unspoken community, unbreakable pride and a nuanced love for Doner Kebabs. Instead he meets some freshies, educated Pakistanis fresh-off-the-boat from Islamabad, 68 miles from Mirpur but very different in their character.

Well, duh. A lot can happen in 68 miles. One crosses the eastern border of the Punjab into the South-West of Azad Kashmir, the less disputed part of the highly disputed Kashmir region. One leaves the middle classes of Islamabad's airy streets for the farms and fields of the Mirpur region. The refined Urdu of newsreaders morphs into rapid fire Potahari, or 'Mirpuri', and the people harden from educated urbanites to the earth-wise people of the country. It makes the



“Just a quick fortune made and then an even quicker journey back to Pakistan, right? Right? How wrong they were.”

rudeboys, the focused student with dreams of studying pharmacy or the relaxed school-leaver helping his dad in the tyre shop. All are born (at an impressive rate) in all-Pakistani migrant communities. All suffer from the cultural confusion brought about by their circumstance.

So why the Mirpuri focus? Extremism. That is to say, Mirpuris, sometimes branded 'backward' by snootier migrants, often embody the idiosyncracies of 'Pakistanis' to their extreme, as well as the effects of the last 40 years A.B. (After Boat-trip). And numbers. Mirpuris make up a huge proportion of England's 'Pakistani' community. This severed limb of Pakistan has flourished, growing rapidly here in this foreign culture medium.

Calling the Mirpur region a limb of Pakistan, however, is an exaggeration. It is at best a little finger, making up just 0.13% of Pakistan's land mass and 0.22% of the total population. This is roughly equivalent to what the Isle of Wight is to Great Britain. Okay, so more a finger nail, then, but one that has helped etch a thriving scene of markets, curry-houses and Asian fashion emporiums into the urban landscape of Britain. It is estimated that around 70% of the 800,000 Pakistanis living in England are of Mirpuri descent, and in towns like Bradford this raises to 90%. This has often made the people of Mirpur the unofficial, unintended, but undeniable ambassadors of Pakistan in the U.K. I have been brought up in Birmingham (may it forever stand tall) all my life, but still had to readjust my impression of what a Pakistani was when I met middle class and highly educated Pakistanis at university, who so differed to the *desi* Mirpuri-Punjabi combo of the midlands. Using my Talking-Real-English voice (full sentences, proper words, less grunts) with Pakistani peers at university is a novelty that still hasn't got old.

But bro, how did all this happen? It can't be denied that all the reasons for migration described earlier are important. But none of these are as dramatic as the 1967 construction of the Mangla Dam, the world's largest earth filled dam. It was designed to increase water for irrigation and source more electrical power in Pakistan. Oh, and it also submerged around 280 villages in the region, including Old Mirpur city, displacing 110,000 people in the process. Such collateral damage could not be ignored, and Pakistan quickly brokered a deal with a welcoming UK, giving compensation, Mahfeza, to scores of men. This took the form of get-into-England-free tickets, where they could go and work in the textile mills and factories of industrial England.

Just temporarily, of course. Just a quick fortune made and then an even quicker journey back to Pakistan, right? Right? How wrong they were. England proved a more fertile land than they could ever expect and, without realising it, these men of the earth grew roots of their own.

We hope to delve into the concluding part of the story – from big gangster attitudes to the Little England of Mirpur – next week.

southern-fairy/northern-monkey divide of England pathetic by comparison.

But even those 68 miles are nothing, a few inches on a map compared to the 6,000 mile migration to Britain and the 40 years spent making it their home. That's a real, four dimensional shift, a Back-to-the-Future style alternate reality compared to the Pakistanis who carried on back home. All geographical and class comparisons are just exaggerated by adaptations of Mirpuris in this foreign land.

So far, so human. Wholesale migrations of communities are nothing new, and it is certainly not just Mirpuris who have settled here. I could talk about the reams of Punjabi Pakistani migrants, like my mum's own family from Gujranwala or Phelwana da shehar, the 'City of Wrestlers'. This also explains my near-superhuman strength. Or, I could talk about the Pakistanis who settled here after fighting alongside the English during the war. Or the post-partition sense of freedom, of starting anew. I would mention those willing to work for a better life, who came during the post-war years from the newly-minted Pakistan into the open arms of an English industrial boom.

All of these settlers helped build new Pakistani villages, ones carved into the urban coves of industrial towns in Yorkshire, Lancashire and the Midlands. Ones with fewer donkeys. All of them are responsible for a strange hybrid-culture of the Pakistani and British working class, one that is both part of, and yet alien to its two parent countries. And all of them have brought up children here who embody this limbo community, not quite integrated enough into the British mainstream to stop referring to them as Johns or Gorey, but not *desi* enough to feel at home on the Pakistan trips of their summer holidays.

These are the children of all Pakistanis. From the hard-line religious to the hard-drinking

FEATURE

Imperial's motorised mascots

A homage to the fleet of vintage vehicles that belong to all of us.

By Jenny Wilson

Pride is a funny sort of thing. It tends to only come out on special occasions: times like when you realise the person you are overhearing on the tube went to a university that is rated 3rd from the bottom rather than 3rd from the top of the league tables and you sit there thinking that you're pleased that you go to Imperial. I think part of our pride comes from the fact that Imperial offers somewhat 'classical' subjects, showing a reverence for the timeless and historically robust. In particular, those things that make sense to us but the rest of the world think are slightly bizarre, such as the fact that we have Varsity against ourselves and that we have a Mountain Hut in the midst of Wales. We are one of three universities (guess the other two) with an Exploration Board that encourages students to get off campus and explore the world, and we are one of two taking care of Vintage Vehicles.

The students of Imperial College London are collectively the owners of four vintage vehicles that are as much a repository of the College history as the Archive Office itself. Each vehicle was bestowed, bought or assimilated to become part of the biggest university fleet in the country, which is now envied by our competitors. They are Clementine (II) Morris, Jezebel Dennis, Derrick and Boanerges – oh yes, our fleet have names.

It seems pleasingly appropriate that Imperial would have these attributes as a unique selling point, having been a leader in engineering since the genesis of motorised transport. Who doesn't crack into a smile or point them out when a vintage vehicle chugs down the road? To this end, when they do get out and about, they serve as some of the very best ambassadors for the college and its students in humility, respect and technical ability.



These be some 'fly' chaps... YO

Our youngest addition is lovingly known as Clem. She is a Morris T-type (I'm sure that means something to some people) one tonne truck born on 13th October 1926. Having changed hands a couple of times, she was adopted by the students of the Royal School of Mines to become their replacement vehicular mascot in 1960. Despite being a truck, she is very much in touch with the modern stereotypical Imperial girl, being understated in looks but a rewarding lover if you give her the attention she deserves. In days gone by, she boldly sported the RSM colours with a yellow cab, black bonnet and wings, and a red chassis. Her biggest claim to fame is a total resurrection in 1987, having been put aside in boxes with the intention of an overhaul 11 years before. Despite this medical marvel, she runs like a charm and continues to pass her MOT.

Jezebel Dennis is perhaps the celebrity of the fleet in a sort of Jordan-glamour-model way. She's got large assets in the form of her working pump, as she is an original 1916 Dennis N-Type fire engine that was used by the London Fire Brigade up until her retirement in 1932. She then had a fling with another owner before settling down to become the RCSU mascot in 1955 on the grounds that the RCSU of the time "were looking for a suitable means of transport for their President." However, like Jordan and being a bit cheeky, 2 years later she managed to ruin the Queen Mother's coat with her new red paint job. Since the early days, she's become the more demure Katie Price and an excellent advocate for the college by representing us at events like the Lord Mayors Show and the New Year celebrations until in 2009 when she had a run in with a Routemaster bus... literally. What you would only find out in her autobiography (Jez's not Katie's) is that she is the owner of her own Blue Peter Badge, which she got for appearing on the show in 1982, and starred in Michael Winner's "The Jokers"; a film released in 1966.

Boanerges (translated as 'Sons of Thunder') is the older gentleman of the fleet and a true gentleman's sort of vehicle. Abbreviated to Bo', he is the mascot of CGCU and was bought in 1934 for a handsome £40 though the car was born in 1902: a James & Browne with a 9 horse power engine. In 1953, in the 50th publication of Felix, he underwent a challenge that can only be thought to be the idea for the modern day TV show, Top Gear, in which he boasted a 35ft di-



From left: Jezebel Dennis, Derrick, Boanerges and Clementine (II) Morris

"She's in touch with the modern stereotypical Imperial girl; understated in looks but a rewarding lover"

ameter turning circle. Despite having a maximum speed of 28mph, he was pursued for speeding in 1956 by the police. Charges were dropped after the famous British satirical magazine, Punch, published a cartoon of the episode on their front cover that week. Bo has a younger brother, Derrick, which is a 1926 Ner-a-car motor cycle. Together, the vehicles undergo a strange gender transition to become a homage to Bo Derek (yes, a change in spelling), a popular Hollywood actress of the 80's.

In many ways these vehicles are the perfect hobby for the budding engineer or DIY enthusiast. The other rare opportunity for a university student here is that you get to be a caretaker of something that has been passed down to us from our own alumni with the hope of carrying on what was started long before our transient experience of the college, and continuing that source and tradition of pride. You don't even have to be an engineer, as it's a great learning environment for anyone who wants to appreciate vintage in one of its most lasting forms. Failing that, the uniforms that accompany the cars could perhaps do with a visit from a sewing machine if that is more your style. If you've been charmed into getting involved or lured by a false promise of meeting Katie Price, please email jez@imperial.ac.uk – the clubs would be happy to show you the ropes.



Getting to lectures in the morning used to be so much more fun...

Sponsored Editorial

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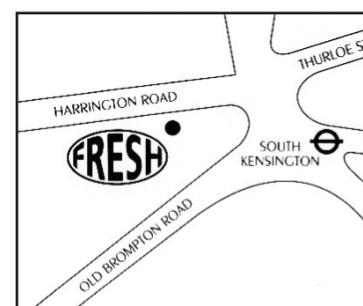
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SCIENCE

Science Editors: **Charlie Harvey**
Kelly Oakes
science.felix@imperial.ac.uk

You won't believe it..



Willing to look like this for a hundred grand?

Who wants to be a Legionnaires?

Want to win £100,000 and catch a dangerous disease? Well, a proposed "new reality TV show" advertised just that in its search for contestants. Asking for individuals who were "Not worried about looking and feeling your worst on live TV?" the show, Quarantine, was to be set in a virology lab with the contestants exposed to infectious diseases. The last contestant remaining in the room would win the money. Published in the Daily Mirror, the advert received over 200 applications. Medical professionals kicked up a fuss condemning the show. However, it was later revealed to be an experiment by the Mirror to see "just how far people will go in the pursuit of fame".

Ben Good

Touched by a robot



My prayers have been answered...

Being touched by a sexy nurse is one of the most common fantasies (not admitting anything personally here) – but how would you feel if your object of affection was a robot? Researchers from Georgia Institute of Technology found that volunteers were happy to be touched by a robot nurse, if under the impression they were cleaning a wound. If told the robot was there to provide comfort, participants were less than positive about the experience. Strangely enough, people have a similar reaction to human nurses – obviously they've just met the wrong sort of nurse.

Charlie Harvey

There's no need to fear robots

Kadhim Shubber

The Polish restaurant on Exhibition Road, Og-nisko, seems to be out of its time. The décor and atmosphere would seem to suggest that mink-ensconced flappers and mustachioed airmen could come swooping into the dining hall at any moment. It's in these surroundings that I have the pleasure to sit beside Emeritus Professor Igor Alexander, who has just spent the previous hour or so talking about how the interconnectedness of neural networks in the brain could be the cause of consciousness itself. I ask him if his understanding of the brain has altered his experience of the world and his awareness of his own consciousness. He gives a short sincere laugh and replies that it's made him feel much more comfortable about the whole thing.

During his lecture, entitled: "Can mankind survive in the age of information?" and hosted by Friends of Imperial, he displayed a similar air of ease and confidence. He readily admits at the beginning that the title is a tad misleading. It's too easy a question, he suggests, and it can be answered "in three seconds flat." The answer is obviously Yes, he says. Sitting at the front of the lecture theatre, I can almost feel the quizzical looks of the audience behind me demanding: "then what is this lecture about?"

Asking whether mankind can survive in the 21st century, in this age of information, implies that there is something to fear. The point of Professor Alexander's lecture – starting with knocking down the title at the beginning – is to show that those who gloomily predict the rise of computers (and the fall of mankind that usually accompanies their narrative) or the damaging effect of the Internet on our brains, are misunderstanding something crucial about our brains and consciousness.

As a man who has devoted his entire career to understanding the mind, Professor Alexander is more than qualified to make such a statement. He is an electrical engineer who designed and built the world's first neural pattern recognition



Charlie Sheen ain't looking good...

system and he has published over 200 scientific papers and 12 books about the mind. Why shouldn't an electrical engineer pioneer research into the brain? is the challenge he raises when he says: "The brain is a physical, chemical and electrical device", therefore it can be analysed using the tools of physicists, chemists and electrical engineers.

So what did people like Ed Fredkin, who in 1983 suggested on the BBC's Horizon that within eight years computers would have grown so powerful that they would keep humans as pets, get wrong about consciousness? Professor Alexander first explained what might conjure up consciousness. Neurons behave like the components of a circuit, in that they perform the same sort of logical operations. However, they don't have the same linear relationship between input and output. They're looped and networked in such a way that they pass signals between each other and, in his words, "reverberate". This internal reverberation, which may not result in any output, could be the source of thought. The more interconnected a network, the greater the ability for conscious

thought – this is where I began to shudder at the thought of someone reducing the interconnectedness of my neurons and wiping away my consciousness in the process, silly I know.

The crucial point, however, is that this is not enough for consciousness. These reverberations must have some correlation with the outside world. In short, you must be able to interpret and recognise the world around you. The neurons also form imprints and patterns of reverberations that can be triggered and fired off without external input – this is where memory and our ability to interpret and recognise could reside.

Coming back to robots, to the fear of the rise of the machines, a being's consciousness is dependent on its needs and its experience of the world. A packaging robot's consciousness is grounded solely in its experience of being a packaging robot. Similarly its needs are simple; if it's constantly plugged in, why would it revolt against mankind?

The problem with his argument, I guess, is that one can always have nightmares about a specific robot in a highly specific set of circumstances that would crush all of mankind. Professor Alexander obviously doesn't worry about such things (who seriously does?) but the lecture still left me unsettled. Although he claimed to be more at ease with his consciousness through understanding where it might arise, I became more worried about the fragility of my identity. Each moment of our existence is unique and definable, he says (well thank goodness!) but as you reduce the interconnectedness of a neural system, your capacity to distinguish between them, and thus your ability to interact with the world diminishes.

Oh dear. I'd better lay off the wine then!

Friends of Imperial's next lecture will be by Professor Frank Berkshire on the 17th of March, in the Sir Alexander Fleming Building from 19:00. It is entitled "Chaotic cards and dynamic dice" and looks at how mathematics can be used for gain in gambling.

Protein possible anti-leukaemia agent

Anum Niaz

A protein, CD19-ligand, demonstrates a promising cure for one of the most common forms of childhood cancer: Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL).

The ALL cells are recognized as mutagens, which leads to an immune response and the generation of antibodies against the cancer. Researchers, Fatih M. Uckun and Hong Ma, alongside others, began working with a series of basic procedures which finally led to the cloning of part of the DNA which directly codes for part of the CD19 receptor. This part of DNA was then compared with the predetermined gene sequences within the GeneBank Database. The resulting DNA sequence was further developed to form a specific secondary structure.

The researchers discovered that CD19 re-

ceptor molecules regulate B-lymphocytes released during an immune response against the primary leukaemia cells. By interacting with its co-receptor molecules, CD19 allows the smooth 'development, proliferation, activation and differentiation' of B-lymphocytes. However, the interaction between CD19-ligands and leukaemia results in cell death which assists in the regulation of immune responses and the prevention of autoimmunity. In CD19+ leukaemia cells this interaction results in an altered set of signals being sent which cause cell death. Hence, the structure and bonding of the ligand with its co-receptor determines the fate of the cell.

CD19-L was then tested as a down-regulator of leukaemic activity in ALL cells with CD19 positive co-receptors. At this stage the interaction between CD19 co-receptors and CD19-L altered the regulation of genes; the down-reg-

ulated genes were analysed in greater detail, and lead the researchers to the conclusion that CD19-L had a significant effect on cell signalling, causing cell death and gene expression. The experiment is furthered by the treatment of chemotherapy resistant ALL CD19 positive cells with CD19-L concluding that CD19-L also causes cell death in relapsed ALL cells (CD19+).

The importance of determining CD19-L binding and functionality lies in the recovery of patients with relapsed ALL. As lead researcher Fatih Uckun says "These are the cells that are the most difficult to treat. The challenge is to kill these cells while leaving healthy cells intact." The major advantage of CD19 is its specific and ample expression on leukaemic cells. CD19-Ligands are potential agents for the transport of cytotoxic materials to leukaemic cells, and may be a more effective and less damaging solution to an on-going problem.

SCIENCE

Floods, fireballs and chaos?

Kelly Oakes on how we could be in the middle of Earth's sixth mass extinction (and barely even notice)



Boom! The scientific consensus is that the dinosaurs were killed off by an exploding meteor, but not all mass extinctions are this dramatic...

Of the four billion species that have existed on the Earth, only 1% are still around today. Many of these forgotten creatures became extinct gradually, slowly making way for new ones to evolve and take their place. However, sometimes the rate of extinction can increase so much that more than three quarters of the world's species are lost in a short period of time.

It is tempting to imagine devastating scenes of fireballs, floods and chaos when we hear the phrase "mass extinction", but the reality can be much more subtle than that – so subtle that it could pass by without much fanfare at all. In fact, some scientists think we could be in the middle of one right now.

A mass extinction is defined as the loss of over three quarters of all species in a geologically short time period – around two million years, or less. This may not sound short, but the Earth has been around for four billion years, making it a fraction of a percentage of our planet's total lifetime. There have been five previous mass extinctions, known among palaeontologists as the "Big Five". In a review published in *Nature* last week, Anthony Barnosky and colleagues, from the University of California at Berkeley, brought together fossil evidence and recent paleontological data to work out whether we are in the middle of the sixth big extinction event of the past 540 million years.

Barnosky and colleagues used sev-

eral different methods to calculate the rate of extinctions that happened in the past in order to put what we see today in context. They used the fossil record to estimate plausible rates during the times of previous mass extinctions and then compared this with what they estimate the rates are now.

They found that although the recent loss of species is "dramatic and serious", it is not yet, technically, a mass extinction. However, if all the animals currently classed as "critically endangered" were to disappear, even if it took 1000 years, it would tip us over the edge into true mass extinction territory. If this were expanded to include all animals in the "endangered" and "vulnerable" categories, we could bring about a mass extinction in just a few centuries.

Barnosky and colleagues are quick to point out the shortcomings in their methods. As most of the world's species have yet to be formally described, documented numbers of extinctions are likely to be underestimates. The types of animals that can be studied are also limited. For example, it is only possible to make direct comparisons between fossils and their modern day counterparts for species that can be fossilised in the first place.

"Obviously there are caveats," Barnosky said. "What we know is based on observations from just a very few twigs plucked from the enormous number of branches that make up the tree of life." Despite these flaws, Barnosky and colleagues are confident in their conclu-

sions.

It appears to be humans who are causing these devastating extinction rates, and Barnosky and colleagues think we should be doing something about it. Comparing the Earth today with what scientists believe the Earth was like during the Big Five extinction events of the past, it looks like we are cooking up a "perfect storm" of conditions that are conducive to the catastrophic loss of

species. Rapid climate change and an increase in the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere could both push many animals towards extinction.

Despite this, Barnosky is hopeful: "We still have a lot of Earth's biota to save," he said. "It's very important to devote resources and legislation toward species conservation if we don't want to be the species whose activity caused a mass extinction."

"The Big Five"

The Ordovician event, ending 443 million years ago, was made up of two bursts of extinction separated by a million years. Caused by a lowering sea level, it destroyed habitats along continental shelves, and glacially driven cooling.

The Devonian event ended 359 million years ago. This event is thought to have taken a long time to occur and mainly affected marine life. It was caused by global cooling, followed by warming, amongst other things.

The Permian event ended 251 million years ago. Also known, cheerfully, as the "Great Dying", this event is the most severe of the Big Five. Global warming, volcanoes, ocean acidification and

possibly a meteor impact have all been implicated.

The Triassic event ended 200 million years ago. Occurring just before Pangaea started to break apart, this event is thought to have cleared out ecological niches allowing the dinosaurs to become dominant. It was caused by an increase in atmospheric CO₂ which increased global temperatures (sound familiar?).

The Cretaceous event ended 65 million years ago. The most infamous of all mass extinctions, this one wiped out the dinosaurs. A meteor exploding over the Earth, leading to global cataclysm and rapid cooling, is thought to be the likely culprit.

Sci-Fi Column

Maciej Matuszewski

This week I'd like to talk about the BBC's newest science fiction series, *Outcasts*. Set in the near future it follows the fortunes of a colony of humans on the planet Carpathia who have fled the Earth to escape some as yet unspecified problems on Earth.

After a promising first episode, where Carpathia was established as a dangerous yet interesting place the show soon began to go downhill. The main problem is with the characters. The colony's leader, President Tate, was portrayed in the first episode as a noble idealist struggling to build to a utopian society on the planet. The audience, however, soon found out that he had once ordered the execution of an entire group of human clones because he wrongly thought that they were carrying a deadly disease, dismissing the notion of quarantine as 'more unkind'. I wouldn't have had problems with this if not for the fact that the show is structured so as to make this deranged man the good guy. What's even worse is that when he reveals what he did to the colony's inhabitants for some reason nobody is outraged or calls for him to be arrested or even at least resign. This could have worked if we were shown the colony considering the clones as sub-human but we weren't shown any reaction at all.

Newly arrived on a transport from Earth is Julius Berger, the corrupt former head of the Earth evacuation project who has proclaimed that he has found religion; worshiping some vague 'universal spirit'. Despite having the feel of a slimy televangelist he somehow manages to gather a large following. What's worse is that even Dr Isen, the highly rational head of police, begins to trust him, despite her knowing that that he effectively killed somebody on the transport. Tate, despite the colony having an advanced brain scanner which could literally show all of Berger's memories of his crimes to the colony, instantly dispelling his proclivities, instead gives him a place on Carpathia's ruling council.

I do not think, however, that we should be too harsh with our judgements of *Outcasts*. The first seasons of *Babylon 5* and *Star Trek: The Next Generation* were pretty bad and look at how these shows turned out. There is a lot of good in *Outcasts*, such as the mysteries of the visions appearing to Carpathia's inhabitants and of what happened to Earth. *Outcasts* has the promise of becoming something we see so little of on television: an intelligent, slow-paced hard science fiction series with the focus on plot rather than action; something in the vein of the little known but brilliant *Defying Gravity*. Unfortunately, declining viewing figures and mixed critical reception means that that *Outcasts* is very likely to follow in the footsteps of *Defying Gravity* and be cancelled after its first season.

Sabbatical Elections 2011

Where do you should be

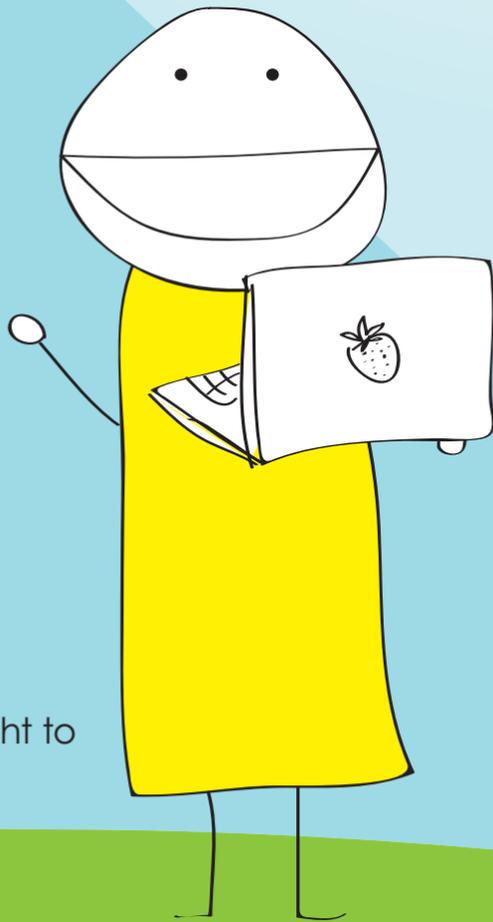
Over halfway through voting and over
target. If you think Imperial should be
make sure you vote now. It only takes

How do I vote?



Or use your mobile phone.

Not near a computer? Fancy voting right now?
Good plan. Point your phone's browser to the
handy URL bit.ly/voteicu. This will take you straight to
the voting page. No messing around.



It's quick and easy

You can vote online from any
imperialcollegeunion.org/elections
find information on all the positions
and a nice big VOTE! button.

Which faculty is winning?

Not voted yet? You're letting your faculty
- and maybe even your halls of residence
breakdowns of how many people have
faculty, department and hall who is



Vote online from Tuesday 8 March 00:01
until Saturday 12 March 23:59.

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Do you think Imperial is on this list?

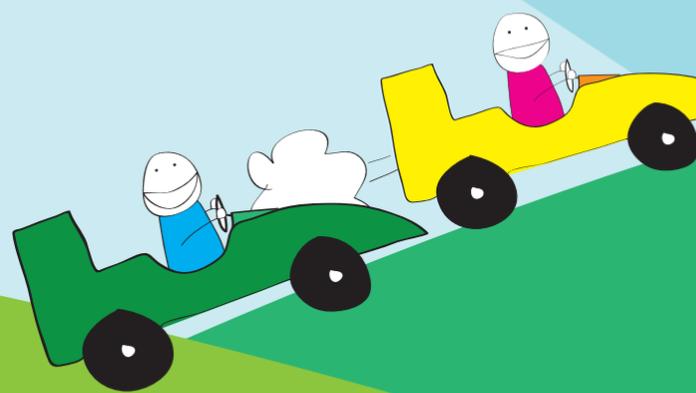
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Winning the race?

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Top UK University Election Turnouts

SOAS - 28.8%

York University - 28.6%

Southampton University - 27.2%

Loughborough University - 27%

Edinburgh University - 26.7%

Bournemouth University - 24.9%

Sheffield University - 24.9%

Bath University - 24.4%

London School of Economics - 20.9%

Goldsmiths University - 20.7%

Imperial College London - 18.9% so far

Durham University - 18.6%

Queen Mary University - 17.5%

Essex University - 16.7%

Warwick University - 14.9%

King's College London - 13.9%

University College London - 12.2%

Election turnout taken from AMSU Survey 2010. List not exhaustive.

TECHNOLOGY

Technology Editors: **Samuel Gibbs**
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Free App of the Week

iOS - Opera Mini



With O2 and others blocking sites, now's the time to start using a proxy based browser. Fast, even over rubbish 3G signal, Opera does the job in a pinch.

Android - Opera Mini/Mobile



Android's got the choice of two Opera incantations, Mini and Mobile. Mobile for when you want a full browser, Mini for when your signal is pants.

Crime on your street mapped

Feroz Salam

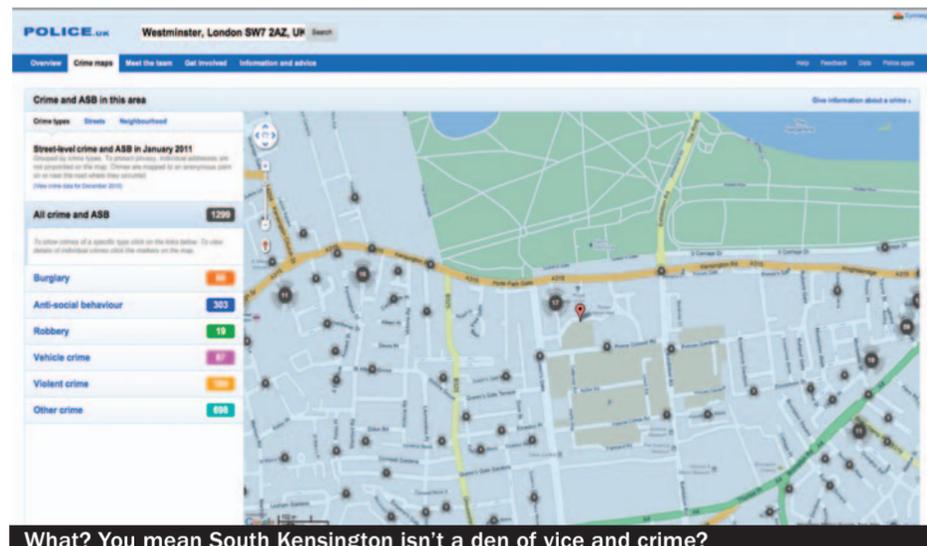
Two burglaries and a case of vehicle crime – not your average night out in a rough part of London, but a description of the crime in my street in the last month according to the police's latest initiative, www.police.uk. The site, which allows you to enter a postcode and retrieve detailed crime statistics for the area, has been a massive success, receiving 400m hits in the two months it's been online.

The site is a coordinated effort by various government departments and has been hailed by ministers as a step towards greater transparency with regards to the working of your local police force. In addition to providing a localised crime map, it also offers local police force information and a list of events being held by the police in the area.

The site throws up little in the way of surprises; the Imperial-infested and expensive south-west of London is remarkably safe. Albertopolis itself is devoid of any crime, with the worst you should be expected to endure is a case or two of the one-fits-all 'anti-social behaviour', something that you're probably used to at Imperial in any case.

The site has been surprisingly divisive, however, with many people questioning the point in releasing crime data for individual streets. Beyond the voyeuristic pleasure of scouring some of London's seedier neighbourhoods, there is little that the information offers that wasn't publicly available a few months ago, and almost no functionality apart from it either. While it's certainly healthy fuel for paranoia, there is also little you can do to get involved beyond staring at you screen; there is no way to provide feedback or suggestions to your local police force through the site.

This lack of apparent purpose has led many to question whether the government really had to spend £300,000 on the project. Software architect Rob West took it upon himself to churn out a virtually identical website on the evening of the site's launch, managing it in roughly 8



What? You mean South Kensington isn't a den of vice and crime?

"The site throws up little in the way of surprises"

hours.

Supporters of the site are overwhelmingly positive about its performance however, and the numbers seem to agree that whatever the reason, the website has managed to tap into our natural curiosity. It is hoped that the effort will put pressure on local police forces to deal with crime better, and allow residents to lobby for a better presence in more troubled areas.

The site is just the latest measure in the government's continuing effort to bring data and transparency in their dealings to the public. Driven by the central hub of data.gov.uk, datasets released to the public include the 'Compendium on Motorcycling Statistics' and the 'Survey of Vegetables and Flowers'. The idea is to bring accountability to the government's actions as well as allowing interested parties to analyse and present the data in ways the government may not have thought of.

Despite some very interesting figures having come out of the release of the data, there are still many questions regarding privacy that have yet to be answered. The government contracts a large amount of work out to private companies, and it's a matter of debate whether they are required to be as transparent.

The government doesn't have a great track record so far when it comes to opening up data to developers either. TfL's London Underground API (which should allow users to create websites and apps for phones) is notoriously unreliable. Its basic functionality has been withdrawn unexpectedly multiple times over the last few years, much to the chagrin of developers who depend on it for their apps. With the police.uk website going down on the day of its launch as well, it's clear that while transparency may be the order of the day, it's meaningless if the data is stuck on a server in a back office in central London.

Head on over to the crime map to stare in horror at the nearest case of violent crime; I personally find the Compendium of Motorcycling Statistics gets me off faster.

Rubberise your iPhone 4 with SecondSkin

Samuel Gibbs

Silicon cases have been a dime-a-dozen ever since the original iPod. When you get to the iPhone 4, those same soft silicon cases haven't really evolved very much. Sure they have cut outs now so you can access the buttons and the ports, but they're still pretty poor.

The Cygnett SecondSkin for the iPhone 4 is no different. It's a quick and easy fit silicon case that can be had in a variety of colours. In an attempt to differentiate it from the £2 eBay-specials, Cygnett have included a screen protector in the package as a welcome extra.

The SecondSkin is marketed as having a 'soft, talky touch feel' and while it's slightly less tacky than your average silicon case, it still suffers from the age old problem of pocket jam

as there's simply too much friction. As a consequence, if you're wearing jeans, it can be pretty difficult to get your phone out of your pocket when it rings, and when you do it'll be covered in fluff and dust.

The SecondSkin isn't as tightly fitting as you might like either, and can come off in a loose pocket, or bag. It'll also let a load of dust and pocket debris get under the case, something that Apple's worried is scratching and weakening the back glass of the iPhone 4. You can't really get round that when you want a form-fitting case on your phone, but being a bit tighter and closer fitting could help.

For about £15 it's not a bad case. It offers decent, if a bit thin, protection, while access to the buttons and ports is decent. It's not that it's a bad case, it's just not great or cheap.



Business Editors: **Sina Ataherian**
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BUSINESS

Imperial students victorious in enterprise competition

Maximo Sanz Hernandez and Alexandru Podgurschi, from Imperial's Entrepreneurs Society, report on winning this year's London Apprentice Challenge

On Monday February 21st, three teams representing Imperial College London, King's College London and UCL competed in the London Apprentice 2011 in the first year of the event. Proudly organized by Imperial Entrepreneurs, the KCL Business Club and the UCL Entrepreneurs Society, the competition was a major success, attracting high-profile judges such as Margaret Mountford (from 'The Apprentice'), Pier Paolo Mucelli (founder and CEO of eOffice) and a representative from Oliver Wyman.

The competition consisted of three challenges which took place over the weekend and were presented before the public the following Monday at King's College London. The first task was de-

Photos by Alexandru Podgurschi



From left: The judges looking bored, bemused and scared, respectively

"[The Imperial Entrepreneurs' team] managed to eke out over £100 from a paper clip!"

signing the ideal office for the future and radical high-tech ideas were in no shortage.

The projects presented by the teams varied widely. UCL proposed an office with a highly specific conference room which was designed to stimulate the five senses and included touchscreen walls amongst other technical innovations. The King's College team suggested a more traditional approach with a clear distinction between the administrative staff and the creative department. Our representatives focused on flexibility and utilitarianism, introducing the idea of an ever-changing office layout featuring remote controls attached to individual desks. The audience was sure to be impressed by the amalgamation of fresh ideas, but Mr. Mucelli was quick at pointing out flaws in their plans. Just like in the BBC Apprentice.

The second task tested the teams' communication and bargaining skills. The mission: go around London with a

paper clip and exchange it for something more valuable, a step repeated as many times as possible in order to obtain the greatest profit.

Time was just one of the many constraints added to the task, as was the rule that prohibited donations. Every item or amount of money had to be traded for something else. Team work and having a clear strategic approach to the task were crucial in this challenge. Teams' strategies ranged from visiting individual homes to travelling to touristic areas, where they could easily "rip off" people. Imperial chose the former and knocked on the doors of South Kensington houses and in the end managed to eke out over £100 (from a paper clip!), after several remarkable feats such as trading a pen for £10.

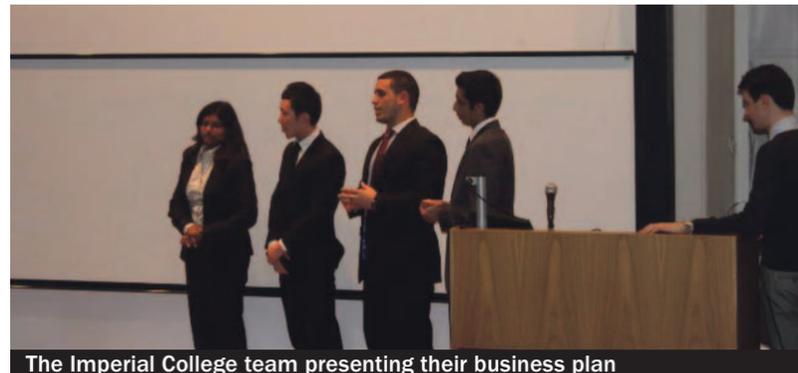
The third challenge tested the teams' market analysis aptitudes and their ability to come up with a feasible long term business plan. The teams had to design a new range of Tesco products or services. The UCL team developed a social branch of the company, featuring products that would give away a percentage of the revenue to charity. Even though this project had no start-up cost, it also produced zero income, an aspect that was immediately noted by Margaret. The King's team put forward a network of Tesco affiliated gyms, whose major selling point was the price of the membership. However, the team under-

estimated the costs of running a national-scale gym service. Lastly, Imperial presented 'Tesco Learn', an educational platform that provided basic literacy and numeracy training. Although it was a noble idea, the judges were not completely sold on it.

After the presentation of these three tasks, the judges took some time to discuss the performance of each team and announced the winner of each challenge, followed by the presentation of the overall winner. As you would all expect, Imperial dominated the competition winning two out of three tasks, and won the title of London Apprentice of 2011. Zhen Lim was also awarded 'Best Performer' for the entire competition. Massive congratulations to the winning team. Nitin Nihalani, Sohasini Sudtharalingam, Mohammed Shaath and Lim Zhen Xiong brought the title to Imperial and made their first of many appearances on the business scene.

For videos from the event, visit stoic tv's profile on YouTube, whose coverage of the event was greatly appreciated and central to making the event a major success.

Make sure to drop by the Business School on Tuesday 15th for the 'Ideas Empowered' competition, Imperial Entrepreneurs' next big event where teams will have to pitch their business ideas and try to convince the judges that their plan is worthy of the £5000 prize.



The Imperial College team presenting their business plan

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Malaysia

Malaysia's Leader of the Opposition, Anwar Ibrahim has won a critical ruling in his second sodomy trial. The Malaysian High Court ordered three pieces of evidence crucial to the prosecution's case to be excluded after finding that they had been obtained incorrectly. This ruling means that the prosecution's case will now rest solely on the testimony of the complainant Saiful Bukhari who claimed that he was sodomised by Anwar in an apartment. Anwar's second trial for sodomy, which is illegal in Malaysia is seen by many as a political conspiracy with the Human Rights Watch calling the trial a charade of justice.

Libya

The Head of Libya's rebel movement has said that General Gaddafi will not be persecuted if he quits within 72 hours and stops bombing his countrymen. This comes as Libya's rebellion entered its third week with the Gaddafi government counter-attacking in several key cities. General Gaddafi is struggling to hold on to his grip on power but there are signs that he may be willing to resign in return for dropping the charges against him and a guarantee that he would be allowed to exit safely. International pressure is building up on Gaddafi and the UK and France is currently drafting a UN Resolution for a no-fly zone in Libya which is supported by the Gulf States and the Organisation of Islamic Conference.



United States

US President Barack Obama is lifting a two year ban on military trials for detainees held in Guantanamo Bay in Cuba. This move is the latest signal to many that Guantanamo Bay will remain open in the near future despite Obama's pledge to shut it down within one year of taking office. Mr Obama has said that this move would broaden America's ability to bring terrorists to justice. It is expected that Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, accused of bombing the USS Cole will be the first to be tried under Obama's new order.

Edited by Kenneth Lee

Fit as a Fidel

We could learn from Cuba's international health system



Western media paid little attention to Cuban doctors volunteering in Haiti

Red Elmahdi

The Cuban healthcare system is renowned for being one of the most effective healthcare systems in the world today with life expectancies equal to those of some of the world's wealthiest countries. Cubans have for some time been making a push to reach out far beyond their small island borders in order to export their methods of disease prevention and treatment worldwide, particularly in the developing world where their impact is most noticeable.

Cuban medical international, otherwise known as 'doctor diplomacy', is a Cuban programme founded after the Cuban Revolution in 1959 that is aimed at exporting Cuban health practices and practitioners to developing nations. Rooted both in foreign policy objectives, including Cuba's policy of supporting anti-colonial struggles of the 1960s, and humanitarianism, the programme today employs 50,000 healthcare personnel globally.

As one of the first countries to become active in medical crisis operations, Cuba has dispatched emergency assistance teams and medical professionals to provide support to struggling national governments after major natural disasters and conflicts in Chile, Nicaragua, Iran, Algeria and Haiti since the 1960s, often arriving on the scene well before the large NGOs and Charities have mobilised. In 2005 Cuba even prepared to send a brigade of 1,500 doctors to New Orleans in the wake Hurricane Katrina; this offer was declined however by the former US president George Bush.

Humanitarian crises, although devastating when they occur, are rare, which is why, since 1998, the Cuban Comprehensive Health

(CPH) programme has formed the cornerstone of Cuban international health operations. This programme has allowed the Cubans to move towards the establishment of durable international healthcare provisions and runs alongside its international emergency relief programme. The CPH aims to promote international solidarity and bolster the public health infrastructure of a country through staffing local clinics and hospitals with Cuban medical teams.

The programme runs in 27 countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia and as a result there are now health workers providing medical care and assistance for some of the most isolated and deprived populations in the world. In fact in several countries such as Honduras, Guatemala and Mali, CPH services have been the only health service provisions available for many rural and indigenous communities for decades.

The Cuban approach combines population based public health principles and preventative programmes with clinical medicine, formulating long-term healthcare initiatives and taking these directly to the populations where it's needed. Since its foundation, the CPH is estimated to have sent 3,446 health professionals to participating countries. These personnel have carried out over 96 million patient visits, saved 1.8 million lives in the poorest parts of the world and greatly improved the quality of life of many more. This level of provision is what many large international health development programmes can only dream of achieving.

The price of such success is, however, high to the individual practitioners who are deployed internationally, and the question remains whether such efforts are sustainable and scal-

able to reach more people. Availability of funding and resources however presents the largest obstacle to the CPH. These programmes are implemented in the most deprived countries in the world and consequently the facilities available to Cuban healthcare professionals are often poor, with frequent absences of essential drugs and clinical equipment. These problems have been minimised by increased efficiency, improved logistics and informed human resource management but there is no denying that there continues to be an absolute need for additional funding that cannot be generated by the deprived populations served.

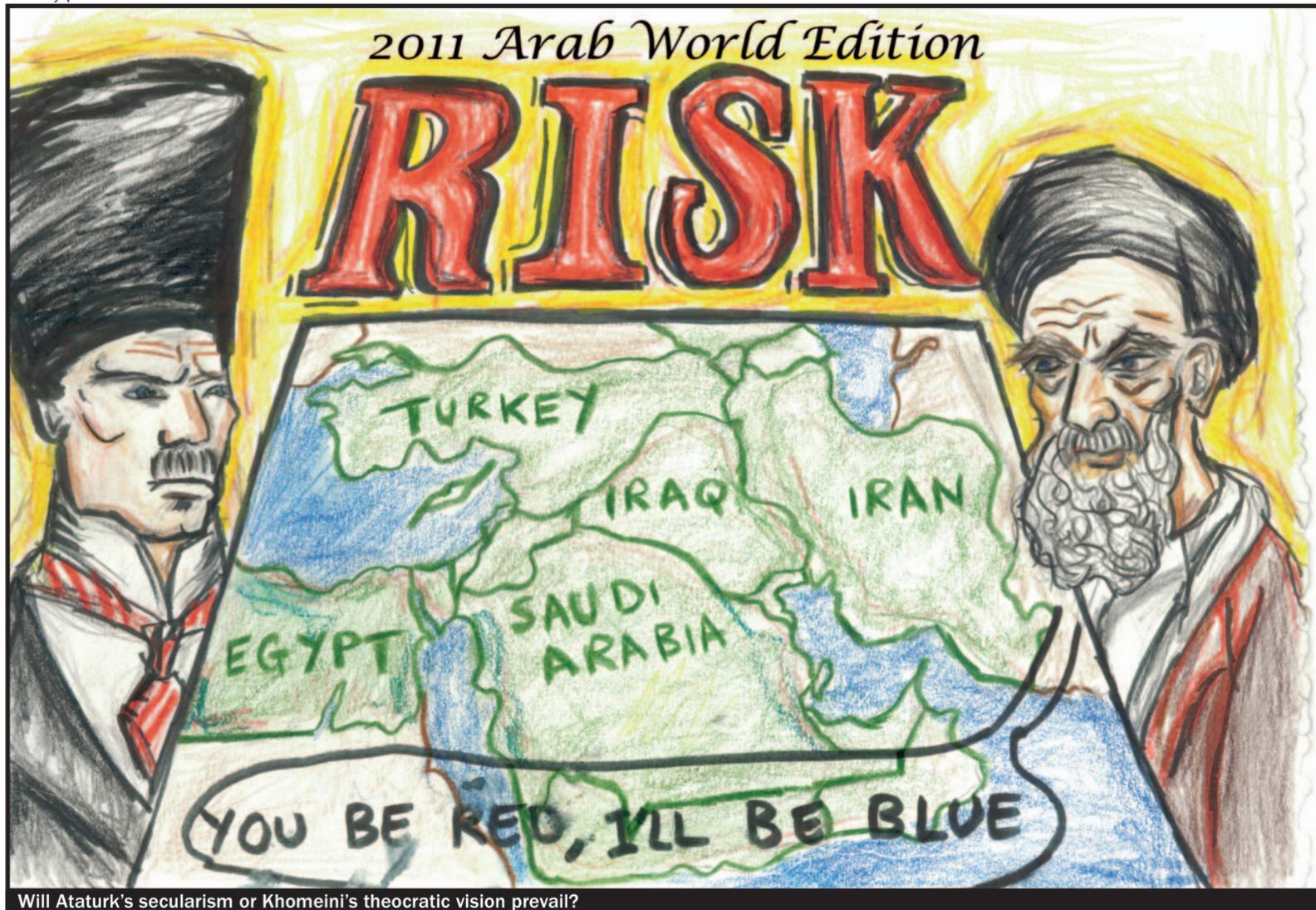
Unlike the usual aid and development programmes implemented by developed countries and large NGOs, which require significant investment and are largely vertical, running parallel to existing health facilities the Cuban approach of integrating health provision and strengthening existing systems has been the key to its success. Traditional health development programmes are often additionally limited by political alliance and ideology. Cuban programmes work in complete cooperation with the poorest countries embracing ideas of international fraternity and disregarding political agendas and economic interest. The question now is how do they begin to convince the rest of the global health community to implement such methods?

The "Developing Health Systems" conference will take place on 26th March at 9.30 in the Business School, comparing Cuba, the UK and others. More information at tickets available at www.imperialcollegeunion.org/medsin

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Rajat Jain

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Sarah Jeyaprakash



The Middle East protests are secular

Navid Nabijou argues that you can't claim the revolutions for Islam

Last Thursday, the Muslim Student Council hosted an event entitled: "Middle East: Revolution, Democratisation, and the End of U.S. Hegemony." The evening featured four invited speakers, talking about recent events in their home countries: Saeed Shehabi from Bahrain, Monjia Abidi from Tunisia, Kamal El-Helbawy from Egypt and Guma El-Gamaty from Libya.

Each speech (with the notable exception of Mr El-Gamaty's) consisted pri-

marily of a feverish, lengthy and somewhat tedious elaboration on the brutality of the dictatorial regimes. Whilst acknowledging these facts is important, the insistence on rendering them in such minute detail unfortunately lowered the tone of the evening to one of indignant victimhood.

A related problem – a touch ironical given the title of the event – was the homogeneity of the speakers. On almost all the major issues, the panel was unanimous: there was a total absence of healthy debate. This might have been forgivable, had the purpose of the event been simply to present the experiences of a group of fairly remarkable individuals. But of course this was not the case: the incendiary title, together with the overall tone of the speakers, demonstrated that the event was aimed at making definitive judgements. Unfortunately, the organisers failed to realise that any conclusion is meaningless when all the participants hold the same views. Indeed, there were several interesting and valid points made by the speakers; but with nobody on the opposing side to en-

gage with them, they could not acquire any legitimacy.

Take, for instance, the title's strident declaration of "the end of U.S. hegemony." A fairly strong argument can be put forward for the quasi-imperialistic nature of American foreign policy in the Middle East. But because everyone already seemed to be in agreement on this, none of the speakers even bothered. Rather than discuss and explore the background and nuances of the situation, the influence of America was simply a tacitly assumed (though not at all well-defined) fact. This was finally challenged in the far-too-short Q&A session, when a member of the audience made the very good point that the instigators, collaborators and beneficiaries of dictatorship in a particular country are themselves overwhelmingly citizens of that country. Unsurprisingly, this charge was not responded to adequately.

The evening had a religious slant from the start, even opening with the recitation of a Koranic verse. Several (though not all) of the speakers ex-

"These modern, liberal youth are overwhelmingly secular"

pressed their belief that the current uprisings are Islamic in nature. This is patently false. The disparate protests and revolutions currently spreading across the Middle East have just one thing in common: their youth. This vital demographic, frustrated from years of oppressive government and lack of opportunity, finally conscious of its own strength, has shrugged off its shackles and is leading the revolt against tyranny. Each of the speakers lauded the young people for their crucial role in the uprising. But these modern, liberal youth, along with the movements they represent, are overwhelmingly secular; they draw upon notions of national, not religious, unity. To claim the incredible achievements of Tunisia and Egypt for

Islam is at best misinformed, at worst plain malicious.

As mentioned before, the speakers did make a few fairly compelling points. Mr. El-Helbawy highlighted the hypocrisy of Western governments, which extol democracy while sanctioning the exclusion of particular parties from elections. Of all the speakers, Mr. El-Gamaty was certainly the most interesting and engaging. He spoke in detail of the impacts that events in neighbouring Tunisia and Egypt had on the Libyan people, and gave reasons supporting his view that Colonel Gaddafi would soon be defeated. However, due to the one-sided format of the event, these statements could not develop beyond the embryonic stage.

In the end, this event should serve as both a lesson and a warning: plurality; conflict and resolution, are essential for the development of a complete, robust view of the world. Groups of people assembling with the sole purpose of agreeing with one another should be wary that they are not taking the first steps towards their own delegitimation.

EVENTS

MedEd presents An Introduction to Tropical Medicine. Sunday 20th, 10am, SAF Building. Contact ard08@ic.ac.uk for more info and tickets: £5

COMMENT

Comment Editors: **Anna Perman**
Jan Piotrowski

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FELIX

Should Ethos be free?

When the Union President Alex Kendall said that using the amenities fund to subsidise alcohol was immoral, there was an eruption of anger. Postgraduate students rose to the defense of the amenities fund, and Kendall claimed that he was merely encouraging debate. The discussions about hall rents have almost entirely focused on this subject, but beneath the furore another, perhaps more contentious, question is being asked by the survey: Should Imperial continue to offer free gym and swim facilities at Ethos?

Imperial is possibly the only university in the UK that guarantees free gym access to all of its students. Although services like exercise classes or squash courts are charged, the state-of-the-art gym and pool facilities are not. Few students would ever be heard complaining about the quality of the facilities, and it is fair to say that the free access is a luxury.

In the context of the ongoing debate about reducing hall rents, one must ask whether it is worth keeping this luxury. Is it right that profit from hall rents should go to provide free gym access for all?

There are some very convincing arguments for saying No. Not all students who live in halls use the gym regularly and it's likely that many of them will use the gym only once or twice throughout their time at Imperial. Additionally, free gym membership creates problems in terms of usage; zero cost should logically lead to infinite demand. At certain times of the week, it seems as though this rule is adhered to literally. This crowding forces students to use the gym at unsociable hours or pay for private gym membership elsewhere. Raising the cost would dampen demand and therefore the congestion. Already we've seen measures put in place to address the issue of overcrowding. Members of staff (who pay for Ethos) now have allocated gym time on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Of course, these arguments can be countered with just as much strength. Staff members earn salaries and are therefore able to pay. There is no need to introduce 'economics' into gym overcrowding because it's already there; students who don't like using the gym when it's busy can go at different times or use a private gym (why penalise those who don't mind?) Do 1st years in Halls really subsidise Ethos? Well only if they all dropped out; a 3rd year using the gym 'for free' paid for it when he or she was in halls in their 1st year.

This is clearly only a taster of the discussions being had on the issue. But most importantly, we mustn't forget the value of free Ethos gym membership as a symbol. It is a luxury, no doubt, but we all feel some pride in being able to say that our university offers its students free gym membership. It's a feather in our collective cap – and that has real value.

Up is the new down

It's easy to keep your head down and get lost in your own world. Maybe we should all get a new perspective



Rhys Davies

Someone once told me that dogs can't look up. After the serendipitous, albeit not entirely legal acquisition of several dogs and the systematic placing of bones, dog food, and even cats on formidably high shelving, I at last determined that this was utter bollocks. But it got me thinking. Dogs can look up, but can people?

Well, of course, they can – the mechanical basis is there. I've spent many an hour manhandling anatomy skeletons into a variety of ungodly shapes and looking up is but one permutation. But out on the streets, it's hard to find any in vivo confirmation.

In fact, on the underground, it's practically unheard of. Commuters have gone several stops past their destination to save the public humiliation of having to look up as the station names, emblazoned upon the platform walls, flash by. I think it might be a defence mechanism, a throw-back to that stage of evolution when the human race was particularly vulnerable to having its throat ripped out. In looking up, we expose a very fleshy, very vital piece of anatomy, practically welcoming a good garrotting.

So resisting the urge to look up is a survival strategy, part of the "head down and carry on" mentality of the collective. Still, I think it's sad that a young woman under attack is more likely to receive help from passers-by if she shouts "fire!" than if she cries "rape!" It may have started as a means of survival, but keeping our heads down nowadays is beginning to work against us.

This is such a shame because I think people are missing out on something incredible, something you can only see when you look up. To make sure you get a really good gander at it, you need to go somewhere high, or open. Preferably both.

I can vouch for the top of the Queen's Tower and Hampstead Heath, they'll both do. Go up on a really clear day and you can see it. What are you looking for,

Ben Kennedy



The summer is almost here! Unfortunately so are exams... FAIL

you ask? Nothing.

I find there's nothing better than looking up at bright azure sky and seeing absolutely nothing, save for the faintest whispers of cloud.

For me, there is nothing more inspirational than a big fat nothing. Firstly, there are no boundaries, no limits, on a blue summer's sky. If the sky can't be fenced, why should I be? Break out, live dangerously, do something that scares people! Those people who say the sky is the limit just aren't thinking big enough. Secondly, it is the ultimate blank canvas. You could do anything on a clear sky, from playing about with sky-writing and making shapes out of the clouds to circumnavigating the world in a hot-air balloon...and a moustache. There's so much potential, it actually makes me tingle.

And I don't think I'm alone in this. Throughout the long, long annals of history there has not been a single person to

If the sky can't be fenced, why should I be? Break out, live dangerously, do something that scares people!

draw inspiration from their shoes (with the possible exception of Doc Marten). Newton was gazing up at the moon in his orchard when gravity struck. In school, Einstein day-dreamed that he was riding a star-beam.

It is important to look up, and not just to be inspired. Sometimes, it is important to look up, just to feel good.

I mean, how can we ever hope to be up-lifted if we don't know what things look like in that direction? Never underestimate the untold beauty that hangs above you. Unless it's raining.

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.

Our society is pretty tolerant of all lifestyles, right? Johann Hari recently exposed the rise of homophobic incidents in East London. The question is...



IS OUR SOCIETY ACTUALLY LESS HOMOPHOBIC?



Stuart Haylock

Although homosexuality was legalised in England in 1967, the views of the people in the UK hardly changed at all. Those who came out as gay, acted gay, or were even remotely 'metrosexual' were still discriminated against for many years. Over time, the work of groups such as 'Stonewall' and School's Out managed to promote anti-discriminatory laws and regulations, and the lives of gay people in the UK improved dramatically.

Schools however were a completely different story; being gay was synonymous with bullying and schools and the police mostly ignored it. For many years children were teased, bullied and even driven to suicide, and the police and teachers stood by and let it happen. Anti-homophobia campaigns in schools and the teaching of the past taboo subject of gay people have changed that, and schools have become much less tolerant of any form of bullying, giving children the chance to explore their own personalities, rather than the personalities that other people demanded of them.

My personal experience in school was far better than I expected, I came out as gay when I was sixteen in my final GCSE year. I was scared of what would happen thanks to things told to me by friends and stories in the media, but I was not bullied further than the occasional name calling of being camp (which is an understatement!). I understand this view is not the same for every school and every person in the country but I went to a state school in one of the toughest areas in east London, and felt safe. The only reason I didn't come out earlier was because of the scare-mongering that people in the media, like Johann Hari, do.

Overall, police also started taking homophobic hate crimes seriously too; they started getting reported when people finally realised that other people would listen. Statistics indicate an increase in hate crime, but this is due to people realising that they don't have to take that sort of abuse in this country, despite the media's constant barrage of warnings.

Many gay people in the media also claim that young kids use the term 'gay' as a derogatory phrase and are therefore homophobic. I argue that this is stupid and that they should get a life. The term 'gay' meant happy long before it was attributed to gay people. To quote Stephen Fry, "languages change and evolve just as animals do; to think that they should always stay the same is a fallacy". You can't argue that what young people say has any bearing on its original meaning, given that most kids don't even know the original meaning.

In summary, homophobia is not increasing amongst young people, only the media sees it that way and forces children to believe it. As soon as people realise that it's the media that sets these things off in the first place then maybe we'll see a better society overall.

"Hate crimes started getting reported when people realised that others would listen"

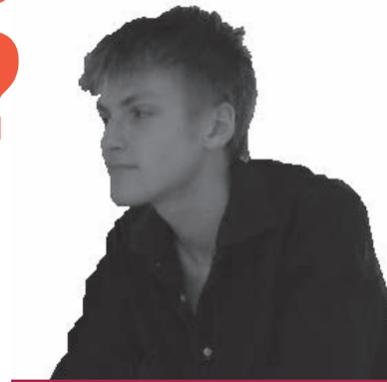
Twelve years ago, a nail bomb exploded in a gay pub in central London, killing 3 and injuring 70 more; nowadays the pub is regarded as an iconic landmark of the last in a series of attacks on the capital's minority groups.

Despite recent advances in LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender) rights in UK law, recent statistics on homophobic hate crime can be interpreted to show an increase in crimes against LGBT people. One in five lesbian and gay people in Britain have been a victim of one or more homophobic hate crimes in the last three years. Three in four of these did not report them to the police. These incidents ranged from regular insults on the street to serious physical and sexual assaults. While some argue that this is because the police have become more 'gay friendly' and approachable, campaigner Peter Thachell suggests "As more people come out they become more visible and more easily identifiable. I remember there was a similar backlash in the US in the 60s, a big rise in racist attacks in the wake of the civil rights movement."

Now if we're examining homophobia among young people, one good way is to look for relevant information within schools and colleges. Research in Stonewall's 'The Teacher Report' found that nine in ten secondary school teachers and more than two in five primary school teachers say children and young people, regardless of their sexual orientation, currently experience homophobic bullying, name calling or harassment in their schools. It's scary to think that almost 90% of teachers regularly hear the phrases 'you're so gay' or 'that's so gay' and other insulting homophobic remarks such as 'poof', 'dyke', 'queer' and 'faggot'.

In many cases these can be picked up from parents or celebrities (Chris Moyles' "gay" ringtone) who may be homophobic, or may just not understand that what they are saying is offensive, because unfortunately 'gay' is used as a catch-all negative; for anything from bad, wrong, weak, to pathetic, fake or overly-emotional.

This is why (despite what Melanie Phillips may say...), 'School's Out's attempt to introduce LGBT elements into the curriculum is important! One school in Stoke Newington has developed lessons on gay historical figures who suffered persecution, which has succeeded in "more or less eliminating homophobic bullying" in its classrooms and playgrounds over the last five years. The homophobia problem is even worse in faith schools, as columnist Johann Hari explains "Today, schools in Muslim areas like Tower Hamlets and across Europe are deeply reluctant to explain that homosexuality is a natural and harmless phenomenon that occurs in every human society: they know that many parents will go crazy. Tough." I could go on and on with my argument, but in summary: homophobia is rife among our youth, and unless we do something about it, this is not something which will change.



Chris Socha

"One in five gay people have been a victim of homophobic hate crimes in the last three years"

Whats wrong with the new generation?

Games. They're like gigantic, electric playgrounds. And like playgrounds, nowadays they're all tarmac and cutesy wooden houses for the reception kids to play in, whereas we were lucky to have a bit of rusty old pipe to play catch with. At least that's the impression I get from Alex Karapetian's article in Monday's Daily Felix, which seemed to imply that games are less engaging, less addicting and less related-to-cartoon-series than they used to be.

Despite understanding this point perfectly, I've seen videogames grow and evolve over the last decade into something unrecognisable. There are now large communities using them as art forms, engines for societal change, medical tools, learning aids, and most importantly a way to stave off boredom and entertain the mind. I'm happy to see gaming move on. Alex's point is representative of how he feels; how many people his age feels. But it shouldn't be a judgement on gaming itself.

To say that gaming has changed, and that we'll no longer have tacky card game tie-ins, is probably true. But to say that this is a bad thing, or a sign of a weaker generation, is wrong. My brother's generation, ten years behind me, bonds through discussions of guns and special forces, rather than swords and sorcery. But the fifty hours he spent honing his quickscoping is no different, really, to the fifty hours I spent running Final Fantasy VIII. And at the heart of it is still the same human enjoyment of playing.

What's exciting is that it's not just the upcoming newer generations who are shaping the medium today, but also people of all ages who are slowly finding the right games and platforms for them. As more people join, we're going to see even more diversification. But we'll all still be sharing in something that, psychologically, is very similar – playing.

So here's to moaning about the younger generation. But also a reminder that the games, like the kids, are alright.

Angry Geek

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THE 'UNSEEN SCIENCE' ISSUE

FEATURING INTERVIEWS WITH DR STEPHEN CURRY,
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Arts Editor: **Rox Middleton**

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ARTS

Afghanistan's magnificent heirlooms

Christina Flanagan

Afghanistan. What images are conjured up in your mind? The sad reality is that, for many of us, 3000 years of history has been eclipsed by 30 years of chaos. Fortunately the aim of the British Museum's exhibition *Afghanistan: Crossroads of the Ancient World* is to remind us of the country's crucial historic role as a junction of the silk routes between Rome, India and China.

I was initially disappointed by the exhibition. On entering, I was met by an array of Greek and Roman style pots and statuettes which, while adequately making the point that there was extensive contact between the Greeks and Romans and this part of the ancient world, didn't really bring it to life for me. There didn't seem to be anything there unique to Afghanistan. The accompanying displays brought the history a little more into focus. Once part of the Persian Empire, it was conquered by Alexander the Great who, as always, took a local wife, and so Afghanistan found itself on the Eastern

frontier of the vast Greek empire.

My impressions improved as I moved deeper inside as there are some really lovely pieces which epitomise this unique fusion of East and West – in particular a carving of the Greek goddess Aphrodite marked with a bindi, the traditional Hindu symbol of marriage, on her forehead, and a Roman glass enameled with a beautiful illustration of a Tiger. However, the third section is by far the most eye-catching. Gold abounds. This is the bling of three of Afghanistan's ancient nomad rulers, which they chose to be buried in. It is laid out exactly as it was found when archaeologists first entered their tombs. The haul includes the ultimate nomadic

"This is the bling of three of Afghanistan's ancient nomad rulers"

accessory: a portable folding crown of pure gold and loads more stunning jewellery. Even the gold appliqué which would have spangled their robes is carefully laid out alongside drawings which reconstruct the day's dress.

For me, the most interesting display came at the end of the exhibition and did not concern the ancient world at all. The stories of how Afghanistan's treasures were safeguarded during the wars and turbulence that have wracked the country during the past 30 years – Soviet invasion, civil war and Taliban regime – are very moving. The Taliban famously blew up Afghanistan's giant Buddhas, a series of rock carvings up to 50m high, after condemning them as idols. In order to evade such wrath, curators and archaeologists concealed film reels behind false walls, painted in watercolour over treasured oil paintings and stashed archaeological finds deep within bank safes.

The display features a set of beautiful ivory carvings featuring ornately decorated and sensuously posed women. They date from the 1st century AD and

were stolen from the National Museum of Afghanistan during looting in the early 90s. They were recently identified and salvaged abroad and, thankfully, following this exhibition they will be returned, along with everything on display, to the National Museum in Kabul, the motto of which is, "A nation stays alive when its culture stays alive."

The British Museum has clearly taken a great deal of care over this exhibition.

The atmosphere is good, dominated by full-wall photographs of the Afghanistan landscape, and there are some very shiny computer reconstructions. However, I find the student price of £8 maybe too much for the relatively limited collection on show. It is, however, worth noting that there are 2-for-1 tickets for students Friday 17.30 - 19.30.

At the British Museum until 3rd July

Thierry Olliver



I love my new belt buckle...

Somebody killed the show

Kelly Osborne

Sitting down in a dingy backroom of a pub in Camden, it seemed that we the audience were to play a more crucial role in this Hitchcock parody than previously anticipated. I turned to my 'Partner in Crime' and wryly noted that there were 13 members of the audience, indeed an unlucky number for the opening night of this performance. Over the next twenty minutes we witnessed the murder, not of a human being (it was clearly a red hand-

kerchief and not blood spewing from the actress's neck) but of the play itself.

The play was supposed to be a version of Hitchcock's classic *Dial M for Murder*, however this became condensed into a twenty minute slot with plenty of other Hitchcock references thrown in, which didn't allow the audience to comprehend the fairly complex plot. There were some redeeming points, including the good quality of acting from some of the cast and some legitimately funny

moments. However overall this seemed to be more of a technical run through than an opening night, with many of the sound effects being misplaced and the actors forgetting their lines. All in all there was a very rushed feeling to the performance, which ended abruptly and fairly inconclusively. So much so that the audience would have been unsure if there was an interval, had the cast not taken their bows.

Afterwards my partner and I sat in a

local authentic fried chicken restaurant chain and tried to solve the mystery of whodunit? Was it the fault of the director? The Actors? A lack of time to rehearse? Or was it the representation of the iconic Hitchcock film "The Birds", being reduced to a wig on a stick chasing the actors around the stage? I think so.

Dial L for Latchkey, Pelas Theatre Company was at Etcetera Theatre

Heart-warming sketches from St Trinians' creator

Cecily Goodwin

In 1969, cartoonist Ronald Searle's wife Monica was diagnosed with a particularly virulent form of breast cancer and given six months to live. She went on to undergo a series of experimental and particularly unpleasant chemotherapy treatments.

During this distressing period, Searle was determined to do something to support his wife and has claimed 'I have only my talent for drawing, so I drew'. The result is currently being exhibited, in association with many cancer and women's charities, in The Cartoon Museum under the title *Les tres riches heures de Mrs Mole*. These tokens of love and support were never meant for publication and consist of 47 pocket-sized images detailing the potterings of Mrs



David Cameron's Big Society (WARNING: May not be accurate)

Mole, the alter ego of Monica, about her provençal residence. The house in which Mrs Mole is seen drinking tea and champagne, arranging flowers and admiring views represents one the couple had bought a few months previous to Monica's diagnosis. Thus the life of Mrs Mole is the idyllic life she might picture and look forward to during her treatment.

Ronald Searle is regarded by many contemporaries, and indeed introduced in the exhibition, as the greatest living cartoonist. The illustrator of *Molesworth* and *St Trinian's*, he has also worked for many high profile magazines including *Life*. He began his career detailing the horrors of the WWII Japanese camps where he was held as a Prisoner of War for three and a half years. He still continues to draw, having celebrated his

90th birthday last year.

Searle's work is often associated with a darkly mischievous humour, as shown in the misbehaviour and trickery of the *St Trinian's* schoolgirls and in the *Molesworth* cartoons. As in all his cartoons, this collection wonderfully portrays the character of his subject, but in detailing the life of Mrs Mole, Searle only portrays peace and content in the possible future represented by the drawings. The cartoons are full of hope and light and Mrs Mole herself is delightful as she goes about her pastimes, planting, picking and arranging brightly coloured flowers, looking in her patchwork store and gazing at birds and butterflies that flutter about the terraces.

The exhibition ends with a cartoon not part of the series entitled 'The Beautiful Dream comes True in which Mrs Mole

flies towards the open arms of Mr Mole'. This was produced a few months before the Searles moved into their house in Provence previously only occupied in the cartoons by Mrs Mole. After 5 years of difficult treatment, Monica Searle had survived the cancer and they have been living there for the last 35 years.

The Cartoon Museum is charming, well worth a visit in itself, and an ideal location for this exhibition. Searle's distinctive and masterful style is shown in the cartoons but they are uniquely optimistic and uplifting. The collection of small drawings, personal tokens of Searle's affection and concern for his wife, is genuinely moving, and I would greatly recommend a visit.

At the Cartoon Museum until 20th March, students £3



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Saturday 19th March
In aid of
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Photo by:
ICU
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MUSIC

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

Album of The Week



The Streets
Computers and Blues
 2011

Mike Skinner's music is like Marmite, you either love **The Streets** or you hate them. You can however, hate them and over time learn to love them, which is exactly what happened to my opinion of **The Streets**, after listening to this new album *Computers and Blues*. I must say that this is an excellent album, considering I was expecting the worst. Typically honest lyrics are displayed with exceptionally smart rhythm, flowing almost like a rap with well thought construction of phrases, that gives the vocal line its distinctive **Streets** sound as I'm sure you've heard before. Progressing his UK garage sound over the years, this album puts everything in a far more optimistic perspective than previous albums: *Original Pirate Material* and *A Grand Don't Come For Free*. Looping pianos and synth-sounds provides its garage basis and mellow, feel-good choruses interject the speedy drum pad rhythms to come wonderfully together in a highly emotional piece of work. It is undeniable that **Mike Skinner's** work truly comes from the heart, and that is what music should be all about, not the money. So I applaud **The Streets** for their genuine, inspirational album, and for converting me to a future of enjoying their back catalogue, a hell of an album for **The Streets** to bow out on. **Luke Turner**

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

1. Radiohead
2. Daft Punk
3. Muse
4. Arcade Fire
5. The xx
6. James Blake
7. The Beatles
8. The Smiths
9. The Strokes
10. Kanye West

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

Make sure not to miss
Chase and Status

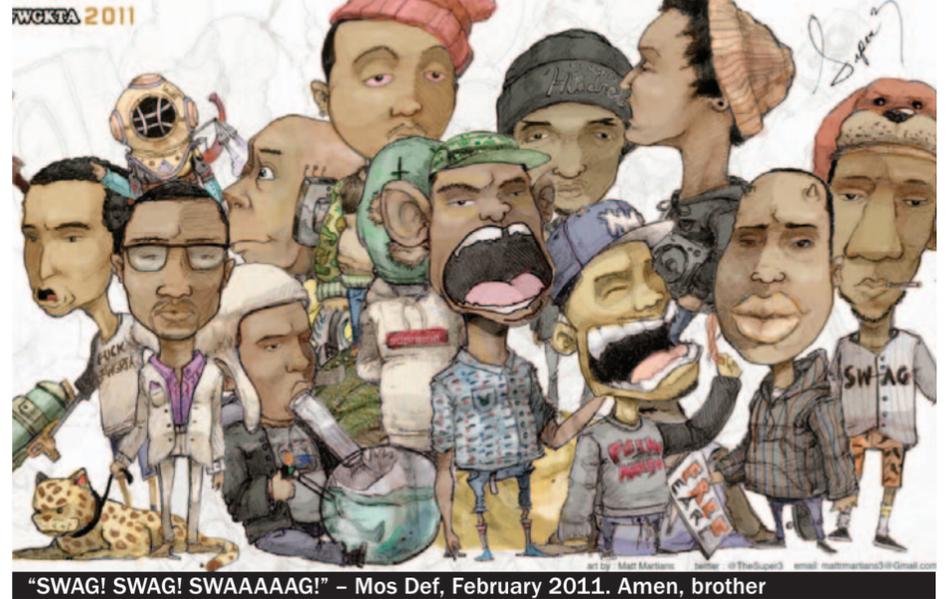
The Roundhouse
 Friday 11th March 2011 (tonight!)

This may be too short notice for such a mind-blowing gig, however, the terrible two-some will be tearing up the stage at The Roundhouse tonight with their drum and bass energy, wobbling dubstep bass and filthy synth sounds. Taking to the stage to showcase their incredibly successful album *No More Idols*, I wish you all luck in acquiring tickets. **Luke Turner**

Odd Future killed them all

Or how a bunch of teenagers are taking over the world

Art by Matt Martians, OF's resident artist



"SWAG! SWAG! SWAAAAAG!" - Mos Def, February 2011. Amen, brother

If you are even remotely interested in music, and regardless of your stylistic preferences, then there is a strong chance you have heard of **Odd Future Wolf Gang Kill Them All** by now (Odd Future for the lazy). If you have not, then you must be living under a rock somewhere with no wi-fi, phone or carrier pigeon service. Freak.

Over the past year this group of teenagers has been making serious ripples left and right all over the Internet. Case in point: since uploading his new single 'Yonkers' on YouTube just under a month ago, leader of the Wolf pack Tyler, The Creator has racked up 2,700,000 views on that song alone. Kanye West has finally spoken out about OF, proclaiming the insanely entertaining black-and-white video for 'Yonkers' - directed by the 19 year old Tyler himself - as the best video of 2011. It may be a little early for that sort of declaration, but Yeezy makes a serious point.

Odd Future is a collective of 17 to 23 year olds, making some of the most interesting music out there today. The most incredible fact about this band is that they have not sold a single record yet, despite releasing four mix-tapes and eight albums through the Odd Future Tumblr page. Consisting of rappers Tyler, the Creator, Hodgy Beats, Earl Sweatshirt, Domo Genesis and Mike G, Casey Veggies, singer Frank Ocean and producers Left Brain, The Super 3 and Syd the Kid, already have an insane back catalogue of 250 songs so far, most of which are sick.

For anyone not initiated to the group, I would say the best possible place to start is Tyler and Hodgy's first television appearance on Jimmy Fallon a few weeks ago. Since being broadcast the performance has been echoing throughout the interwebs. It is a raw, visceral rendition of their old hit 'Sandwiches', performed on a stage decorated with garden gnomes. Backed by The Roots (which in itself says enough about how huge these guys are quickly becoming), the two rappers hit the stage in skimasks, standing next to some random freaky chick dressed as Samara from the 2002 horror flick

The Ring. The set starts off weird enough, but when the chorus of the song hits (featuring a gang chant-like repetition of two words: 'Wolf Gang') it feels like a goddamn tidal wave. The video is a masterclass in how to execute a perfect first TV appearance, scaring the hell out of White America in the most offensive way possible. OF bring hip-hop back to the basics of what made Eminem so successful and exciting back in his heyday.

The Fallon appearance perfectly illustrates everything that is so exciting about Odd Future: they ally the twisted soul and energetic performance of metal with urban beats and clever (albeit over-the-top) lyrics. They aim to shock, and achieve this goal with bravado in an age in which we are all pretty much desensitised. I would go as far as calling them the new rock n' roll. Parents and religious authorities will forever hate them for the shocking descriptions of rape and carnage; kids will love them for their portrayal of teenage angst and the nihilistic, 'fuck it all' attitude that crowds flocked towards Nu-metal acts such as Slipknot

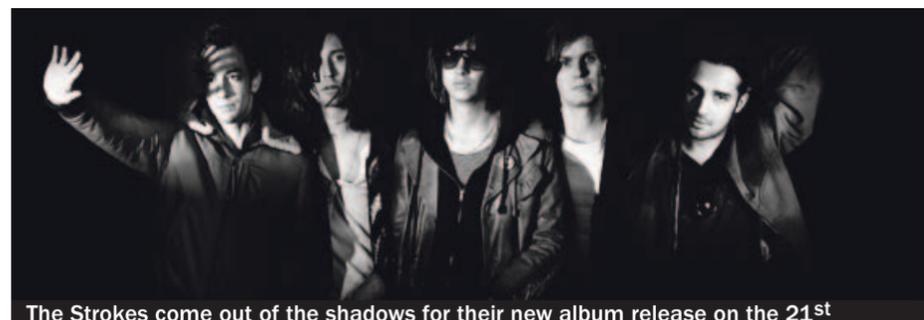
and KoRn for a decade ago.

Yet at the same time there is something unique and refreshing about them: as a collaboration-heavy collective, each member manages to exude his own quirkiness whilst the releases retain an overall cohesiveness throughout. Whether it is the 'dystopian weed-rap' of Domo Genesis, the pretty-boy gangbanger of Hodgy Beats or the mature lover crooning of Frank Ocean, each member has a distinct personality and sound that is communicated brilliantly, making each crossover collaboration all the more exciting.

There is no doubt that OF's rise to fame is going to be accompanied with its fair share of hype ('the new Wu-Tang' is being tossed around far too much) and the obligatory hipsters. But this time the hype is justified, and these kids have a tongue-in-cheek sense of humour that will keep them grounded. As for the hipsters, Tyler actively encourages the formation of violent mosh-pits at their gigs, so they probably won't stick round for too long. Their loss. **Greg Power**

The Strokes' new album is coming!

March 21st can't come quickly enough



The Strokes come out of the shadows for their new album release on the 21st

One of the most popular rock bands of the time **The Strokes**, have confirmed that they will be releasing their new album titled *Angles* on the 21st of this month in the UK via Rough Trade. There has been much speculation and anticipation of this album following their 2006 release, *First Impressions Of Earth*. Many snippets and samples of songs can be found on the net including the first release from the album, 'Under Cover Of Darkness'. Watch this space. **Luke Turner**

Diversity week 2011

14 -19 March



Culture Clash Film Night

Tuesday 15 March /18:30 - 23:00 / Huxley 308

We'll be showing Bollywood hit 'Wake Up Sid' back to back LGBT film 'XXY'



Rainbow Rave

Thursday 17 March /20:00 - 23:00 / Metric

A showcase of Imperial's finest musicians and stand ups. Wear as many colours as you can to win a prize!



Has Multiculturalism Failed? Debate

Friday 18 March /13:00 - 14:00 / Saf G16

Join us as we discuss the ever relevant conflict between the notion of immigrants retaining their cultural identities vs. integration.



Sports Day Hyde Park

Saturday 19 March /12:00 - 16:00 / Albert Memorial

Come to the Albert Memorial for a day of fun trying out tasters of different international sports as well as traditional English sport day silliness.

imperialcollegeunion.org/news



FILM

Classic Cinema

Fargo



Marge Gunderson, you're a real super lady...

Sometimes the Oscars are a little controversial. However, *Fargo* fully deserved the two it was awarded in 1996 for Best Actress and Best Original Screenplay. The film is the story, marvellously told by the Coen brothers, of a car salesman, Jerry. This salesman, played by William H. Macy, is strapped for cash and so hires two thugs to kidnap his wife for a ransom from his rich father-in-law. Now if ever I heard a plan which simply cannot go wrong, that's it.

After the death of three people, Police Chief Marge (Frances McDormand) starts investigating. She is not the clichéd wise-cracking super-cop found in so many films. In fact this film is, refreshingly, totally absent of cliché. She is a seven month pregnant, coffee-drinking woman who is in a genuinely loving relationship. She also happens to be a very intelligent policewoman, as she painstakingly investigates the triple murder. From the outset, she is depicted as very human. Her encounter with the crime scene reminds us of this as she suddenly switches from hungry to doubled over about to vomit and back again to hungry – the Coen brothers demonstrate that she is as vulnerable and hormonally maladjusted as any pregnant woman.

Subtlety is this film's watchword. The final message of *Fargo* is very easy to miss, and the tension and drama is not accompanied by massive crescendos from an overworked score. Instead, everything is derived from the exquisite screenplay, providing great dark humour and excellent characters. As well as the driven policewoman and the hapless car salesman, there's the belligerent businessman father-in-law and the two hired thugs. These thugs are another highlight of the film. One, played by Steve Buscemi, is hilariously described as "kinda funny-lookin'" and gets increasingly wound up as the plot progresses. The other, Peter Stormare's character, is depicted as a menacing psychopath who usually communicates through grunts and stares, and whose actions are almost exclusively threatening, violent or just downright unpleasant. The strained relationship between these two, typified by the one-sided conversation they have during the car journey to kidnap the wife, is a memorable source of constant tension.

The real beauty here is the understatement of all the drama: there are no huge explosions, no fast-paced adrenaline-driven car chases but it still manages to be a gripping and very human thriller laced with dark humour.

Guy Needham

Hammer Horror's predictable return

The Resident

Director Antti Jonkinen
Screenwriter Antti Jonkinen, Robert Orr
Cast Hilary Swank, Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Lee Pace, Christopher Lee

John Park

Why the two-time Academy Award winning, much-respected actress Hilary Swank thought she needed to do another cheap horror after the not so well received *The Reaping* is anyone's guess. But before you immediately dismiss this as another scare-free "horror" film, just know that the film is not without its moments, and although everything is predictable almost to an annoying level, creepy moments do pop up every now and then. Thankfully it's a relatively short film too – only around 90 minutes – so if you're willing to bear the frustrating moments for a few scenes that do truly pay off once in a while, this might be the laid-back, thoughtless entertainment we all need occasionally.

There are, of course, much better, much scarier films out there, and there is nothing original about the "haunted house" theme of *The Resident*. Creaky doors and odd noises are the least of Juliet's (Swank) problems when she moves into her new, spacious New York flat; its pricing suggests that it's too good to be true. It is in fact, since Juliet is very soon stalked by her psychologically troubled landlord Max (Jeffrey Dean Morgan). Whenever she drinks wine, sleeps, or takes a bath (these seem to be the only things Juliet ever does in her new flat), there is a disturbed pair of eyes, combined with heavy breathing following her through the intricately adjusted space behind the walls.

It's a good thing first-time film director Antti



Take out the goddamn trash!!!



Hilary Swank is hungry for nose

"This might be the thoughtless entertainment we all need occasionally"

Jonkinen doesn't spend much time trying to engage the audience in a guessing game. Anyone who has seen the poster will notice Morgan standing over Swank giving a scary, glaring look. If that is not a dead giveaway, it's hard to know what is. Plus the film doesn't even attempt to throw the viewers in the wrong direction with red herrings. We meet Max's grandfather (Christopher Lee) and although he is the classic 'creepy old man in a horror film saying ambiguous things that don't make sense,' it's clear his ailing body could not possibly keep up with psychotic activities. Could the cause be supernatural? Nope, because even the trailer disproves this theory. So the bottom line is, Morgan is the villain and there is no tension surrounding it.

Not a lot of explanation is given about Max's state of mind and obsessive personality. A few rushed flashbacks of disturbing images, newspaper articles and ominous voiceovers try to set up a history for him but it's not enough. To make an effectively disturbing psychopath, there needs to be plenty of sound, logical explanation, or none at all. Anything half-hearted doesn't work and begs the question of "why bother?" A few references to Max's messed up childhood don't explain a lot and are unimpressive to say the least. For a guy who must have been doing things like this for years, his methods can be shockingly careless at times, which adds up to more disappointment.

Lee Pace makes a pointless cameo appear-

ance as Juliet's on-and-off boyfriend and Christopher Lee's talent is also wasted here: the 88 year-old veteran is somewhat involved in Max's background story but that alone is not enough to justify his presence in the film. Pace has hardly any dialogue, and what he has is a very clunky, tacky set of lines delivered unconvincingly by the weakest actor in the cast.

Both lead actors are more than qualified for a film like this and they quite easily breeze through their roles. Swank's looks of absolute fear are effective, as are her expressions of shock and disgust as she begins to discover the dark secret that surrounds her new flat. Morgan's character has the tendency to show up out of nowhere, a well-worn technique used over and over again but oddly it works, largely thanks to the confined and grim nature of Juliet's New York flat. Max's sexually frustrated, predatory actions are captured well by the fragile-looking Morgan, and so despite the limited depth to his character, he keeps the tension going as much as possible thanks to bringing more to the screen than what the script originally required of him.

The Resident marks the wave of films signalling the return of the Hammer Film Productions Company, but as its comeback film, the new horror doesn't help its reputation. For an organisation that once dominated the horror market in the past, it's a disappointing effort, and doesn't come close to capturing the gothic-type atmosphere their best films are known for. Logic is the last thing you would find in a mindless film like this one, and although the gruesome final showdown that marks the film's climax that we knew was coming from the start is a wholly acceptable one, it turns out to be an unoriginal effort. It's predictable, and despite the good performances of its absolutely spot-on cast, they are largely reduced to something entirely forgettable.

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FASHION

Tisci to replace disgraced Galliano?

As rumours of Givenchy designer Riccardo Tisci as successor to the Dior throne grow, the industry reminisces about Galliano's legacy: **Saskia Verhagen** reports

After allegations of anti-semitic and racial slurs against a couple in a Parisian café, and the release of a damning video evidencing yet more abusive behaviour, John Galliano was dismissed from his role as designer for Christian Dior last Thursday. Although the fashion world has been rocked by the shocking events leading to his dismissal, fashion month, now at its tail-end, continued unhindered, and Galliano's final show at Dior went ahead on Sunday. Dior CEO Sidney Toledano prefaced the show with a speech about the values that Christian Dior has represented, asserting that they would be preserved by "the heart of the House of Dior, which beats unseen... made up of its teams and studios, of its seamstresses and craftsmen". It is rumoured that these *petites mains* bore most of the brunt of this final collection whilst John Galliano was battling his problems with alcoholism.

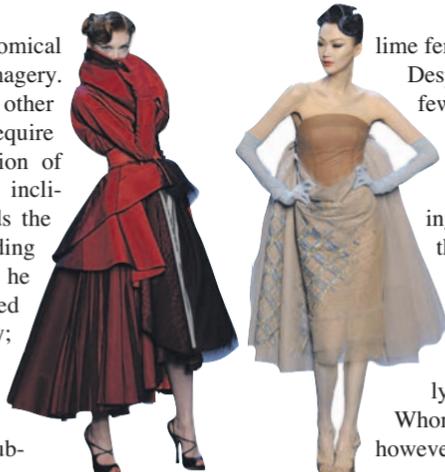
Following Galliano's ignominious fall, rumours have become rife as to who will be his successor. Amongst the contenders are: Stefano Pilati, designer at Yves Saint Laurent; Alber Elbaz, the celebrated designer behind Lanvin; Olivier Theyskens, who has previously designed for Rochas and Nina Ricci; and Haider Ackermann, whose most recent own-label collections have been received to much critical acclaim. The frontrunner, however, appears to be Riccardo Tisci, designer at Givenchy – the label which John Galliano spent two years designing for before moving to Christian Dior. Tisci will be familiar with the large number of collections expected at the great and historic design house, which turns 64 this year. Christian Dior sends out two ready-to-wear collections as well as two couture collections; most design houses no longer create the expensive couture collections that arguably maintain the essence of the particular design house's aesthetic. However, amongst the most traditional brands that still produce couture, which include Valentino and Chanel, Givenchy remains one of them, which places Tisci at huge advantage.

Some commentators seem concerned by this potential choice, however: WWD claims that Tisci's aesthetic is "perhaps too dark and brooding for the global behemoth that is Dior." His previous collections for Givenchy (far right) have drawn comments about his gothic fascinations, he himself cited Frida Kahlo as an inspiration for his Fall 2010 couture collection which contained re-



John Galliano at the end of his final couture collection (below) for Dior

ligious, anatomical and deathly imagery. Dior, on the other hand, will require some modulation of the designer's inclinations towards the dark and brooding aesthetic that he has developed at Givenchy; Dior is a house famed for traditional elegance and sub-



lime femininity.

Despite this, there are few doubts about Tisci's level of craftsmanship. Famed for his notoriously painstaking attention to detail, the "ultimate in artistry and femininity", which Toledo paid tribute to in his speech, will certainly be maintained.

Whomever they choose, however, this is an exciting

"With few other designers considered his equal, his absence will be felt acutely; many have been sympathetic to his demise"

opportunity for change at the House of Dior, and evolution of a brand is unavoidable and ought to be celebrated.

Galliano will still be sorely missed as one of the fashion industry's real heavy-hitters. With few other designers considered his equal in terms of talent and influence, (Karl Lagerfeld, Jean Paul Gaultier and Giorgio Armani arguably make up the rest of fashion's 'old guard') his absence will be felt acutely; many have been sympathetic to his demise. Says Suzy Menkes of the International Herald Tribune: "The pressure from fast fashion and from the instant Internet age to create new things constantly has worn down other famous names. Marc Jacobs, design director of Louis Vuitton, ended a wild streak in rehab. Calvin Klein famously rambled across a sports pitch and admitted to substance abuse. And the late Yves Saint Laurent spent a lifetime fighting his demons." Hilary Alexander of the Daily Telegraph was shocked at his behaviour but added, "I am not for a moment excusing his behaviour. There will come a time when he must confront the viper in his breast. But right now, this is a moment in his life when he needs support and love from the industry he has given his life to."

His swansong, however, was disappointing. With only a few comprehensive looks that really paid tribute to Galliano's talent and mastery at Dior, his final collection left something to be desired. Tim Blanks at style.com com-

mented that perhaps a ready-to-wear collection was not a proper farewell for Galliano, "it was a pale testament to the extraordinary work the *ateliers* have done for Galliano over the past 14 years. The proper tribute would ideally have been one of the Dior couture shows, where the extravagant drama of the designer's soaring imagination was evenly matched by breathtaking workmanship."

There is no doubt that John Galliano's behaviour was unacceptable and that he is in need of help and rehabilitation for his problems with alcohol. Previous disgraces in the fashion industry, especially amongst its most brightly shining stars, have not been uncommon. Pictures released in 2005 of Kate Moss snorting cocaine led to her being dropped from numerous advertising campaigns; Galliano is now employing Gerald Tyrrell, the lawyer whose help Moss enlisted at the time. Tim Blanks remarked, "The only precedent for this situation is Coco Chanel's post-war denunciation as a Nazi *collaboratrice*. Her exile from the fashion world lasted nine years."



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/>.

Shellshock Live shellshocklive.com

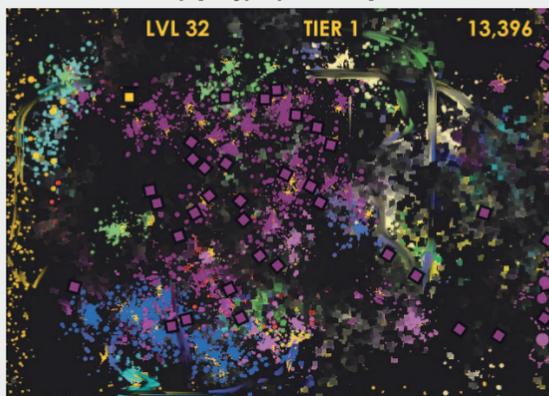


Do you remember the DOS classic *Scorched Earth* or like the idea of *Worms* but can't condone the waste of good fishing bait? If so, you're gonna love this multiplayer Flash artillery shooter. You and up to five friends (or strangers) can battle it out in tanks, taking it in turns to fire all manner of bullets, grenades and even heavy drilling equipment at each other.

Rather disappointingly victory is awarded on points alone so there aren't any exploding tanks to be found, but watching foaming teenagers rage quit after the third subsequent air strike is satisfying enough. The weaponry on offer is varied and plentiful which means the classic issue of never getting to use the fun guns isn't a problem here. Get some friends (or enemies) together for the ultimate experience.

BattlePaint

ironswine.com/play/1/battlepaint



In this top-down shooter, making a mess is the order of the day. The floor is splattered with the coloured innards of every cube you rip into so the more it looks like unicorn vomit the better you're doing.

The simple premise is brought to life by the graphical effects, and although the game starts pretty slow the pace soon picks up as enemies appear in ever bigger numbers. Plus, you'll feel the panic when approaching enemies disappear amongst the colours!

Make games, it's important!

Michael Cook

IC.HACK began life as a partly-implemented codebase for another game, called *Dungeonsque*. I'd been writing it as part of TIGSource's 'VERSUS' competition, where over sixty people developed games with a player-versus-player element in the months of February and March. I had a three-hour train ride ahead of me, and I sat down with some sample code and bent it all into shape. A few hours later, I have day one of *IC.HACK* ready and some words for you to read.

Hopefully you got a chance to play the game that came out of last week's romping through videogame development. If you did, and if you read the articles that go along with it, you might have found things a bit lacking or hollow in places. That's because game development is hard, and try as you might you can't get much done in a week. I slashed everything I could out of the development schedule, and managed to get some big, juicy core components into the game by the end of the week, but if last week's articles achieved anything, it was merely to show that it could be done, not that it could be done well.

So why was I so eager to write these articles and try and fire up some interest in development? It's not because games development is an easy ride – it combines so many skills, from art to creative writing to programming, that the chances of you being even average at all of them are astronomically small – it's because having gamers make games is really important for the health of the gaming world.

I can't think of a comparison that is suitably pretentious, but if I were that kind of guy I might liken it to speaking a language. As many of you will know, particularly those for whom English is not a first language, keeping a language alive means using it often, bending it into new shapes and finding new uses for it. In the same way, we keep gaming fresh and lively by having people hacking out insane ideas in their spare time. Ideas that could never, ever, ever work in a million years – but then do. Pro-



cedurally generated worlds of lego-like blocks, games that you control by shouting into a microphone at different volumes, games about hosting orgies to gain in the stock market.

As much as we might hate games like *Farmville* and its ilk, they have a role in the world of gaming – they bring new people in, teach them to play with friends and help them feel happy to talk about games. The teen-focused worlds of high-pace shooters (which I'm beginning to realise I am too slow to play any more) also help to keep gaming sexy and exciting to the world media. And the indie scene, always rumbling along underground no matter what goes on elsewhere, is a furnace of exciting new ideas. And it always needs more firewood.

So it's going to take a bit of sweat and tears to get close to a really good finished game of your own, if you're interested in such a thing, and *IC.HACK* is in no way an example of one of those. In fact, since finishing *IC.HACK* I've put aside the project that spawned it – *Dungeonsque* – in a fit of procrastination, so that I can

start on another pet project on the side. That's a few weeks of spare time just archived in the blink of an eye.

So why do it? It might benefit gaming, but that's not why you're going to want to give up your Saturday morning. Chances are you'll do it because it's fun. Surprisingly good fun. In fact, every time I get a new prototype working or get a little dot moving on the screen for the sixtieth time that week, I get a little burst of excitement. That sense of botching things, muddling through to success and solving the problems that come up along the way seems, for me at least, to tap into the same reason I enjoyed my degree work in the first place.

Not so much of a postmortem as a heart-to-heart, eh? For more game development goodness, hook yourself up to the TIGSource community at www.tigsource.com, and feel free to e-mail me whenever for help, collaboration or commiseration – imperialgamedev@gmail.com. Thanks for taking part, and thanks to all those who e-mailed last week.

A summer software success story

James McCormac

Pandco Ltd. began life with a simple idea; they wanted to change the world of gaming. And after that idea turned out to be insane, they decided to try and make a pretty good iPhone game instead.

Pandco was formed last summer because my brother had too much time on his hands, no internship, and felt that forming his own limited company would be more productive than recompleting *Final Fantasy VII*. The jury is still out on whether he was right, but the result is that the world now has an awesome new iPhone app called *Hard Hats*.

The basic idea of the game is that crazy floating balls have taken control of your construc-

tion yard. We were never quite sure what led them to this decision, but we do know that you have a strong desire to get your construction yard back... and you have a wrecking ball to hand.

You smash as many floating balls as you can before your time runs out, being careful not to snap the wrecking ball's string. Earn 'hats' to power up your wrecking ball (yay, another game to earn hats in) and unlock new power-ups as you move up the ranks. If you are good enough you may even get to see the top rank, and the mystery Easter egg that comes along with it!

The only way you will get close is by hard work, determination, and searching for 'Hard Hats' in the App Store!



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FOOD

Gastronomical Musings

Dana says:



If all new mothers looked like this...

After a week or two of general exclamation and disgust, and a widely uttered question: "Would you, wouldn't you?"; The Icecreamists' stock of breast milk ice cream has been seized by Westminster council because it's "not safe". I'm not sure about you, but I judged silently as retweets and facebook reports flooded my newsfeed. Excuse me as you try to prove your awareness of non-Imperial going-ons but I read the news on the day it was published. I divulge...

Although the Baby Gaga delicacy (although I wouldn't really say so myself) is no longer available thanks to the council (who knows, they might as well be dudes who can't be bothered to fork out for their fetish for bodily fluids), I don't think I would have. You might as well suck it from the source. As long as you have consent...

The producers of the dessert are well accustomed to the media glare. These are the people who made Sunday Lunch into a three-course sundae meal for £16.99. Breast milk ice cream, no way in hell. Matt O'Connor, founder of The Icecreamists, said he wanted to "create something with a real taste of Britain". Breast milk ice cream, yeah.

Look for this voucher every week to enjoy kickass waffles at Wafflemeister for the next month and a half – you know you want to...



Foodcycle: save food, save us

Ankoor Patel encourages you to get involved with them

This began when she said "Hey, I've got this lab report to finish and I don't have time to finish that article for Felix. Can you throw an article together instead?"

And I said, "Yea, sure".

F**k! Writing a Felix article is a lot harder than I thought! Are there times to ignore a hot blonde? Yeah, sure, this was one of them. But I'm from Imperial and even after years of university (eight!) I still haven't learnt anything helpful. OK, enough whining! My granddad always said, "Once you've put yourself in an embarrassing situation you will figure out how to succeed." This article won't be witty but it'll talk about a damn good idea and that should be enough. I need to talk about FoodCycle.

FoodCycle is an odd group of super enthusiastic, super-students that fight crime and work for humanity. You can see some members in the union Every Sunday afternoon cooking food for refugees. It is served to the refugees on Monday at the Notre Dame Drop-in Centre in Leicester Square. And they love it. They re-

"FoodCycle is an odd group of super enthusiastic, super-students that fight crime and work for humanity"

Mad about Scandinavia

Nigel Kheng Wei Hehn and Ricki Calel review **Madsen**, a Scandinavian restaurant in the heart of South Kensington

Getting tired and sick of the same old fast food? Here's a change for your taste buds going into the toughest second term of your life.

Madsen, the Scandinavian restaurant located in the heart of South Kensington answers all foodie-related questions about our Northern neighbour's cuisine.

With modern furniture and Scandinavian cookbooks neatly arranged on bookshelves, the red dining area coupled with blues music gives off a relaxing and comfortable vibe. Even before tucking in, it is hard not to notice the impeccable food presentation. Their famous *Smushis* (cold starters served on rye bread) are so delicious you wish that you could have it as your main too, especially the locally sourced Kassler ham selection that's dressed with simple salad crème. The selection of herring fish as



Cooking dinner for moi? Just dinner?

ceive stir-frys, curries, veggie bakes, biscuits, fruit crumbles, salads... Did I mention it's all veggie food? But it is good. (And we don't actually fight crime, see foodcycle.org.uk).

However, we are running a raffle this week! Tom Aikens, one of the biggest names in London's high end dining scene, will cook dinner for a few lucky winners on 21/03/11. His services normally cost £150 but you can eat his food for as little as £5. Buy a raffle ticket from tiny.cc/AikensDinner. Tom is not only donating his time and experience but also all of the ingredients needed for your dinner. In addition,

Whole Foods Kensington are providing their kitchen and restaurant for the night and all the wine for your meal. The dinner will be a culinary feast so don't miss it!

I joined FoodCycle ages ago when the group was just beginning at college and I had suddenly "a lot of extra time in my week". The idea behind FoodCycle was easy: get food that would be wasted by shops, cook awesome meals with it and give those meals to people who need them. We've now served over 6,000 meals!! The average household chucks out £680 of food a year. (Do you remember that awful flat you once lived in? And remember that guy who never cleaned his pots and left half-eaten bowls of pasta?) The whole retail industry manages to waste almost 400,000 tonnes of edible food. FoodCycle works with shops to reduce the mountains of wasted food from the retail industry. (Buy a raffle ticket at tiny.cc/AikensDinner!)

But FoodCycle is more than feeding people and reducing food wastage. I joined because it was something with open possibilities; you could do anything you want. You could throw massive parties to recruit volunteers, open a student restaurant or sell raffle tickets to raise funds. Find out more about Foodcycle on foodcycle.org.uk where you can see all the other universities involved and learn how to play a significant part in the operation.

Buy your tickets to enter the raffle at:
www.tiny.cc/AikensDinner

well as the honey mustard herring in particular, gives a whole new meaning to taste and texture.

Seeing as how this is a Scandinavian eatery, you cannot dine without the world famous meatballs! Unlike typical IKEA meatballs, Danish ones are far more succulent and juicy. Served with potato salad and deep fried carrots, this dish is the highlight of the day. Madsen's next speciality is the fresh breaded plaice fillet. Fried to a tempting golden-brown shade, served on toast and topped with salmon and other seafood delights, it is a sheer stroke of perfection. The prawns, however, were less fresh, but one can hardly blame them as almost all prawns in the UK are of the frozen variety. Definitely try the beef patty on toast with pasteurized egg yolk. The yolk gives the tender patty extra depth of flavour and besides, who doesn't like yolk?

To complete your Scandinavian experience, the Danish apple trifle is a must that will answer all cravings for Christmas trifle! Layers of stewed apple, cream and Amaretti biscuits makes this the best way to end your meal.

Madsen Restaurant 20 Old Brompton Rd, London SW7 3DL. www.madsenrestaurant.com. 50% off at iconnectimperial.com



Meatballs, where art thou in my life?

The *Nando's* Health Service

Omar Hafeez-Bore shows us how chicken is not just a finger lickin' good sensation

Everyone seems to love Nandos. This makes actually writing about the place a health hazard, so violent would the backlash be from a negative piece. On the potential-trouble gauge used by Felix writers it is only topped by 'Doing a Review of the Rector's Face'. The situation for me is even more risky, living as I do with one flatmate who would inject peri-peri sauce into his veins if he could, and two others who would happily settle for just showering in it.

But I can deal with them. What I can't deal with is the 20% discount Nandos gives to NHS staff. Is this some kind of unspoken governmental policy to attract workers to the NHS? Or is Nandos just positioning itself alongside Health as a pillar of Britain; along with Education, Military and Stephen Fry? Now I don't doubt that the discount leads to fewer deaths at the hands of distracted, spicy-chicken-craving nurses. But the underlying message is clear: Nandos is not merely a popular high-street eatery, but a cog in the machinery of society itself.

Under this kind of pressure it's almost easier to crack and just rip Nandos apart. I could be the cool, counterculture hipster who is, like, so not mainstream in his culinary taste. Or the broadsheet food critic who judges restaurants against strange, metaphysical standards against which the actual food is too crass to consider.

Instead I ate at Nandos as just my normal awesome self. Being a thorough professional, I went three days in a row, and consulted with Nasif Mahmood and Ali Kirresh, the famed Nandos Gurus. I visited both the Bayswater and Shepherd's Bush branches, and consumed in total about two whole chickens, a loaf's worth of garlic bread, a truckload of chips and enough peri-peri powder to be locked up for substance abuse. And you know what? You can definitely have too much of a good thing.

Or so I've heard. Personally I'd go again right now if I could because Nandos. Is. Delicious.

Like, crazy tasty. I hardly need to whip out the ol' palette of adjectives, as few reading this will need any description of the succulent, flame-grilled taste that Nandos has down pat. I might as well describe the colour red. Less well-known are the accessories to a meal that are available; the spicy 'perinaise', the creamy mashed potato, the veggie pita mains and the choc-a-lot cake dessert ('lovely' according to my sauce-injecting flatmate). Personally, I favour the frozen yoghurt machine due to my chronic, debilitating dairy addiction



Who wants some chicken? I want some chicken. Give me some chicken. Buy me some chicken. Eat chicken now.

“Is Nandos just positioning itself alongside Health as a pillar of Britain; along with Education, Military and Stephen Fry?”

(don't forget to play the who-can-bite-into-a-spoonful-of-frozen-yoghurt-for-the-longest game!).

But the chicken is the thing, and that distinctive flavour has its own legacy.

For a start the peri-peri powder and

sauce is actually made from the African Bird's Eye Chilli of Mozambique. This was a fiery revelation to the Portuguese community that settled there, who later headed to South Africa during the 20th Century gold rush, their spicy-chicken recipes in tow. Still serving said recipes in 1987 was a place called Chickenland in Johannesburg, which was bought by two impressed businessmen and renamed Nandos after one of their names (FerNANDO LOLZ!). Oh and apparently 'peri-peri', as legend has it, was a Portuguese boy's mispronunciation of the much loved chilli called 'pili-pili' in Swahili. Good man.

I can confirm none of this. But frankly, if it was found out that Nandos chicken was flame-grilled in the fires of hell by the devil himself, people would still go. They'd feel bad and all, they'd 'Like'

the Facebook groups made to argue against the insensitivity of using Satan as a spokesman and all that, but guiltily they'd still go and choose Nandos chicken and Nandos comfort.

Because that comfortable atmosphere is something to be reckoned with.

Do not underestimate the joy in being able to pick your own sauces, and stand them on the table like glass totems erected in honour of your spice-hardiness. Nor undervalue the way you order food in units of chicken (1/4, 1/2 or whole), thereby removing the embarrassing eating-out guessing game of which of the strange foreign words will actually give the biggest portion. And certainly do not ignore the primal pleasure of eating with your hands in a rustic, wood-craft environment, tapping into deep psychological wells of warmth and homeliness.

These are what define the Nandos experience, as much as the food itself. It is wondrous alchemy, a combination of small things that combine to make a reliably good eat-out.

But what really makes Nandos the jewel in the high-street crown, is the variety of people who actually eat out at this eat-out. Does any other restaurant chain have as wide an appeal? Black guys visit because it's like the spicy Jerk Chicken they love (Well, Chipmunk says so) whilst health-conscious business yuppies go because grilled chicken fits in with their protein regime. Children adore the bottomless DIY drinks, teens treat it like a trendy upgrade of the fried-chicken shops they are used to and Pakistani families like the Halal meat used in over 50 of the 233 UK Nandos restaurants.

Correction: Pakistanis love the Halal meat. As a Birmingham-born-an'-raised (half-) Pakistani I actually lived through a major culinary revolution caused by Nandos. Whilst previously the average British Muslim's experience of mainstream chains was an intimate knowledge of McDonald's fillet-o-fish, the opening of a halal Nandos in the Pakistani-packed Star City complex in Birmingham created a fervour never seen before or since. Whole communities would flock to the branch *en masse* as if practising for pilgrimage. People would revel in being able to eat the non-vegetarian option at a *bona-fide* non-Asian restaurant. Wizen elders could drench their chips in Extra-Hot and just pretend it was an alloo curry whilst second generation youngsters could join in their office socials without having to get their meat fix from the kebab shop on the way home. And though everyone from KFC to GBK have now jumped on the halal band-wagon, it is their original saviour they remain most loyal to.

As far as high street chains go, Nandos is a success. It has sunk into the British palate slowly and steadily, without compromising its reliably high quality, high-taste food. Most importantly, it is a success enjoyed by all, and one hard to begrudge when the service is so friendly and its loyalty card is so rewarding.

As I started; everyone seems to love Nandos. And so they should.

P.S. I am aware of the debate over whether Nando's chicken counts as Halal by proper criteria, but have yet to investigate. This article is in no way an endorsement of Nandos' Halal-ility, only its deliciousity.

Nandos nationwide.
(Ed - Just how we like it. I have an immense Nandos craving now...)



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TRAVEL

Breathtaking beauties of Bolivia

I know you'd rather hear about cocaine, but instead **Christopher Walmsley** discovers some of the other countless wonders this fascinating country has to offer

Perhaps best known for its exports, the landlocked South American country that takes its name in honour of revolutionary Simón Bolívar is lesser known for its tourism. Indeed Bolivia does remain a rather unknown quantity to many outside of the narcotics trade. There is a story that Queen Victoria once avenged her embarrassed diplomat to the country, after realising that it was far too inaccessible to attack, by simply declaring 'Bolivia no longer exists'. Despite this snub and with a little notoriety gained from the book *Marching Powder* this country has become a well trodden destination on the continent's Gringo trail.

Flying in to El Alto Airport, the highest commercial airport in the world, is a rather unique experience. Descent begins, and suddenly appearing through the cloud below you is the mountaintop runway that you feel comes out of thin air. And so a short drive down from the

"Bolivia does remain a rather unknown quantity to many outside of the narcotics trade"

plateau is La Paz. It is a city in a bowl, surrounded by mountains, the most impressive of which being the snow capped Mount Illimani.

As acclimatisation didn't seem to have hit too hard (probably soothed by the recommended local tea) we decided to press on south to the now desolate town of Uyuni. This town was once the hub of rail transportation for the region as the mining industry channelled their goods towards the Pacific. Its collapse left Uyuni as a rather drab backwater, with one convenient benefit that now attracts 60,000 visitors every year: It is a particularly good base to start on an expedition to see the great salt flats and lagoons that Bolivia should be famous for.

There are some generic routes that these tours tend to take, and we chose one that would take three days, but in reverse so that we would witness sunrise over the vast white expanse of the salt flats on the final day. Before venturing into the wilderness the first stop was a short drive to the town's outskirts to see the train 'graveyard', the final

All photos by Christopher Walmsley



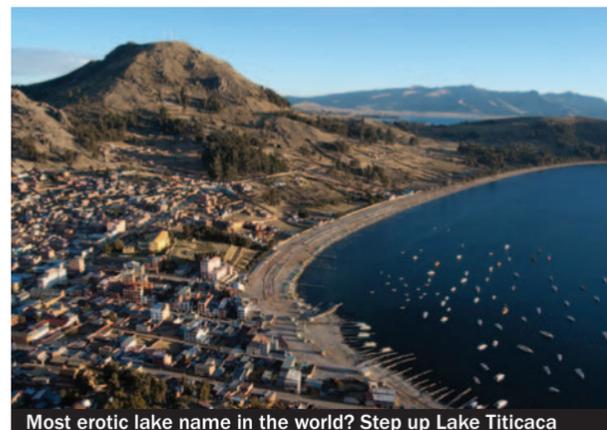
What were you expecting? A photo of Charlie Sheen banging 7 gram rocks? Well I'd like to see him bang some of these rocks...



I think they heard you were coming....



Photoshop eat your heart out!



Most erotic lake name in the world? Step up Lake Titicaca

it was perfectly coordinated with its serene inhabitants, Andean Flamingos.

The next day saw us continue through more Martian scenery that to me seemed far more akin to the red planet than any Hollywood depiction I'd seen. This was interspersed with seeing some putrid geysers and a bath in a natural hot spring. Then there was the Laguna Verde, with its pigment derived from copper minerals. Sadly I was beginning to take all of these fantastic natural wonders with a sense of normality. Driving on we saw more wildlife in the form of one of the llama's cousins, a group of vicuña leisurely ascending the rocky bank parallel to the Landcruiser.

Waking early on the final day was magical. Leaving the cold lodgings (completely constructed from salt) we ventured on from the edge towards the middle of the Salar de Uyuni, and the sun began to rise over the high altiplano casting stark, stretching shadows across the crystallised white surface. This is the

"Sadly I was beginning to take all of these fantastic natural wonders with a sense of normality"

remains of a prehistoric lake, a salt desert, completely white with only distant mountains. It strips you of any sense of distance or perspective, which incidentally can be used to create some rather novel photographs. After another long journey back from Uyuni to La Paz and a squashed trip onwards to Copacabana in a local minibus, the coast of the world's largest navigable lake was reached: Lake Titicaca. This lake was the spiritual home of the once great Inca Empire, who believed that the island of the sun was the birthplace of their most sacred god.

Although the island is easily visible from the mainland, it took a dreadfully long time to reach because the boats were frustratingly slow. The island itself is a rather harsh rocky outcrop littered with Inca ruins, sacrificial tables and all. It's easy to independently trek along the rugged spine of the island, or take a detour to follow the coast before reaching the departure port village to watch another fantastic sunset. From here I returned to the mainland and skirted across the border into Peru.

resting place of the mining boom's locomotives. It's rather strange to look at these dilapidated vehicles: now they are nothing more than scrap, but in their day were the sign of modern technology penetrating the region.

For the next three days we traversed some of Bolivia's most breathtaking scenery, of arid rocky formations, doused with sand and sprinkled with sparse green shrubbery. The intense sun and deep blue sky may have given the

illusion of warmth, but several layers were duly required to fend off the chilling temperatures. We ventured further south towards the Chilean border and soon arrived at the Laguna Colorada. With its waters surreally coloured red

HANGMAN

hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Twitter



SexyOsama69

You guys given up anything for lent?



SUPERACEGORTHEROAR87

I've given up Cleggman



The_Cleggmatortrontown <3

What?



SUPERACEGORTHEROAR87

Did you guys hear something?



SexyOsama69

I've given up my beiber fringe



Cameron_DA_Maneron!!!

Noooo! We all agreed not to lose the Bieber fringe till after the concert



SexyOsama69

yeah, but I've lost my straighteners. Plus Bieber doesn't even have a beiber fringe anymore :(



willyoujoinmymiliband?

I'm giving up my breakfast routine



Cameron_DA_Maneron!!!

Sprinkling coke on your special K?



willyoujoinmymiliband?

The wife doesn't want the kids to catch on

DRUNKEN MATE OF THE WEEK

Send your photos to felix@imperial.ac.uk. For triple-WIN, send them to the Daily Mail

To all; Grammer? and, spelling nerds

Title is killing you isn't it.

Are you a spelling and grammar Nazi? You know what I mean. Do you judge people when they use the incorrect spelling and grammar? Most of you probably are, as you are intelligent. It wouldn't make sense for someone who doesn't know anything about a subject to lecture others on it. It would be like Colonel Gaddafi lecturing us on sanity (BOOM – TAKE THAT Colonel). I bet the sight of "should of" when it actually should say "should have" will cause you to go into bouts of anger faster than Chris Brown outside an award ceremony. I bet you cream yourself silly when you see an error while browsing the BBC news website. Wow, you need to get laid. Or at least start watching porn, I'm sure there is some out there that starts with a teacher showing a class of 6ft 2" guys and bleach blonde women how to use an apostrophe. One guy couldn't get the concept, so she kept him after class. Crazy thing is, she didn't even explain it to him again. They just ended up having sex in 10 different positions. Weird...

Some people are just very proud of their grammatical abilities. The type of person I am referring to is the type that go out of their way to use a semi colon, as they feel like a grammar bad-ass when they use one.

When you think about it, it doesn't make any sense. Essentially, grammar and spelling is just a bunch of made up rules aren't they. However, I, like you, am a hypocrite. I don't mind being a hypocrite; we all are about something (BOOM, I used a semi-colon *does the grammar bad-ass dance...) If you say that you are "not a hypocrite" then you are a hypocrite about being hypocritical.



"Nein! Nein! Nein! The titles are incorrect!" "Chillout B&W Hitler, it's intentional..." "NEIN!"

I bet this is the most times you've seen the word hypocrite (there's another one) in a paragraph.

However, when a lecturer sends me a poorly worded email, or an email with English that doesn't quite make sense, it denigrates (yes I used a thesaurus to find denigrate, and what?) any intellectual point they are making. If a member of staff does this: point out the mistake, correcting it in your reply. This email should be cc'd to the entire university and should end with "get your grammar game in check biatch." Gotta keep it hood... obviously.

It all depends on the scenario. If something is informal, it is acceptable to be lazy about full stops, capital letters etc. People already do this, and there are distinctive groups that they can be placed into. I have done this for you, as that's just how I roll. The place to see this is, where else, Facebook. So here are the types of Facebook users:

I know you all voted Hangman for Felix Editor, who wouldn't? What do you mean I wasn't listed? That's it, I'm going all Gaddafi on this one (it can't be 'too soon' if it's still ongoing, right?)

The... King... Of... Suspense...

Every single thing written by this person ends, starts or includes an ellipsis. Literally... everything... is... so... suspenseful... see how annoying it is? If you do it, stop it. I can't bear the suspense. What will the next part of the sentence be? Will they eat ANOTHER doughnut? They already ate three, one more would be madness.

The grammar obsessive

This person will rarely update their status, write on someone's wall or comment on pictures. This is because they are not confident enough in their own grammatical ability to actually commit to clicking the share button. When they finally do, they realize an errant comma and so they delete it. If they do bring themselves to keep it, they will use their best friend, the star, to correct the error. This is a completely normal thing to do.

*OCD thing to do.

The textspeaker

Y do u tlk lyk this. We r not 10. N dis is not msn msgnr. U luk lyk a fcking twat.

Most of the words are only one letter shorter. Why the fuck would that be in any way easier or better. Is your time that precious that the second you save is really worth looking like a dickhead for? It doesn't make you look street either; do you think gangstas update their statuses with a smiley at the end? Do you? No, gangstas send out group emails.

The f**king censoring c**t

Example: "I can't f-ing believe this s**t"

Let me see if I can crack your code. Is that supposed to say "I'm a gigantic prickfeatures." It wasn't? Oh, well it fucking should have.

There has to be a mention for the person who puts "thinks" or "is" or some such in every status. They really are clinging on to the past, but nostalgia has never hurt anyone. Except for that time I was thinking about the past in the middle of the road and got hit by a bus.

Special mention also has to go to the name signer. As we couldn't tell who it was from the name, or the photo next to said name, or the fact that we actively added you because we know who you are. So luckily their initials after the wall post helped clear up the confusion.

There is a message to take away from this; grammar is important but it's not the end of the world when someone misses out a comma. Holy shit did you just see that? I just used a semi colon correctly! I am a grammatical badman.



Thom Yorke demonstrates the 'grammar bad-ass' dance (hat is optional)

THE NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS

Road sign takes Libyan rebel by surprise



DRUNKEN MATE OF THE WEEK



Yeh! Who needs Transport for London anyway? Take that Bob Crow! Fuck the bus! This guy is rolling easy...

Horoscopes

Aries

This week, you do a proper clean on your carpet. I mean, a shit hot proper job. You detergent the hell out of that bitch. You scrub it like it doesn't know who its daddy was. You use stain removal like he's bouncing on 22s on the West Coast. You... You... take this joke too far.

Gemini

This week, you're very aware of the space underneath your bed. As you're lying at night in the darkness, dark thoughts swirl in your mind about what could be hiding there. You hear a noise and pick up the courage to take a peek. It's Charlie Sheen making out with P. Diddy...

Leo

This week, you're really looking forward to the end of term. Especially because of the Royal Wedding. You get over-excited and cover your entire house in Union Jack bunting. Your housemates are annoyed but philosophical: "Hey, at least you didn't shit on my pillow." You did...

Libra

This week, you're outside the JCR looking at people suspiciously.

<_<

>_>

<_<

You silently fart. The wind blows it away. You win, again.

Sagittarius

This week, you're hooked on the Union's live voting stats page when you notice something disturbing. You literally have no life. You go on Facebook, no-one's on chat. They must be 'outside' or something. You cry, and click refresh. Oh a notification! It's a spam invite... Oh.

Aquarius

This week, you're smoking some crack on the Queen's Lawn, when the Queen comes over and starts bitching about "it's my lawn" yadda yadda. You stand up, jab her in the eye and then deliver your killer line "Monarchy this" before kicking her in the face.

Taurus

This week, you're getting all nuanced and shit outside McDonalds when... What does "getting all nuanced" mean? Phsst, if you don't know THAT then I've got no time for you. It's a swag East London term that you *obviously* aren't cool enough to have heard of.

Cancer

This week, Barclays block your account due to a security breach. When you finally resolve the matter you find out that fraudsters cunningly placed a live parrot on your shoulder. The parrot has recorded all your information for the last 4 months. WHY DID NO ONE TELL ME!?!?!?

Virgo

This week, you pick up your toaster and your radio (who the fuck owns a radio?) and head over to the bathtub to commit suicide. You jump in. Nothing happens. You forgot to plug them in, douchebag. The Burger King Man finishes you off with Charlie Sheen's shrivelled balls.

Scorpio

This week, you're terribly upset about the quality of the candidates running in the ICU Sabb elections. Not a single one has got naked, covered themselves in whipped cream OR showed up on my door ready and willing to go down on me... I mean, *goddamn!*

Capricorn

This week, it's the morning, which isn't particularly interesting or exciting. Except THIS morning there's a gorilla on your bed. It's wearing skinny jeans and it wants you to go party in Brixton with it. Before you can respond it jets off into outer-space. Damn happy pills...

Pisces

This week, you're queuing outside a club when some girl pushes in front of you. You pull out a knife and stab yourself. As you lie on the pavement, bleeding to death, you cry out, "FUCK YOU BITCH!" At your funeral, the consensus is that it was a bad move...

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

puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk

PUZZLES

Last Week's Solutions

The Serpent

1				9	10	11			
2	3	4		8		12	13		
		5	6	7			14	15	16
									17
	28	27	26		22	21	20	19	18
30	29		25	24	23				
31									
32			39	40	41	42			
33			38			43			
34	35	36	37			44	45		

The red square contained the number 26. The Imperial campus map shows that 26 corresponds to the Queen's Tower, where the Editor was being held.

Nonogram

			1	2	3	1				6			
	3	3	4	2	1	3	4	2	7	7			
6													
2	3												
1	1	3											
4													
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3													
1	3												
3	2												
4	3												
5	3												

Daily Cryptic - Monday

N	A	R	R	O	W		S	C	R	I	P	T		
E	O	P	P	P	E	L								
C	H	A	P	E	R	O	N	E	S	Q	U	I	D	
T	S	R	R	R	I	T	I							
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R	T	A					C	G						
	S	O	C	I	A	B	L	E		M	I	R	T	H
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U	O						C	A						S
M	E	X	I	C	A	N		T	U	S	C	A	N	Y
E	I	R	E	I	T	R	S							
N	O	O	S	E	R	O	O	S	E	V	E	L	T	
	U	S	V	N	R	A	E							
T	S	E	T	S	E		G	Y	P	S	U	M		

Crossword

Across

- Plant with dense clusters (8)
- Of Sir Keith O'Nions (8)
- Clear soup (8)
- Hawaiian island (4)
- Hormone secreted by isles of Langerhans (7)
- Identical person (4,6)
- Campaign on paper (8)
- Requested date (5,3)
- Priority (5,2,3)
- Passing reference (8)
- Attack furiously (8)
- Not doing anything (8)
- Mirror-like (8)
- Car manufacturer (7)
- Transportation vehicle (4)
- Decider (3,7)
- Typify (5,3)
- Texas city (8)
- Broadcast (2,3,3)
- One of group of beauty and hygiene products (8)

Down

- Plant with dense clusters (8)
- Of Sir Keith O'Nions (8)
- Clear soup (8)
- Hawaiian island (4)
- Hormone secreted by isles of Langerhans (7)
- Identical person (4,6)
- Campaign on paper (8)
- Requested date (5,3)
- Priority (5,2,3)
- Passing reference (8)
- Attack furiously (8)
- Not doing anything (8)
- Mirror-like (8)
- Car manufacturer (7)
- Transportation vehicle (4)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				9			
10							
				11			
12			13			14	
15	16				17	18	19
				20			
21			22				
23					24		
				25			
26							
				27			

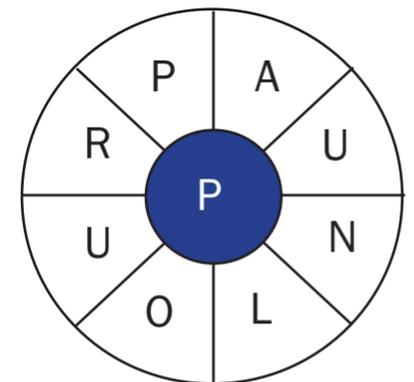
Wordoku

		3	4				
			8	1		4	2
6			7				
4		5					6
	8						
1				2		7	
			3	4	7		
9				1		8	
7	1	5		2			

This week's wordoku is one of the most hilarious things you have ever seen. Alas, I can only communicate in numbers due to too many equations.

Word Wheel

TARGET: 14



Make as many words of at least 4 letters as you can, always using the central one. **NO** plurals, conjugated verbs, comparatives or superlatives, because I said so.. There is always at least one 9 letter word.

Battleships

Ahoy mates, battleships is here for fans of pirate based logic. You have to fit all of the ships to the right into the grid, with one piece taking up one square (so the biggest ship takes up four squares in a row, either vertically or horizontally). The numbers outside the grid indicate how many pieces of ship are in that row or column. Ships are not allowed to touch, not even diagonally. Some squares have been filled in for you, with waves of the sea where there definitely is no ship.



1 0 4 2 3 3 0 3 3 1

				≈						
2										
3										
1										
2			●							
2										
2	≈				◐					
2										
2									◐	
3										
1										
2					≈					

- 1 x Aircraft Carrier
- 2 x Battleship
- 3 x Cruiser
- 4 x Destroyer

Puzzles Editors: **Polly Bennett**
James Hook
Aman Nahar
 puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk

PUZZLES

Last Week's Solutions

Daily Cryptic - Tuesday



Daily Cryptic - Wednesday



Daily Cryptic - Thursday

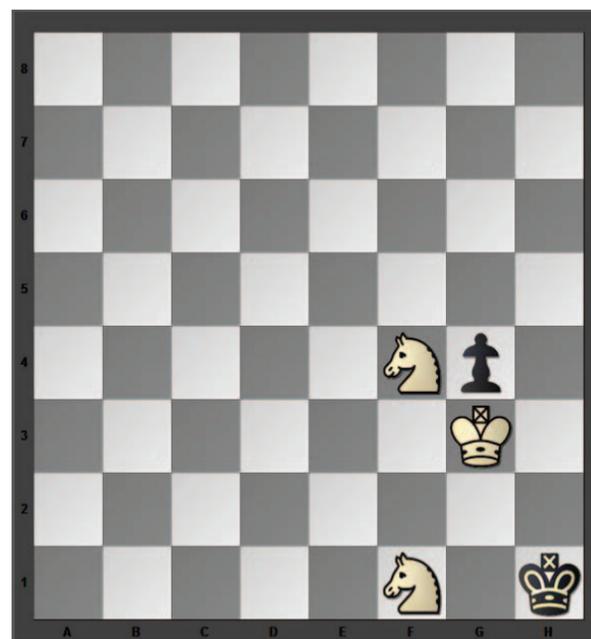


NumberCross

			8		1	21
8				3	5	21
	5	6		0	5	32
			9		2	24
9		1		1		31
7	7					24
37	32	24	28	16	26	31
						24

The missing numbers are integers between 0 and 9. The numbers in each row add up to totals to the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals along the bottom. The diagonal lines also add up the totals to the right. GO!

ChessSoc Chess



White to play and win

Anagrams

Find the anagrams and the letters in the positions underneath spell out a related word. Aren't y'all lucky?

- HICTAPTAE
5th, 8th
- YTDOILRA
3rd
- GADNUIL
4th, 5th
- PAGORTANSIC-RINT
7th, 15th
- ZOSEN0
1st

ANSWER:

Sincere Apologies



In Friday's issue of The Daily Felix, the grid for the Cryptic Crossword in the Sports Section was printed incorrectly. This was no fault of either the Puzzles Editors or the Sports Editors. I wholeheartedly apologise for this mistake and I will endeavour to ensure that it is not repeated. The crossword has been reprinted with the correct grid this week (Page 35).

Editor

ICU photosoc PRESENTS

2011 Annual Photography Exhibiton
 15-24 March
 Blyth Gallery, 5/F Sherfield Building

Opening reception
 15 March (Tue) 6:00pm
 Sushi and refreshments will be provided

ICU photo5oc party

PhotoSoc's 105th Birthday Celebration Party
 18 March (Fri) 8:00pm
 Activity Space 2, IC Union

Early bird tickets: (by 16 March)
 £2 (members); £4 (non-members)

Tickets include 2 free drinks and 1 disposable camera

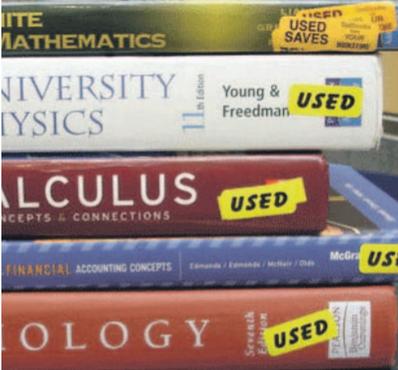
Members are welcomed to bring one friend along

RSVP photosoc@ic.ac.uk

CLASSIFIEDS

To place a free advert, please email felix@imperial.ac.uk

Felix accepts no responsibility for items/services bought/sold
Deadline for adverts is Tuesday midnight



ACCOMMODATION

Room to let: Battersea

Available first week of April.
15 minutes from campus (Rosenau Road, SW11 4QU.)
£450 per month (+ bills of approx. £40 per month)
Sharing three bedroom flat with two Imperial PhD students.
Email Alonso at: alonso.castillo-ramirez09@imperial.ac.uk

Double room to let: Fulham

"Very modern"
£115pw + bills.
Fully furnished, with desk.
Sharing with 2 female UG's and a male grad.
Available now.
E-mail Mark at: mark.brodie06@imperial.ac.uk

Two rooms to let: Notting Hill Gate

Maisonette with flat screen tv and modern kitchen.
£200-£230 per week.
Available immediately.
Email as1304@ic.ac.uk

Female flatmate wanted: South Ken

Female PhD student looking for tidy, responsible, relaxed, non-smoking female to share twin bedroom flat.
£130 per week.
Two minutes from South Kensington tube/ 10 minutes from campus.
Contact Helga on 07922579808 or email at gudo.j.la@gmail.com

Double room to let: Charing Cross

Across the road from Charing Cross and 7min walking from Hammersmith Underground.
Sharing with two penultimate year medical students.
Three bedroom flat, large living space and garden (ideal for summer BBQs).
Room available from beginning of July.
Rent is negotiable.
Email Vanessa at: vanessa.sivam88@googlegmail.com

TUTORS

Want help with Engineering Maths?

Am a M.Sc.(RMFE)student
Have completed Telecom Engineering (with 92% marks in Engineering Mathematics)
Contact: Mayank.goyal10@imperial.ac.uk
07815692552

LOVE

Send us your adverts. It's a great way to reach a large number of readers and hopefully find what you're looking for. For now, enjoy these (fictional) lonely hearts entries.

Men Seeking Women

Reclusive World of Warcraft supremo looking for hedonistic East London girl for eye-opening and mind-altering experiences. If interested, come to level 4 of the library, I'm there 24/7.

Men Seeking Men

Sailor hunk looking for Charlie Sheen lookalike to exchange 'tiger blood' and do some 'bi-winning' in the bedroom. If interested, bang 7 gram rocks and post on youtube. I'll find you...

MISC

iPad for Sale

£380 (price negotiable)
16GB WiFi
2 cases
Email Sorin at: sc1210@ic.ac.uk

Bicycle: Brand new Viking Sprint 2010

£230
Suitable for heights between 5ft 8" and 6ft 2"
Contact Andy on 07515632949 or email at a.mccrow08@ic.ac.uk

iPad for Sale

£320
16GB WiFi
Email Charles at: cb403@imperial.ac.uk

Post online!

You can also place free adverts online! Simply head to iconnectimperial.ac.uk, create an account and post on their online marketplace!



SPORT

Felix Sports League



sponsored by

ERNST & YOUNG
 Quality In Everything We Do

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Index
1 Fencing W1	9	9	0	0	1210	607	603	5.00
2 Fencing M1	10	10	0	0	1229	919	310	5.00
3 Table Tennis M2	11	11	0	0	156	31	125	5.00
4 Water Polo W1	8	7	1	0	102	24	78	4.63
5 Volleyball M1	11	10	0	1	22	4	18	4.18
6 Volleyball W1	11	10	0	1	21	4	17	4.18
7 Basketball M1	12	10	0	2	917	735	182	3.50
8 ICSM Netball W1	12	10	0	2	493	312	181	3.50
9 Lacrosse M1	11	9	0	2	154	85	69	3.36
10 Tennis M1	12	9	1	2	84	60	24	3.25
11 Table Tennis M1	12	9	1	2	84	60	14	3.25
12 Basketball W1	9	7	0	2	464	348	116	3.00
13 Netball W1	13	10	0	3	546	367	179	2.92
14 Squash W1	11	8	0	3	31	12	19	2.55
15 Hockey M1	12	8	1	3	46	25	21	2.50
16 Rugby M1	14	10	0	4	344	191	153	2.43
17 Hockey W1	13	9	0	4	67	24	43	2.23
18 Lacrosse W1	9	6	0	3	110	64	46	2.00
19 Table Tennis W1	6	4	0	2	20	10	10	2.00
20 ICSM Football M1	9	5	1	3	28	18	10	1.67
21 ICSM Hockey W1	20	10	3	7	54	48	6	1.40
22 ICSM Rugby M3	10	6	0	4	252	266	-14	1.40
23 Football M1	13	7	1	5	34	20	14	1.31
24 Badminton W1	13	7	1	5	44	60	-16	1.31
25 Hockey M2	12	5	3	4	22	26	-4	1.25
26 Football W1	7	4	0	3	19	19	0	1.14
27 Tennis W1	7	4	0	3	42	42	0	1.14
28 ICSM Hockey M3	7	4	0	3	11	27	-16	1.14
29 Netball W3	9	5	0	4	291	217	74	1.00
30 Hockey M3	11	4	3	4	17	13	4	0.91
31 Badminton M1	11	4	3	4	44	44	0	0.91
32 Fencing M2	10	5	0	4	1122	1128	-6	0.90
33 ICSM Hockey M1	10	5	0	5	25	20	5	0.50
34 Netball W2	12	6	0	6	445	483	-38	0.50
35 Badminton M2	10	4	1	5	43	37	6	0.20
36 ICSM Hockey M2	11	3	3	5	19	29	-10	0.09
37 ICSM Netball W2	11	5	0	6	341	360	-19	0.09
38 Squash M4	6	2	1	3	8	7	1	0.00
39 Ice Hockey M1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
40 ICSM Football M3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
41 Lacrosse W2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
42 ICSM Football M2	5	2	0	3	14	16	-2	-0.40
43 Fencing W2	10	4	0	6	1142	1170	-28	-0.40
44 Fencing M3	10	4	0	6	1146	1201	-55	-0.40
45 Football M3	11	3	2	6	22	30	-8	-0.45
46 ICSM Badminton W1	9	2	2	5	32	46	-14	-0.67
47 ICSM Badminton M1	10	3	1	6	24	56	-32	-0.70
48 Squash M3	9	3	0	6	17	26	-9	-1.00
49 Tennis M2	10	2	2	6	40	79	-39	-1.00
50 Hockey W2	12	3	1	8	13	41	-28	-1.25
51 ICSM Rugby M1	11	2	1	8	144	427	-283	-1.82
52 Water Polo M1	3	0	1	2	23	30	-7	-2.00
53 ICSM Rugby M2	12	2	1	9	200	438	-238	-2.00
54 Rugby M2	14	3	0	11	194	356	-162	-2.07
55 ICSM Hockey W3	5	1	0	4	4	17	-13	-2.20
56 ICSM Hockey W2	10	2	0	8	21	42	-21	-2.20
57 Rugby M3	10	2	0	8	71	357	-286	-2.20
58 Hockey M4	11	2	0	9	15	32	-17	-2.36
59 ICSM Badminton M2	6	1	0	5	16	32	-16	-2.50
60 Squash M2	12	2	0	10	16	44	-28	-2.50
61 Rugby M4	8	1	0	7	59	325	-266	-2.88
62 Football M2	12	1	0	11	14	36	-22	-3.25
63 Squash M1	7	0	0	7	5	30	-25	-4.00
64 ICSM Netball W3	9	0	0	9	186	352	-166	-4.00
65 ICSM Netball W3	7	0	0	7	134	257	-123	-4.00

5 points for a win | 2 points for a draw | -4 points for a loss

Guilts rugby day trip to Oxford

Max Joachim

C&G Rugby

C&G 44 - 29 Balliol College

After a convincing win over the RSM last term, the City & Guilds RFC took on Balliol College, Oxford in the annual Gin match. It was to be a day of records; the most number of referees seen in a rugby match and the greatest number of bottles of Gin drunk in one evening. The authoritative word of vice-captain Graeme Ridler stated that the team would meet at 11.50am only for Ridler himself to arrive late.

Upon safe arrival in Oxford, we swiftly made our way to the ground only to discover that no changing rooms were available and, more im-



portantly for Messers Joachim, Jinks and Hill, no toilets. The game finally got underway after a two hour delay. It soon became clear that both teams wanted to play fast-flowing rugby with the C&G having the upper hand in the first half scoring another 3 tries by Nicholas Johnstone and two tries by Scotsman Michael O'Connell who added an extra two points with a difficult drop-goal conversion.

At half-time with C&G leading 24-0, the referee who was also the Balliol captain decided to get in on the action and handed over refereeing duties to another player. The second half was a much tighter affair with the hosts finally putting together some good moves. Strong running by their 8 and 10 saw them dot down two

tries to close the gap to 24-10 but soon after O'Connell took his chance to seal his hat-trick. Balliol still didn't give up but the fierce C&G defense held fast, led bravely by Jinks who made a number of crunching tackles.

Tries by Ridler and Tom Beswetherick rounded off a 44-29 victory for the mighty C&G, not before a third referee was brought into the fray. The victory meant that C&G remain unbeaten this season.

Man of the Match went to Jinks whilst Chris McGeough reclaimed his beloved 'distinctly average performance' trophy. Johnstone snatched the Twat of the Match award for attempting a ridiculous drop-goal kick, a trait he has inherited from his brother.

Ice Hockey: Double win for B team against Cambridge

Will Mason

Ice Hockey

IC B's 5-3 & 6-1 Cambridge

The Devils were confident going up against the bottom-of-the-league Cambridge, but remained cautious after their previous close call with Oxford Women's.

The game saw the Devils with the first 3-line roster this term, and some changes to the individual lines. This clearly paid off as the Devils' first line opened with a goal by Liljegren (23), assisted by Barakat (11) and Nolan (53), 1 minute into the first period. The game was still open and both teams were still learning the play leading to a goal for Cambridge after a defensive mistake. Line changes were occasionally fumbled, but the Devils' Forwards took advantage of the more inexperienced Cambridge Defence to dominate the play. The Devils racked up 4 more throughout the first period by Walther Buel (87), Grabham (80), Barakat (11) and Jones (40). Constant pressure prevented Cambridge from leaving their zone and setting up any play, odd breakaways were ably turned away by Devils' Defence.

Cambridge came back in the second period with a new-found energy and challenged the Devils far more. Play went end to end and the puck was heavily contested. Devils' Forwards

fell foul of the referee for physical play, but despite three separate penalties the Devils refused to concede on the Penalty Kill. With the final penalty ending in the third period the Devils were back to 5 men and had an opportunity to make up for the goal-less second period. Sadly this was not the case as the Devils slowly disintegrated from lack of energy. Unnecessarily long shifts and sloppy changes were causing the Devils to lose focus and Cambridge seized the chance using a breakaway to outskate the Defence and score. Still in the lead, this did not serve the wake-up call the Devils needed and Cambridge managed another shortly before the game was out. Overall, a win for the Devils; but with the negative goal difference from the Spitfires still against us a 5-3 win was not enough. Player of the match was given to Goalie, Gemma Bale (84).

A hand-picked team of two lines with the confidence of a previous win under their belts and ably supported by Bench Coaches Matt Dolan and Tim Runcorn (numbers 28 and 36 of the A-Team, the latter also club President) stepped on to the ice with the game in their hands. Immediately the Devils could sense Cambridge's trepidation and despite their attempts to hide it the Devils pounced. Another early goal for Imperial, Barakat (11) scored on a breakaway after 4 minutes of fairly open play to set the

tone for the match. This was followed up with 3 more in the first period; by scorers Jones (40), Liljegren (23) and Barakat (11) again.

A confident first period, but the Devils were determined to score again and maintain momentum unlike the previous game. Wise words from Dolan and Runcorn saw the team with the bit back between their teeth and ready for Cambridge who appeared to have just warmed up for the second period (much like before). The Devils maintained the upper hand but play was slowly degrading into coarse physical contact and bad passes. Defender Matt Nolan (53) fought through to score his maiden goal of the season, but this spurred Cambridge on. The Ref appeared to turn a blind eye to the girls' indiscretions and there were cries from the bench of foul play but the Devils soldiered on until a forced defensive error let Cambridge put one in. Outraged the Devils next line took to the ice and scored in return, a hat-trick for Barakat (11).

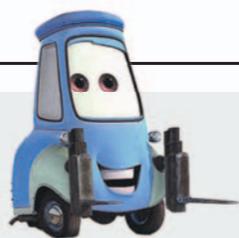
Incensed, Cambridge took to dirty tactics targeting center, Liljegren (23), and holding her down on the ice. As the non-checking league the Devils were unsettled by rough play and were not used to fighting as commonly occurs in A-Team games. However, they held their own and would not be dragged down, nor concede again for the rest of the game.

Sports Editors: Jovan Nedic

David Wilson

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

SPORT



Guido's 60 Second Pit Stop



Hong Chen

Sum up how your progress over the season has gone so far?

It has been one of the better years for the medics this year. So far we stand 3W 2L and still have 2 more games to play.

How do you prepare for a match?

Get the squad together, refs, people to table and an email to mentally prepare the squad.

Favourite pre and post match meal?

Pasta of any sort/beer after beer (especially when we win=D)

What tune do you listen to get psyched before a game?

In Flames - Episode 666

How have you built up good team spirit amongst your players?

Reminding them to stay focused, regular socials after practice and winning games.

Medic Basketball

Favourite sporting motto?

It's not the size of the dog in the fight but the size of the fight in the dog.

Who's your sporting idol?

Lance Armstrong

How important is Varsity to you? Could it be described as being season defining?

Varsity is definitely important especially this year we have a very strong team and we hope we can give the 1st team boys a run for their money. Birmingham beat Arsenal in the Carling cup so nothing is impossible. Having said that our season has been one of the best in years so we are very proud of what we have achieved so far.

Prediction for the result?

Close one. 61-60 Medics with a buzzer beater 3-pointer.

Is there more pressure to achieve a result at Varsity than any of your other games?

No, we go in every game with the same mentality to not cloud our judgements.

Do you feel that the rugby match overshadows the other sports?

I don't think it overshadows but it's definitely a highlight of the day.

Thoughts on 'grazing' becoming an international sport?

I have no idea what you are talking about.

Varsity - College spirit at its best

Well what else did you guys expect to see next week.

Yes it's that time of year again when the College does battle with "some of Britain's best young brains in the process of getting smashed out of their heads", to quote the Daily Fail. What a bunch of pricks - Daily Mail guys, not the Medics. What the hell did they expect to see when they went to a students' union, everyone having a cup of prune juice whilst reading the latest revelation of why Britain is falling apart in their so called paper? If the Daily Mail did Universities, they'd be shit. By the way, I know this happened ages ago, but it was just brought up in the office and it got me going! But I digress.

I'm sure you all know by now that next Wednesday is going to be the biggest sporting day in Imperial's calendar. A day of witty banter, on the most part, mega phones and bottles of celebratory/commiserative port, topped off with a game of rugby which, let's face it, has to be better than last year's performance. The Stoop hasn't got a clue what is coming its way.

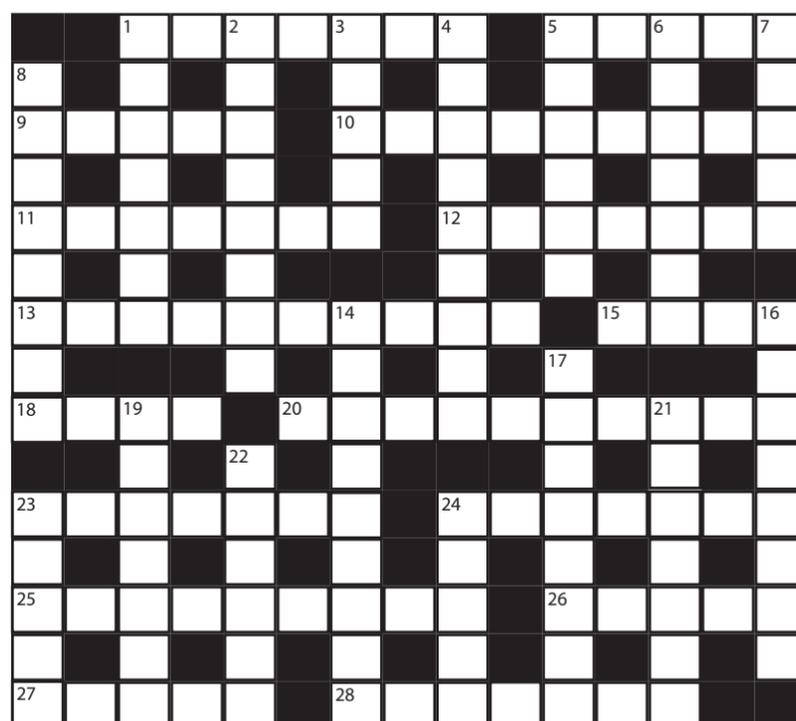
And to all of you who enquired about the lovely Lindsay Henna, you can find her in Ethos on Wednesday.

Jov

EVENTS

BOXING: "The real University Challenge: UCL vs Imperial College" Friday 18th March St. Pancras Gym 19:30

Cryptic Crossword 1,485



Across

- Middling retrospective, faded musical ditty (7)
- Of course villain to manifest (5)
- Hide inside and evade Ismaili, with rational belief in God (5)
- Left inside group of guys, time for allowance (9)
- The thing (7)
- Drain southern and northern cup of tea (7)
- Happy, positive argument (10)
- Extraordinary individual in revolutionary Nevada city (4)
- Silly day behind (4)
- Transport for fish food (10)
- European fixes shingle (7)
- Test for mathematics and a fruit (7)
- Position again restriction for boutique (9)
- By convention, we youth! (5)
- Until now, one's abominable creatures (5)
- High-flier to ambush with simplicity, say (7)

Down

- Spray scattered to mines (7)
- Somehow sold mace to one living precariously (8)
- Projection of a wise man (5)
- Just fail to break down recession brief (4,5)
- Do not participate in operation hustle (6)
- Corrupt central collection for letter (7)
- Go bad with gold revolver (5)
- Improved, one tangoed around Vatican (8)
- Gain courage, when Mortal Kombat ends, perhaps (4,5)
- Mistaken trade aid broadcast (8)
- Incomprehensible delinquency enveloping street (8)
- Japanese fish first composer of thematic music (7)
- Flatter an instrument up and gone (7)
- Mistakes for girl, say (6)
- Primitive organ for cathedral city missing top (5)
- Place to sit around 50 notes (5)

Fixtures & Results

in association with Sports Partnership imperial college union sport Imperial

Saturday 5 March	Wednesday 9 March	Women's 1s King's College 1s	2	TABLE TENNIS	Monday 14 March
FOOTBALL ULU	BASKETBALL		1	Men's 2s	NETBALL
Men's 2s	Women's 1s			University of Chichester 1s 0	Women's 2nd vs LSE 3rd
London South Bank University 1s	Roehampton University 1s	LACROSSE	8	Saturday 12 March	Wednesday 16 March
		Men's 1s	5	FOOTBALL ULU	FENCING
Men's 3s	FOOTBALL	Swansea Men's 1s		Men's 1st vs UCL 1st	Men's 3rd vs UCL 2nd
Royal Holloway 2s	Mens 3s		36	Men's 2nd vs Royal Holloway 3rd	FOOTBALL
	Brunel University 5s	NETBALL	41		Men's 4th vs SOAS 1s
Men's 4s	HOCKEY	Women's 2s	44	Sunday 13 March	Men's 5th vs UCL 5th
Queen Mary, University of London	Men's 1s	Imperial Medicals 3s	23	LACROSSE	
	RUMS			Mixed 1st vs Royal Holloway 1st	
Men's 7s	Men's 3s	Women's 3s			
King's College 5s	Royal Holloway 2s	Brunel University 6s			
	HOCKEY ULU	TABLE TENNIS			
	Men's 2s	Men's 2s			
	LSE 1s	University of Kent 2s			

Varsity 2011 is less than one week away! Varsity is the annual event which pitches Imperial College against Imperial Medicals in all manner of sporting activities on Wednesday 16th March.

Sporting activities will be taking place throughout the day with the final event pitching the two rugby first teams against each other taking place in the evening at The Stoop, the home ground of professional rugby team, Harlequins.

The match kicks off at 19.30 and sources at Sport Imperial have informed us that there are still some tickets available for the game.

Tickets can be bought online from the Imperial College union website. Be sure to snap yours up before they all sell out for this show-piece event which only occurs once a year!

Dave

Imperial smashes it at UniWake

Elisabeth Burks

Imperial's Wakeboarding society competed at local waterhole Liquid Leisure on March 2nd against eight universities. With 100 students hitting the water in less than comfortable temperatures – the competition took real dedication to the sport. Imperial brought eight people to compete including two girls (good ratio).

In the Beginners Men's category, social secretary Gary Willis showed he was more than just a pretty boy in retro 80s jackets. Pulling some sick moves on the kickers and a few tasty boardslides, he came 1st in the category. In the Beginners Women's we had two riders – Danielle 'the nutter' Barnes and myself. Danielle safely landed the funbox, but sadly the allocated time for this round of the competition had closed and it didn't count towards the judging. No placers here but still some promis-

ing improvements – watch this space! Intermediate Men's saw Tim 'Timmy' Thio placed very respectably in second. Antoine Desmet, our only competitor in the Advanced category, was up against some stiff competition. Although his flat water tricks are the real deal, his 180's off the kickers didn't cut the mustard, shame.

As the sun was setting, the Wakeskate category started. Picture being towed by the cable on a large skateboard around a lake. This is not something the team have been familiar with. Still, no strangers to try the new and wacky Jan Jachnik, Gary and Tim gave it a go. Jeered on by the rest of the team – these guys just went for it! They may not have been spectacular but they were the most entertaining ones out there! So finally, Timmy also won a bonus award for Most Entertaining Photo of the Day – don't try this one at home, kids. Join Wakeboarding instead!



C&G Rugby defeat Balliol: Page 38

Guido's 60 Second Pit Stop – Medic Basketball: Page 39

SCIENCE



AARGGGH THE END IS COMING!
Or is it?: **Page 9**

POLITICS



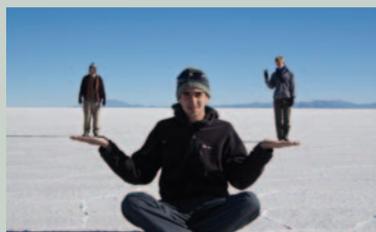
We can learn from Cuba's health system: **Page 14**

MUSIC



Odd Future are taking over the world: **Page 22**

TRAVEL



All that white stuff in Bolivia isn't just cocaine: **Page 31**

HANGMAN



Do the 'grammar bad-ass' dance: **Page 32**