

“Keep the Cat Free”

ISSUE 1491

FELIX

03.06.11

The student voice of Imperial College London since 1949



PHOENIX

THE ANNUAL ARTS PUBLICATION OF IMPERIAL

Grab your copy in next week's issue of Felix

Free Babar Ahmad/PA



Babar Ahmad pictured after his arrest in 2003

Trial of police officers accused of assaulting Babar Ahmad nears end

In 2003, Imperial alumnus and staff member Babar Ahmad was arrested at his home by counter-terrorism police. He is still in custody today, but has never been charged. This week, **Ben Scally** reports from the trial of the police officers accused of assaulting him: **Page 4**

IMPERIAL CUTS TIES WITH CaSE

£3,000 subscription to Campaign for Science and Engineering better spent on 'core activities' says College

Kadhim Shubber

Imperial has ended its subscription to influential science lobby group the Campaign for Science and Engineering (CaSE). The decision, which CaSE director Imran Khan called “puzzling”, means that Imperial is now one of only two Russell Group institutions, the other being the LSE, that is not affiliated

with CaSE.

The campaign group is credited with helping protect science research funding in last year's Comprehensive Spending Review and has played a prominent role
...Continued on Page 3

Editorial: Page 12



College await police advice on whether to allow President Musharraf to speak on campus

Page 5

POLITICS



Mladić finally caught, but can there ever be justice? **Page 13**

TRAVEL



Two weeks in the great Icelandic outdoors: **Page 23**

CLUBS & SOCIETIES



Students prepare for trek to Svalbard: **Page 25**

HIGHLIGHTS

On campus

HIV decline in Zimbabwe

In the wake of one of the most severe epidemics in recent times, Professor Simon Gregson investigates the factors behind the drop in HIV infection rates across Zimbabwe as well as discussing the role played by Imperial researchers in helping to understand the trends behind such an event. Open to all with registration required in advance. Email k.weeks@imperial.ac.uk for more information.

Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley
08 June 18:00–19:00

Does god play dice?

Dr Antony Valentini fearlessly challenges one of the central tenets of quantum mechanics in this lecture. Arguing that time is universal and not relative, he suggests that quantum uncertainty is not fundamental. Open to all. £3 for staff and students. Visit bit.ly/mq4bwm to buy tickets.



G16, Sir Alexander Fleming Building
09 June 19:00–20:00

Energy: Perspectives from an MEP

Imperial alumnus and member of the European Parliament Maria da Graça Carvalho delivers a guest lecture about her work in the area of energy, including working with developing countries. Open to all with advance registration required. Contact c.doran@imperial.ac.uk for further information.

G34, Sir Alexander Fleming Building
13 June 12:00–13:00

ONLY TWO ISSUES LEFT



Unfortunately Felix will have to stop publishing at some point, and the end of the academic year seems as good a time as any. (The suggestion of printing a daily throughout July and August didn't go down well with the sub editors.) Our last issue is on Friday the 17th of June and from then on you'll have to resign yourselves to reading 'real' newspapers *shudders. Never fear though, we'll still be online at felixonline.co.uk and facebook.com/feliximperial and we'll be back in October!

This week's
Relentless
winner is
Joshua Price

Correction

In the article entitled 'Lessons from the Mech Eng refurbishment' (Issue 1490 – 27/05/2011), Faculty of Engineering Operating Officer Richard Martin was incorrectly called Steve Martin.

Notice

Considering a career in science media?
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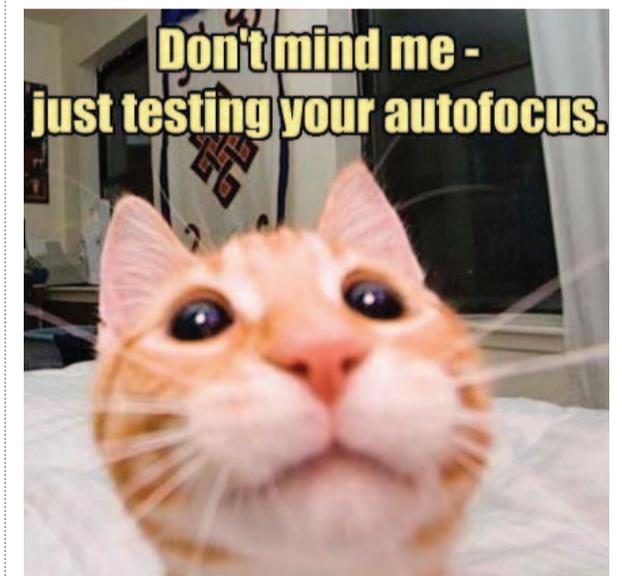
Gareth Mitchell, 'Click', BBC World Service
Vivienne Parry, 'Am I Normal?' BBC Radio 4
Greg Foot, 'Secrets of the Universe', BBC Three

The three-day course costs £875 with a discounted rate of £675 for students. Places are strictly limited. Early booking is advised. For further details contact Stephanie O'Mahony via s.omahony@imperial.ac.uk

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Lolcat of teh week



FELIX

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Imperial joins £600 million medical research centre project

Matt Colvin

Imperial and King's College London are set to become involved in the construction and development of a London-based 'world-leading' medical research centre, the Francis Crick Institute.

Currently being built at Somers Town in North London, the institute will bring together researchers from its academic partners and its founding research institutes, which include the MRC National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) and the Cancer Research UK London Research Institute (LRI).

Opening in 2015, the overall goal of the centre is the prevention and treatment of various diseases, including cancers and influenza. Having signed a Memorandum of Understanding in April, thereby signifying their desire to join with the current partners, Imperial and King's are now each contributing £40 million to the project, matching the amount from founding academic partner University College London.

With a founding investment of £600 million, the scheme has received support from Parliament in a recently published report, but concerns have also been raised with regards to the location of the project.

Published on the 25th May, the Commons Science and Technology Committee concluded an investigation

Justin Piperger Photography/Wadsworth3d



The centre will be based near St Pancras International

into the proposed location by praising the "strong case for locating the institute close to leading hospitals and academic institutions" before considering that there may be a "premium to be paid for locating the institute in central London", citing higher costs and in particular the notion that the location of the institute will reinforce the concentration of life sciences in the "golden triangle" in the south-east of England.

The Institute's response to the report has, in turn, been largely positive.

"We are pleased the MPs on the Science and Technology Committee have described [the Francis Crick Institute] as impressive and clearly in the public interest. We particularly welcome their conclusion that the two existing London-based institutes

(NIMR and LRI) which are joining [the Institute] should be located alongside universities and hospitals and good transport links. This is a key part of the vision for the institute and fundamental to its success."

In response to the criticism over the location of the Institute, CEO and Director of the Francis Crick Institute Paul Nurse reinforced the importance of its intended location, arguing that it is "at the heart of an immensely powerful cluster of academic and medical institutions."

He also praised London as "an international magnet for the highest quality staff from the UK and overseas", that will prove advantageous in the institute's aims to "attract future scientific leaders".

Alex Karapetian
liege



LAD

Jonathan Adams is the security officer who chased down and caught a campus thief last week. He has worked at Imperial for the past ten months and modestly said that his efforts were a "team effort", calling it "a positive outcome for security."

Imperial cuts CaSE subscription College: money could be better spent elsewhere

...Continued From Front Page in winning concessions for researchers in the government's immigration strategy.

CaSE director Imran Khan, an Imperial alumnus, said that it was not for him to judge the College's decision, but expressed his frustration that Imperial had not expressed any prior dissatisfaction with CaSE's efforts: "What's frustrating for us is that it hasn't been conveyed to us if there are specific things they feel we've got wrong, or have not delivered on. All the direct feedback has been positive, which makes their departure all the more puzzling."

An Imperial spokesperson said that Imperial regularly reviews its subscriptions to "ensure they compliment and add value to the College's activities" and that it was felt that the subscription fee could be "better directed

CaSE



CaSE director Imran Khan, an Imperial alumnus, called the decision "mystifying"

to support Imperial's core activities." Imperial declined to say who had made the decision or if there was anything specific about CaSE that Imperial was unhappy with, however the spokesperson did say that they continue to support the group's "aims and objectives."

The Times Higher Education magazine has reported Imperial's subscription to be £3,000, a sum that Mr Khan declined to confirm or deny, except to say that it "isn't far off." CaSE's membership fees range between £1,000 and £5,000 per year.

Imperial receives the most research funding from public sources of any university in the UK except Oxford University, which it ties with. In 2009/2010 it received almost £100 million in research council grants and reported a total annual surplus of around £40 million.

Sponsored Editorial

More student cuts Discount haircuts for Imperial students at Fresh Hairdressers

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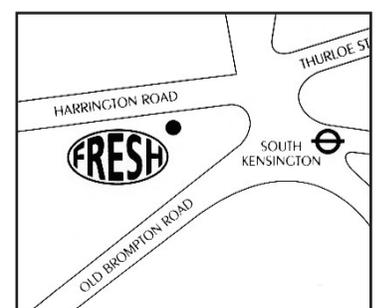
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NEWS

News Editors: **Matt Colvin**
Alex Karapetian

news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Babar Ahmad assault trial

Ben Scally reports from Southwark Crown Court as jury hears closing arguments in trial of counter-terrorism police officers

There was a brief glimpse of a man slumped against a grey cell door on the video link to Babar Ahmad's prison cell in a special unit at Long Lartin maximum-security prison. He observed as the trial took place below him from a discrete camera overlooking the jury box. Britain's longest held detainee-without-charge cannot simply walk through the doors of Southwark Crown Court, even though he's not the one on trial.

Four men sat in the dock last Tuesday 31st of May, officers of an elite counter-terrorism police force, the Territorial Support Group (TSG); Police Constables Nigel Cowley, Roderick James-Bowen, Mark Jones, and Detective Constable John Donohue.

They are held accused of committing assault occasioning actual bodily harm during the arrest of Babar Ahmad, a former Imperial student and staff member, on December 2nd 2003 at his home in Tooting, South London. Babar Ahmad was previously an engineering student at Imperial and working as an ICT support analyst for the college before he was arrested and detained under the Terrorism Act. Although he was released without charge six days later, he was re-arrested the following year and continues to be detained while fighting extradition to the US. Two years ago, the Met police commissioner admitted that he was subject to abuse during the arrest and he received £60,000 compensation, but the officers involved now face charges. If found guilty the maximum sentence they could receive is five years imprisonment.

From a hidden door, the jury were ushered into the courtroom; the twelve people who will decide the fate of these four men. Upon a dais, the judge overlooked the proceedings as the barristers went to work in their wigs and gowns. A dozen people had gathered to watch from the public gallery. Babar Ahmad's father sat there, a small well-dressed man peering at the proceedings from above his spectacles, accompanied by a young woman, his daughter.

Jonathan Laidlaw QC stood to present his closing speech for the prosecution. He recapped the injuries that Babar Ahmad had sustained in the arrest, described by forensic medical examiners, and totalling more than 70 physical injuries. Reminding the jury that all of the officers denied landing a single blow, he explained that there could be no middle ground; either the officers were truthful or they had lied to conceal an appalling assault. The officers' defence told the jury that Babar Ahmad had struggled during the arrest and "fought like a caged tiger" inflicting the injuries upon himself. But the prosecution countered; none of the medical examiners had identified any fighting injuries on his hands. Laidlaw posed a question rhetorically to the jury: why might these officers have been driven to attack Babar Ahmad? They could have been frightened he speculated, or decided to inflict their own form of punishment, or perhaps they had a racial motive.

Ben Scally



Unbeknown to either Babar Ahmad or the TSG officers, MI5 had planted a bug in the house to monitor his activities, which recorded the events of that December morning. The jury has heard the recording and read mutually agreed transcripts from the bug. It may be the first time that MI5 surveillance material has been used in the prosecution of police officers. Cumulatively, it has now taken more than 100 hours in court to analyse the 12 minutes of recording and the subsequent events that took place during the arrest.

In a pre-dawn raid, counter-terrorism police invaded Babar Ahmad's house and arrested him in his home at around 5am. Upon being confronted in his bedroom, the prosecution said that he raised his arms in surrender, but two of the arresting officers said that he adopted a "fighting stance". Testifying in court last month, Babar Ahmad claimed he was victim to a "sustained and very violent assault" in which he was beaten so badly that he thought he was going to die.

All of the defendants have denied mocking Babar Ahmad or his faith. Pc James Bowen has told the court that the MI5 recording shows that officers did not shout, "Where is your God now?" – an allegation that he described as a "black cloud over me personally and professionally."

Three of Babar Ahmad's neighbours on Fountain road witnessed him being taken by officers from his house to a police van. None of them saw him struggle or shout, which the prosecutor told the jury contradicts the officers' claims that he struggled and shouted violently.

The first defendant's lawyer stood to address the jury and asked them to "try to put yourself in Roderick James-Bowen's shoes – or should I say, boots" and lifted up a single black police boot, slamming it down upon the stand for emphasis. "This was not the arrest of some computer geek for stealing IT weekly magazines on Tooting High Street", he said, "Mr Ahmad

was not some nine stone weakling who's only exercise was the walk to the tube on his way to aeronautical engineering classes at Imperial College." The defence reminded the jury that he was just months away from a black belt in kung fu at the time and that a samurai sword was found in his bedroom.

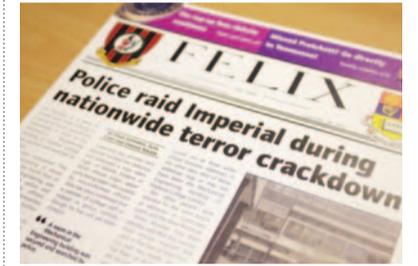
Controversially, Babar Ahmad fought in the Bosnian War of the early 1990s. The prosecution argued that he was a volunteer on a humanitarian mission, and was only recruited in the fighting when he could no longer stand to watch the killing of Bosnian Muslims. However, the defence described him as "an unpaid mercenary in someone else's war." The shrapnel wounds he sustained during the war "were not the kind of injuries you get on Tooting High Street – even the rougher parts." But testifying in court last month, Babar Ahmad refuted this interpretation saying he was "no Al-Qaeda Rambo."

The defence concluded: "This was not Wolfie Smith and the Tooting Liberation Front... This was the real thing, as recognised by MI5 and anti-terrorist officers."

In the public gallery a woman leant forward on her seat, watching the proceedings intently. Jenny Nelson, a professor of physics at Imperial, has followed Babar Ahmad's case since it first began almost eight years ago. Her late partner worked with him at Imperial, and she, along with his former manager at Imperial, visited Babar Ahmad in Long Lartin prison in April last year. He is held there in a special unit for terror suspects where most inmates are facing extradition. Reflecting on the meeting, she said that he was entirely different from her expectations of a man imprisoned for years, and called him an "inspiring" figure. She found him "very welcoming" as they discussed his prison conditions, and his growing interest in other struggles around the world.

At the time of writing, the jury were expected to have begun deliberations on Friday.

The story of Babar Ahmad



Babar Ahmad was formerly a student and staff member at Imperial, working as an ICT support analyst in the Mechanical Engineering department. On December 2nd 2003, counter-terrorism police arrested him in a pre-dawn raid at his home in Tooting, South London. During the arrest, he sustained 73 forensically recorded injuries including bleeding in his ear and urine. He alleges that he was beaten, choked, and subjected to religious verbal abuse. Although the IPCC initially refuted his claims, Met police commissioner, Sir Paul Stephenson, admitted in 2009 that he was submitted to "grave abuse tantamount to torture" during the arrest and he received compensation totalling £60,000. Four of the counter-terrorism officers involved in the arrest in 2003 now face criminal charges. If found guilty of assault occasioning actual bodily harm the officers could receive up to five years in prison.

At the time, Babar Ahmad's arrest was the latest in the War on Terror and part of 'Operation Quarrier', in which three other men were arrested in Southwest London and detained under the Terrorism Act. On the day of his arrest in 2003, Felix reported (pictured above) that a room in college was secured and searched by police with computers dismantled and removed for investigation. He was released six days later without charge. However, he was re-arrested on August 6th 2004 after the US issued an extradition warrant, accusing him of using websites and e-mail to raise funds to support terrorists in Afghanistan and Chechnya. Legal wrangling over his extradition is still ongoing and has passed from UK courts, to the House of Lords, and now to the European court of human rights. Imperial College Union passed policy in 2004 fully supporting Babar Ahmad in his fight against extradition. In March 2007, former Union President, John Collins, wrote to then Home Secretary, John Reid, urging him to halt extradition proceedings.

Babar Ahmad is now the longest detained prisoner in the UK without charge, having been imprisoned for more than six years – 2493 days on the day of print.

Cuts to equipment funding

Increased equipment sharing encouraged

Christopher Walmsley



Samuel Furse

Research in engineering and science disciplines took another blow last week when it was announced that a second round of research budget cuts would be effective on research proposals submitted after 1st May 2011.

Following recommendations from the Wakeham review on higher education funding, funding for equipment costing above £10,000 will see a 50% cut, with universities expected to make up the difference. Equipment costing more than £121,000 is to be specially rationed across the country with a special committee set up to assess proposals.

The alternative that researchers are expected to take in order to cope with this change will be to make greater use of shared equipment. This particularly applies to larger-scale kit such as higher-resonance NMR machines (used by biochemists to acquire structural information about proteins) and synchrotron X-ray beamlines (used by physical chemists to acquire data on the assembled structures of molecular systems). In practice it is expected that increased sharing will involve additional travelling for many researchers, as well as decreased flexibility on which work can be done when.

The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) is alone among funding councils in also implementing the cuts for proposals submitted before the 1st of May, saying that the "scale of the reduction in capital funding" necessitates "immediate action." A College spokesperson was confident

"Funding for equipment costing above £10,000 will see a 50% cut"

that Imperial would be able to manage any difficulties that arise due to the cuts. "The College is currently undertaking an audit of equipment to identify where there may be opportunities to increase sharing of equipment across departments and campuses." The spokesperson added that Imperial would continue to seek funding from other sources: "Future research funding may mean looking towards new sources of support, and the College is already quite entrepreneurial in this area, exploring opportunities in Europe and further afield, and with corporate partners"

Prof David McComb from the Materials department told Nature's news blog that increased sharing of equipment would not always be appropriate: "For example, if a project requires access to X-ray diffraction or Raman spectroscopy facilities on a weekly or even daily basis, if these facilities are not available in the principal investigator's institution how far is it reasonable to expect the researcher to travel to conduct the research?"

The Wakeham review is a five year-long programme (2011-2015) during which time cost savings are made by changes to budgeting for large equipment.

Decision awaited on Musharraf talk

College seek advice from Metropolitan police

Kadhim Shubber

The College has denied permission for a high-profile talk by former Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf on Sunday 5th June, saying that they were not given enough notice. The talk, which may go ahead on the following Sunday, was organised by the Pakistani Society and was to focus on 'Unity, Faith and Discipline' and the role of young people in promoting peace.

The Union were informed of the visit on Monday 30th of June and the College Secretary was notified the next day, less than a week before the event was planned to begin. Pakistani Society President Hussain Ali said that the short notice was due to the fact that they were only able to recently confirm President Musharraf's visit. However, he did admit that they had been trying to book him for a number of months, raising questions about why they did not signal

to the Union or College that they were attempting to book the former Pakistani President.

The College is currently awaiting further security advice from the Metropolitan police regarding President Musharraf's visit, and will make a decision about whether the talk could go ahead on Sunday 12th June on the basis of that advice. A College spokesperson said, "The priority in hosting external speakers is to ensure their safety and the safety of others on campus."

It is not known as to whether there is a specific security threat but it is believed that there is concern that his visit could result in protests on campus.

A public appearance by President Musharraf in Birmingham last year was met with protests, however a lecture given by him at Oxford Union in June 2010 passed without any serious incident.

Pakistani Society President Hussain Ali called the College's security concerns "justified" and said that he was happy that they were continuing to consider his request. He said President Musharraf's visit would "add to the reputation of the College" and urged the College to allow students the opportunity to "interact with and learn from one of the most influential personalities in the world today."

Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) Heather Jones said that she hoped that any security issues could be resolved "as quickly as possible" and that President Musharraf "be allowed to speak at Imperial."

The visit would "add to the reputation of the College" say the organisers

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SCIENCE

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

In brief

Back to the Past

X-rays could help us peer back in time to see the origins of life on Earth. Fossils, the indelible mark of ancient life, have been a vital piece of evidence for Darwin's theory of evolution. Most, however, are from a time millions of years after life started. The evidence of life's origin has been, until this point, been too small to see.

The new technique, documented in *Nature Materials*, uses high power X-rays to form images of the chemical bonds in carbon molecules buried deep in rock. It can distinguish between graphite, diamond and other forms of carbon without distorting the sample. The scientists hope to use this technology on rocks from Mars and the Moon. **Charlie Harvey**



Avian Attraction

When it comes to choosing a mate, female sparrows have shown they're anything but bird-brained. According to new research, the feathered females don't simply pick the most physically attractive, but instead assess the quality of their potential suitor's inner values.

It all comes down to a cluster of genes that play a role in immunity, called the major histocompatibility complex (MHC). Researchers from the University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna examined preferences for partners in house sparrows by offering a female sparrow a choice of three different males. They found females with a low number of MHC alleles were most attracted to males carrying a high number of such alleles, suggesting females can "count" the number of MHC alleles on offer from individual males. The evidence is the first to suggest birds' mating preferences are influenced by the MHC. **Thea Cunningham**

Cheltenham Science Festival

7 – 12 June 2011

"Explore wonderful things, take your mind to new places or simply have a great night out". From stem cells to the science of plasma, the festival explores a whole universe of different ideas and theories.

Partners protected from early HIV drugs

Ben Jones

HIV patients who take antiretroviral therapy (ART) early enough not only protect themselves but also their partners, new research has shown.

The finding is the first from a major randomized clinical trial to indicate that treating an HIV-infected person can make them less contagious, as well as keep them healthy.

The study, which spanned nine countries, involved more than 1,700 couples, in which one partner was HIV-positive and the other was not. Each couple was randomly assigned to one of two study groups by researchers at the University of North Carolina, US.

In the first group, the partner with HIV began receiving antiretroviral drugs as soon as they enrolled in the study. In the second group, the infected partner started antiretroviral treatment once their CD4+ count – a key measure of immune system health – fell to between 200 and 250 cells/mm³, or when they developed an AIDS-related illness.

According to the results, 27 previously uninfected partners in the second group contracted HIV from their partner. But in the first group, only one such case of new HIV infection occurred. This means that starting ART earlier led to a 96% reduction in HIV transmission within relationships.

UK HIV charities have given a cautious welcome to the news. Sarah Radcliffe, a policy



Prevention is better than cure – early treatment prevents HIV spreading to others

officer at the National Aids Trust (NAT) said the findings backed up anecdotal evidence. She added: "These results are very exciting. Back in 2008, the Swiss Federal Commission for HIV/AIDS published a statement saying that patients on effective ART who have no other sexually transmitted infections are sexually non-infectious. This is the first time we have an experiment which backs this up. The fact that it finished early is very significant and it is a very robust piece of research."

AVERT spokesperson Rachel King described the research as "compelling" but continued:

"Scaling up testing to improve knowledge of HIV status and increasing treatment coverage will be crucial to gaining the public health benefits of treatment as prevention." Universal access to treatment was still the main goal, she added.

The Terrence Higgins Trust, however, suggested that the research could have more impact in the developing world than in Britain. Blake Smith, information officer at the trust, said: "With up to one in four people with HIV being undiagnosed in the UK, the people who are likely to be most infectious are not under care and so would not receive treatment."

Eternal sunshine for the stressful mind

Anum Niaz

Negative emotional memories can be suppressed in the long-term with the help of drugs that regulate stress hormones, new research has shown. The findings, published in the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*, could lead to new treatments for sufferers of post traumatic stress disorders (PTSD).

Stress hormones such as cortisol are known to modulate memory retrieval. Both high and low levels of cortisol impair emotional memory retrieval. A collaboration between Lehigh University and McGill University have tested the effects of Metyrapone – a drug that inhibits cortisol secretion – on memory retrieval. The researchers tested 33 men, aged between 18 and 35, in an experiment based on three sessions.

In the first session (incidental learning), the participants were shown a computer-based series of slides depicting a story with neutral and emotional phases. A few hours later participants were asked to recall this information. Saliva samples of the participants were taken to find the cortisol levels at different times.

In the second session (retrieval phase), the same procedure was applied with the participants divided in three groups. One group received a single dose of the drug, one group had a double dose and the third were given a placebo. The experiments tested memory recall at the time when cortisol levels were expected to

be at their lowest value.

The third session (delayed recall) involved the same procedure without the administration of the drug or the placebo.

The scientists found that there was a significant decrease in cortisol values when a double dose of Metyrapone was taken.

The double dose group also recalled significantly less emotional information than the placebo group at both retrieval and delayed recall phases, whereas there was little difference between the single and double dose groups. Overall, there was no loss of neutral information but there was an effect on emotional memory retrieval.

"Our findings may help people deal with

traumatic events by offering them the opportunity to 'write-over' the emotional part of their memories during therapy," said lead author Marie-France Marin.

The experimental conditions introduce some limitations to the validity of the results obtained. Firstly, only men were tested on and hence one cannot conclude the effects Metyrapone may have on women. Secondly, the drug was tested on perfectly healthy men so it may not have the same effect on patients suffering from PTSD or any other medical condition for which the drug may actually be required. Thirdly it is difficult to conclude whether the effects seen are due to the presence of Metyrapone or low levels of cortisol.



Don't cry, there are drugs to help you forget just how bad that film actually was

SCIENCE

Mystery molecule found for heroin high

Sean Harbison

The euphoria experienced from taking heroin is caused by a molecule known as 6-monoacetylmorphine (6-MAM) and not morphine as previously thought, says a new study carried out by the Department of Drug Abuse Research at the Norwegian Institute of Public Health. This new understanding of how heroin works could have a profound effect on how we go about managing heroin addiction.

How heroin works has always been a mystery. It is one of the most addictive drugs we know and yet when tested on brain cells directly it has very little effect. Previously, scientists have suggested that heroin was transported to the brain and then metabolised into morphine, meaning that heroin addiction was therefore a form of morphine addiction. However, using pharmacokinetic modelling this new research has found that, once injected, heroin is converted rapidly to 6-MAM in the blood. This means that very little heroin actu-

New research could help prevent addiction

ally reaches the brain as it is metabolised too quickly. 6-MAM is then able to cross the blood-brain barrier where it can bind to μ -opoid receptors creating the rush. Some of the 6-MAM is further converted to morphine. However, this only gives a supplementary effect.

The team is now trying to verify that the conversion of heroin in humans is as quick and extensive as in mice, and whether the metabolism is the same through different ways of administering heroin – intravenous versus smoking, for example. This research could lead to a new method of treating heroin addiction. Vaccines against heroin previously failed because it was metabolised in the blood too quickly. This study suggests that vaccines against 6-MAM could be made in order to prevent or cure addiction in the future.



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TECHNOLOGY

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Tips & Hacks

02 has best mobile broadband says Ofcom



Looking to switch mobile connections and can't go without a regular dose of Facebook and Twitter? Ofcom's latest report would suggest that you head to your nearest O₂ store. The company came out on top in a study of major mobile providers in the UK, loading pages faster than any of 3, Vodafone, Orange or T-Mobile. The latter two, part of the 'Everything Everywhere' partnership, performed the worst in the study with speeds that were roughly half that of O₂. The research might not mean much in London however, as it was carried out throughout the UK – even 'in the M62 corridor between Manchester and Liverpool', where it is safe to assume there are few Imperial students during term time. With smartphone uptake on the rise throughout the UK, O₂ might just be as 'better, connected' as they claim.

Skype pushes unwanted software to users



Skype users might want to keep an eye out when installing updates on their system after users noticed that the application was attempting to foist software from another company on them. Skype was found requesting access to an application called 'easybits-go.exe', produced by EasyBits, a company specialising in game apps. While not essentially malware, the software was pushed to user computers without their permission. Skype then confirmed that the program 'neither installs nor uninstalls correctly', a remarkable feat in this modern age. The update has been disabled so there's no need to worry about picking it up now, but if you unquestioningly accepted a third-party update request on Windows over the past few days you may want to double-check your system. A helpful guide on locating and removing the software can be found at <http://bit.ly/m31XqC>

Bada: make things happen!

Develop with Samsung to make those app ideas a reality

Anastasia Eleftheriou

While Android and iOS have become increasingly popular and must-have platforms, Samsung has an alternative to suggest: the Bada ecosystem. In June 2010, Bada-based Samsung Apps were launched in 118 countries, with over a hundred million downloads and more than 13,000 applications available by March 2011.

Based on these facts, Dr. Manfred Bortenschlager, Engineering Manager of Samsung Electronics, noted in a lecture given at the Department of Computing on the 23th of May that "Bada is one of the fastest growing ecosystems. It can be seen as a threat or as an opportunity that needs to be taken into account".

The vision behind Bada is a "Smartphone for Everyone"; its main goal is to extend the smartphone market by providing a lower-price segment for smartphones. In other words, Bada's mission is not to compete with other existing smartphone platforms but turn Samsung's conventional customers into smartphone users by providing cost-effective smartphones.

Bada's feature-rich technical platform is composed of various services abstracted into four layers to simplify things, starting from the kernel (or nucleus) in the lower level and finally reaching the framework layer which the developer uses directly. Developers need not fully understand the lower levels, but can simply take advantage of the available services in the framework layer.

Specifically, there is support for 3D graphics, multi-touch and various sensors, which should enable you to create exciting and adventurous games.

You are also given direct access to external social networks, such as Facebook and Twitter, as well as the opportunity to enable commercial transactions in applications, such as trading game items and selling music, so developers can provide free applications that are profitable by internal sales.

The best place to get started with your development is the Bada Developer site. There you can find anything you need to start developing apps almost for free, including online lectures,



sample code and useful blogs. A useful development guide is the 'Introduction to Bada' book, available to download free of charge on their website. It contains various recipes (code segments) you can learn from and then extend if you wish.

Everyone interested in application development is encouraged by Samsung to share their ideas and implementation skills. As part of their 'Device Loan Program' if you are able to sell your app idea to them, they promise to provide you with a Bada device to develop it on.

In addition, the Bada Student Developer Challenge which kicks off in September 2011, gives you the chance to promote any cool app

ideas you might have, competing with the best student coders of 10 leading universities in a 48-hour codeathon. All qualifying applications resulting from the competition will be awarded with free promotion on the Samsung App Store plus a Bada phone.

Dr. Manfred also pointed out that everyone who works on an application can make money from it by directly selling it, providing advertisements through it or by selling virtual goods using it.

This is not only for money though; it will be a unique experience that will look wonderful on a CV and of course will give you fame if you win!

Are you IPv6 ready yet?

Imperial College is taking part in IPv6 'test-flight'; make sure you aren't left behind

On 8th June the college will participate in the 'World IPv6 Day' event.

This is a twenty-four hour global test window organised by the Internet Society to assist with preparation for the impending exhaustion of the world's available IP addresses – the network addresses used by computers and other devices for communication over the internet.

The solution to the address problem is the IPv6 network protocol which will gradually replace IP. On the day participants will create conditions that expose internet users to IPv6 on a larger scale than ever before. This will be done by publishing IPv6 addresses for web servers alongside their existing IP addresses. Along with the likes of Google, Facebook,

Yahoo and many universities, Imperial will do this for several of its websites.

The aim of the exercise is to reveal problems that may occur as IPv6 is increasingly used in earnest, and also motivate internet infrastructure vendors to make their products 'future ready'. In the run-up to 8th June, Imperial ICT will make relevant information available at:

<http://www.imperial.ac.uk/ict/ipv6day>

There you can read about how you might be affected on the day, the problems that may occur and how to make a very simple test in advance to see if you are likely to encounter any issues.

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POLITICS

The world beyond College walls



Sudan

North and South Sudan have agreed to set up a jointly patrolled demilitarised zone on their common border in a deal mediated by the African Union. This comes after the North seized the troubled region of Abyei 10 days ago. Abyei is claimed by both the nomadic Arab Miseriya tribe and the Dinka Ngok and is a source of contention between the North and the South after a planned referendum was postponed indefinitely. The proposed demilitarised zone will stretch along the entire 2110km border and will have a depth of up to 10km. However, it is not clear if it will be 10km in total or 10km on each side of the border.



Indonesia

Indonesian officials have rebuffed claims of animal cruelty after Australia halted exports to some facilities. This follows an Australian TV documentary that shows animals being flogged, kicked and slashed with knives. An Indonesian official has said that the documentary wasn't reflective and only focused on the bad abattoirs, adding that Indonesia is committed to producing meat that is safe, secure, healthy and halal. Some Australian MPs have called for a complete ban on cattle exports to Indonesia after the airing of the documentary on grounds of animal cruelty.



Germany

Germany's coalition government has announced it will close all nuclear power plants by 2022.

Last September Chancellor Angela Merkel had reversed the previous government's plan to close plants by 2021, and instead chose to extend their lives by a further 7 years. However, this sudden U-turn came about as the centre-right coalition dipped in popularity and fears grew over nuclear power following the Japanese earthquake.



Edited by Kenneth Lee

Ratko Mladić arrested

But he'll never face true justice at the Hague

Naida Dzigal

A couple of weeks ago, Osama bin Laden was found and killed in Pakistan by the US. As is usually the case, a lot of banter and ridicule followed – one of which was a picture of Osama Bin Laden titled 'Hide and Seek Champion: 2001–2011'. I remember thinking that he wasn't the champion, there were still many war criminals and the like at large such as Ratko Mladić – the man who masterminded the genocide in Srebrenica and presented it as a 'gift' to the Serbian nation. I wondered whether he'd ever be caught.

Last week, as some of you might know, Ratko Mladić was indeed arrested in Serbia. The head of the Yugoslavian National Army (JNA) and the one who executed Karadžić's vision verbatim all over Bosnia, has been – as an unbelievable amount of westerners like to eloquently say – finally brought to justice. I don't quite agree and I'd like to share my reasoning with you.

Just like Slobodan Milošević and Radovan Karadžić, Mladić will be taken to the Hague and put on trial for his war crimes, prominently displayed in front of the western public and that is about as much as the West can do. Quite frankly, it is not enough. I don't want to sound too contemptuous when I say all of this, but a trial in the Hague is definitely not what the definition of justice is. Prisoners in the Hague are more comfortable than you and I have ever been – the Detention Unit is described as "the Hague Hilton", and anyone can watch a video tour of how luxuriously war criminals have it there. Moreover, the running cost of all of the trials of former-Yugoslavian war criminals is about \$1.2 billion (estimated back in 2008). Money that could have been better spent in helping the victims and their families somewhat recover. Don't get me wrong – no money could ever make up for the damage that has been done, the lives that have been lost, the suffering my people have endured since 1992, but it would help.

To put it in plain language, justice cannot be satisfied in this case. Not ever. And that is the painful truth we have to learn to accept. You cannot bring back the dead, you cannot undo murders, rapes, unspeakable torture and the horrors the West Balkan people have survived in concentration camps. Justice most certainly will never be satisfied for the genocide survivors of Srebrenica. It will not bring back the massacred children of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

However, his capture is a good thing. Somewhat comforting news and a lot of us will sigh with relief tonight.

I also happen to have an exam tomorrow – just a few hours away from writing this, but I honestly do not care. I've wasted enough time going over online articles. Most of the foreign reactions are, unsurprisingly, quite naïve in parts, too optimistic and they sound like clueless happy-ending-believers.

Last term I wrote an article about Lilly Ebert, a holocaust survivor, and the events that



Caught after 16 years of hiding

"You cannot undo the horrors the West Balkan people have survived in concentration camps"

life put on her shoulders. She might not have known that in the audience, there was a German student, sitting and listening to her every word. It was he who later asked her a question – one I found was unbelievably insightful:

"Have you gone back to Germany or shared your story with the German youth? How did they react?" It was the one question Mrs. Ebert seemed startled to have been asked. She did not smile, but replied nevertheless:

"I have not gone back to Germany and would not talk to Germans of my age. I'd wonder what they had been doing during the war and whether they submitted to the general murderous convention that Hitler preached. I wouldn't like to meet people of my own age, and I'd feel uneasy meeting the German youth of today – I'd wonder what their parents did and with what ideologies they have been brought up".

That is quite understandable. Time could never erase the horrors she had been through. I wonder whether there are enough Serbians out there who would listen to what a Bosnian concentration camp survivor has to say. Hitler and his chief war architects shot themselves and later the Nuremberg trials were carried out, their significance being substantially more important as they were held on German territory. Justice was brought to the heart of Germany and spread via Nuremberg throughout the country we today admire. Distance dwindles the seriousness of monstrous deeds, and to put that in today's perspective: the Hague might be a good idea, but it definitely is not the best one. Democracy can only come

from within the country itself, remorse and shame can only be felt throughout the Serbian nation once the crimes that have been committed are recognised and categorically convicted by their leaders. No reconciliation can be achieved in that area until the ones who have committed these atrocities come forward with their repentance. Boris Tadić (Serbia's current President) is not the one to ask for forgiveness; Karadžić, Mladić, Milošević and the like are. His words will not be listened to by the chetniks (četnici) who rallied for Ratko Mladić just half an hour away from Sarajevo. Support has been prominently displayed all over Youtube videos and Facebook pages for Mladić just hours after his arrest was confirmed. All of these featured promises of a new war in the Balkans and prophecies of the 'next Mladić'. My whole body twitches at the thought of this. I can still see, written in capital letters: RATKO MLADIĆ, SRPSKI HEROJ (Ratko Mladić, Serbian hero). Tadić's words will be considered a betrayal to the true Serbian blood and this is what was chanted by the chetniks. He is a start though – I just hope he doesn't get overpowered and crushed eventually.

Wikileaks recently released documents that said that the Serbian government knew where Ratko Mladić was up to 2009. They released documents with tips on his whereabouts which were sent by the US officials to Belgrade and were completely ignored. Now it seems he'll receive the best medical care the world has to offer, which might postpone his death for a year or two, but I highly doubt we'll see him convicted. A *déjà-vu* from Milošević's case. There indeed is no justice in the world, only our attempts at evening out the consequences.

Finally, there is a common link between the Balkan radicals (the Baliže, Ustaše and Četnici): they are (mostly) uneducated, village folk who are brought up in communities which have been concentrated in small areas, manipulated by religious and political leaders into believing that serving them is 'serving God's will'. They believe that they are a chosen nation and are brainwashed from their cradles by a neo-nazi-like ideology. You also get the other extreme: I for one find it startling that Radovan Karadžić was educated at Columbia University, New York (an Ivy League school, yes). Still, the most alarming thing about the rallies in Mladić's name was that there were many children and youth standing side-by-side with their grandparents, Serbian flags in some hands and Mladić's portraits in others. It sickens me that this is today's reality.

There is hope for the future nevertheless. Last year, after the refusal of the Serbian Government to put forward a document acknowledging Serbia's involvement in the war in Bosnia and that there had been a genocide in Srebrenica just a decade ago, 20 young Serbian members of the Youth Initiative for Human Rights spray-painted across the Assembly's entrance: Та тешка страна рец 'геноцид' (that tough foreign word 'genocide'). Kudos to you my friends.

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BUSINESS

Writing a business plan

Continuing our series on student enterprise, **Paolo Strampelli** talks business plans

If you are a young, aspiring entrepreneur, with an idea that will earn you millions (or at least enough money to pay for drinks on a night out), you are likely to eventually receive a speech from an older, more experienced entrepreneur on the importance of writing a business plan. A business plan describes the business, its objectives, its strategies and its market, allowing you, the entrepreneur, to give answers to the questions you are bound to have.

Is it profitable? What am I risking? Do I really believe in this or is it just another excuse to avoid revision? The research involved in writing up a business plan will allow you to give a realistic, objective answer to these questions, and will allow you to spot problems and work on them before they escalate or before any investment is made.

Business plans should start with a persuasive summary that entices the reader to take the plan seriously and move ahead with it. Investors, who read business plans every day, will be able to tell whether a business might have a future or not just by reading the opening paragraph.

Next, you will have to write a detailed description about your product or service. It is important for the reader to thoroughly understand the product you are planning to offer or the service you are planning to provide. At the same time, do not overwhelm the reader with technical explanations or words that he or she may not be familiar with (you never know, maybe they went to UCL). Make sure you also discuss any barriers that you face in bringing the product to the market, from development costs to possible legal issues.



Once you have explained how awesome your product is going to be, you have to talk about your target market. You have to convincingly explain who you are aiming your product at and why those people will want to buy it. It will also allow you to evaluate whether the market you are aiming for is big enough to actually generate a profit; a product that improves the lives of Mech Eng students at Imperial might help your friends but is unlikely to land much money in your pockets. This section of the plan is extremely important, because if there is no need or desire for your product or service there will not

be any customers. If a business has no customers, there is no business. This part of your plan establishes whether your idea is just a fun project or an actual business from which you can make serious money.

Once you have identified what your market is, you will need to explain your strategy for reaching it and distributing your product or service. Potential investors will look at this section carefully to make sure there is a viable method to reach the target market identified at a cost that does not jeopardize your potential for profits. Developing an innovative marketing plan could play a

large part in your success, as investors look favourably upon creative strategies that will put your product or service in front of potential customers.

Another important part of the business plan is the part where you show that you understand who your competition is, and what its strengths and weaknesses are. You need to give arguments for why there is room for another player in the market, and why you think your product would be chosen by customers over your competitor's.

No matter how good your product or service, it is very likely that someone is already offering something similar, so

it is crucial that you explain why yours is better. Find flaws in the competition, and explain what your product has that prevents it from having those same defects.

Now that you have had an opportunity to really sell your idea and wow potential investors, the next question on their mind is what you need in order to get it on the market. What resources and processes are necessary to get the product to market? How much capital is needed for launch and what are the various upkeep costs?

If the goal of your business plan is to obtain financing, you will need to generate financial forecasts. The forecasts demonstrate the need for funds and, more importantly, why the investor would rather give the money to you than spend it on a new car or a bathtub filled with champagne (you can now see why your arguments must be very, very convincing).

Finally, end your plan by discussing long term growth plans for your product. Once you have triumphantly conquered your first customer segment, how will you grow your business? What new market or product will you develop that will allow you to further increase the now obscene amount of money you (hopefully) have?

Once your business plan is completed, you will have a much more realistic idea of what your business is and what it could grow to become. Your business plan should be constantly developed and improved together with your idea, and once you are swimming in your pool of money you will be grateful for having spent those few hours planning your business rather than improvising it on the spot. Or revising.

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COMMENT

FELIX

CaSE decision
embarrasses Imperial

Imperial College London does not train its students to paint. It does not teach its students the philosophical differences between Hegel and Nietzsche. In fact it doesn't teach anything except science, engineering, and medicine – the Business School aside. These things will not be revelations to any of you, we would hope, but the reason for stating them so plainly is to demonstrate the perversity of the following sentence. Imperial College London no longer supports the UK's most high-profile science lobby group, the Campaign for Science and Engineering (CaSE).

Our institution, the only solely science-focussed university in the country, has decided that our affiliation with CaSE no longer "adds value to the College's activities". We think that this is nonsense and that Imperial has a duty to support the science community in the UK; a community in which CaSE is an influential and valued member.

Let's first consider the cost of our affiliation: £3,000 according to some reports. (CaSE declined to confirm this figure but said, "it wasn't far off.") Last year Imperial reported a surplus (or profit, in everyday terms) of £41.3 million. It should be patently clear that our subscription to CaSE was not breaking the bank. Imperial can easily afford it.

But we should not simply be wasting money, no matter how small the sum. Some kind of cost-benefit analysis is in order. So is it worth spending around £3,000 per year to support CaSE. The lobbying and campaigning of CaSE arguably influenced two extremely important government decisions this year. Research funding got off comparatively lightly during the government's round of spending cuts and important concessions to scientists were made in the government's immigration strategy. The financial benefit to Imperial of these successes is difficult to calculate, but the idea that in helping to protect Imperial from harsher government cuts that CaSE has not added value to the College's activities is laughable.

Obviously Imperial will benefit from CaSE's lobbying efforts regardless of whether we support them financially or not. But CaSE increasingly speaks for the community that Imperial is supposed to be at the heart of. Read reports about the debate over science funding and it is obvious that Imran Khan, the Director of CaSE and an Imperial alumnus, is an extremely effective spokesperson for the science community. Imperial's decision suggests that we don't value CaSE's efforts; it suggests that we don't support its campaigns; and it suggests that the most coherent and influential voice in support of scientific research in the UK doesn't speak for Imperial College London. This decision is frankly embarrassing and should be reversed immediately.

Get an opinion

Worrying about offending people makes celebrities bland



Tim Arbabzadah

Watching interviews from the 60s and 70s, is an odd experience. I saw some with John Lennon on YouTube the other day, in which he wasn't being a grinning media-trained robot. He was joking about, with his style of surrealist humour, and generally being relaxed. If someone did that now, there would be stories all over the place saying they gave an 'erratic' interview. Watch several interviews and you realise he was doing something that nowadays seems far too terrifying to us – he was being himself.

An interviewee being honest amazed me. I actually got a sense of what the man was like in real life, not a feeling I usually get when watching most interviews, with a few exceptions. I get a feeling that the subject becomes a caricature of themselves.

So, have you ever watched a video of an interview? You have? Good, that will make it all a bit easier. There's something you may have noticed when watching; the interviewee rarely actually answers the question, unless it's an extremely irreverent question. If it's a politician then you get the sense that the mere thought of giving a direct answer makes them sweat harder than an Imperial head of Faculty hooked up to a lie detector. So they waffle for a bit, until you forget what the question even was.

A politician's answer is a good name for this phenomenon, as politicians manage to do it with frightening ease. That would be fine, but now everyone is getting in on the act. It may have started with politicians, but everyone seems to have decided to start doing it.

As you know, politicians are so admired that others want to use their secrets to gain some of their popularity. So from politicians to pop stars to footballers, nobody is willing to give a useful interview as they don't want to alienate anyone.

I think the best way to describe this is with an example. I'm sure you'll recognise an exchange like this:

Interviewer: What's your favourite



Everyone needs to take a leaf out of this guy's book

band?

Interviewee: Well, that's an interesting question. I really love music. I think it's hard to say exactly which band is my favourite, as I have so many. I mean, what's really important is to remember ... (5 minutes later) ... So as I said I have a lot of bands that I like, and it's impossible to pick a favourite.

Instead of what should have happened, which is this:

Interviewer: What is your favourite band?

Interviewee: The Beatles.

An actual answer to the question, and a rather fantastic answer if you ask me.

A big part of it is that people are afraid of offending someone, or saying something that someone doesn't like. Frankly, I'm tired of it. It means that interviews are just becoming pointless. The interview should instead be written in big capital letters saying: THIS PERSON IS A VERY NICE MAN AND LOVES YOU ALL. PLEASE LIKE HIM.

I'm also blaming the media. They take the approach that Silvio Berlusconi takes to women; they are ready to pounce on anything, leading to everyone having some form of media coaching. This training seems to consist of: 1. Grinning like they are trying to win first

Everyone needs to remember that sometimes people say stuff that they don't like

place in a 'grin like an irritating moron' contest and 2. Never actually giving any opinions, just generic words of praise for everyone.

The people who conduct the interviews are also to blame, especially on political subjects. They have become so argumentative and angry that it's not a surprise that people don't say anything of any merit. They know the second they give an opinion they will be destroyed by the media.

That's politicians and the media, but the blame can be spread even more. Back in the day people would disagree with what others say. But no one would know about it. Now, with the internet, everyone is a critic with a loud enough voice to be heard, which people in the spotlight have interpreted as meaning they can't say anything for fear of offending people. I think everyone needs to just remember that sometimes people say stuff that they don't like, and that is not the worst thing in the world. If you don't like The Beatles that's fine – although I wonder how you managed to read this copy of *Felix* as you must have had a lobotomy.

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

COMMENT

Planning the unexpected



Rhys Davies

“If things eventually go tits-up, people will invariably come to you for answers”

It's late. My eyes are red from fear and concentration. The only light in the room comes from my desk lamp as I burn the midnight oil, stooped over my desk. The floor around me is littered with scrunpled wads of paper. Discarded ideas. Each one would have worked, they would have worked fine. But fine isn't good enough – this has to be perfect. My girlfriend's birthday is coming up and everything must go just right.

I've been at this for fourteen hours now. Maybe the alternative, to close my eyes tight and hope everything works out alright is also an option. Perhaps the best way is to be found in a happy compromise, as a famous soldier of fortune often declared, “I love it when a plan comes together.” But I find it hard to agree with Mr Hannibal; by combining spontaneity with precision of forethought, I fear we risk losing the best parts of these different strategies.

For example, the first method of meticulous planning is, admittedly, a lot of work. The best strategists lose countless nights of sleep as they toss and turn worrying over the smallest de-

tails. However, this effort and anxiety is rewarded when it comes off without a hitch. The moment when everything comes to fruition in perfect harmony can only be compared to watching all the gears, cogs and sprockets of a most marvelous watch click into place for the first time. It's beautiful.

This euphoria is lost when you sit back and let things unfold around you. However, this method lacks the agonising hours of hard work and worry – a decidedly stress-free experience. That in itself is a plus. Consequently, though it is not guaranteed, there is a small but real chance that, without external interference, everything will come together. If a perfect plan realised is like a watch in perfect metre, then when things simply work is like watching as a million parts are thrown together at random – yet produces a watch that reads the exact time. Certainly unexpected but not unwelcome.

A problem with the planned approach is that it offers us the illusion of control. The majority of motorway accidents occur during the day, when people think they are in control. At night, when

people are less sure, things are generally safer. It is a delusion to think that, as long as we control enough of the variables, we can control the outcome. To a large extent this is true, so long as we're not working with atoms. Or anything made of atoms. We may have a slight problem.

Conversely, the issue with the hands-off approach is not one of control but responsibility. You can't sit back and let things happen by themselves if you weren't in a position to control things to begin with. You are still responsible for the consequences. If things eventually go tits-up (which there is a strong probability for them to do), people will invariably come to you for answers. In this scenario, it is wise to either have a) a good explanation or b) a better escape plan. If you only ever plan one thing, make sure it's this one – always have a get-out clause.

Maybe I will just let things unfold... just so long as they do so at the French restaurant on the corner between 7pm and five-past with flowers in hand.

Ah, I love it when a date comes together.

Dear USA: You can keep Cheryl Cole

So the news that our Cheryl has been fired from American X-Factor has left us feeling saddened and betrayed. Solution? Suck up:

Dear the America, Please keep Cheryl Cole. Please.

Um, who?

Good question, I'm not entirely sure what she is famous for but still she's cute and you like accents and stuff, so keep her in your X-Factor?

Hmm, we do like Scooby Doo and X Factor does seem to be lacking in that *je ne sais quoi*... It ain't got nothing on your British shows, like the Made In Chelsea and the Geordie Shore. They are like California, only sexier. Ok, we'll keep the Cheryl.

Cheryl. Actually since you mention Geordie Shore, she is in fact from Newcastle.

We love the castles. The British castles are awesome. Internets says she was in band called Girls Aloud. We have something similar – Pussycat Dolls. Then we realised that hot dancing girls who don't sing are just hot dancing girls so now we have the Nicole Scherzinger.

By jove, Lewis Hamilton's girlfriend! It's a small world, isn't it?

Who?

International racing driver?

International? You mean like the World Series.

The what?

Like the Superbowl for baseball.

Yeah we have that too, we call it rounders. Who knew we had so much in common?

Yeah, like OMG.

As overheard by Alex Nowbar

When conflict gives wisdom



Rory Fenton

“His war wasn't against those who took his daughters away, but with himself”

Two years ago, on a January afternoon, an Israeli shell hit Dr. Izzeldin Abuellaish's home in Gaza, killing three of his daughters and his niece. Nothing can replace the hole left in his life by that shell. Yet the Harvard educated gynaecologist stood in front of the Imperial College Israeli Society in March and proclaimed that “good deeds, wisdom and good works” were the only weapons he wanted. His war wasn't against those who took his daughters away, but with himself. “Hate”, he said, “hate was my greatest enemy. I knew I would only drown in it; I had to look beyond”.

This was one of the most affecting and inspiring events I have ever attended at this college. The calm prose of this bereaved father confers a soft euthanasia on the anger of armchair Hamas supporters, who too often dominate the Israel-Palestine debate in this country. “We must understand the radicals, and show them compassion. It is for each individual to understand that justice for them can only come from justice for the other side.”

Abuellaish's call for an abandonment of “labels” and an acceptance of “human, universal values” resonates across all conflict areas. How curious,

and telling, that from apartheid South Africa to Troubles-ridden Northern Ireland, it is those who have lost the most who refuse to return eye for eye. Abuellaish's daughter is blind in one eye and has had to learn to write with her left hand, the right paralysed. But after seeing her struggle, and succeed, he has determined to provide scholarships for young girls, both Palestinian and Israeli, to complete their education. This Nobel Peace Prize nominee's story provides hope for those despairing that Gaza is stuck in a spiral of revenge.

In refusing to bow to ideology, Abuellaish stands for the revolution that isn't summed up in a slogan or fought with guns, but humbly grounded in human experience and waged in the heart. His belief that honest experience should be placed before ideology stands in stark contrast to the suicide bomber or soldier who values his own life and that of his victims less than some principle. “The most Holy thing in the world”, Abuellaish told his audience, “is human freedom”.

At the start of the Easter break, a Catholic police officer was killed by dissident republicans in my home country of Northern Ireland. In the past, an attack like this would be followed by revenge attack after revenge attack. But

this Easter was different. Politicians from all parties attended the funeral. For some, this was the first Catholic mass they had ever attended. The parents of the dead officer were unequivocal in their response; this death must be the last.

Mercifully, none of us is ever likely to be called upon to express quite the same degree of forgiveness and compassion as Dr Abuellaish or the parents of PC Kerr but the same spirit can inform the way we live our daily lives.

For two weeks from the 8th June, the Chaplaincy will host an exhibition entitled “Forgiveness” in Sheffield. Featuring photographs of people from conflict zones all over the world, from Northern Ireland to South Africa, covering people of all religious faiths and none, the exhibition will be a powerful testimony to forgiveness. All are very welcome to attend.

Although he is a devout Muslim, I hope Dr Abuellaish wouldn't mind my expressing the core of his belief with a quote from the atheist and existentialist philosopher Albert Camus, discussing the search for an absolute ideology; “What need had I of so many efforts? The soft lines of these hills, and the hand of evening on this troubled heart, teach me much more”.

ARTS

Poem for the week**Horses on the Camargue**
by **Roy Campbell**

*In the grey wastes of dread,
The haunt of shattered gulls where nothing moves
But in a shroud of silence like the dead,
I heard a sudden harmony of hooves,
And, turning, saw afar
A hundred snowy horses unconfined,
The silver runaways of Neptune's car
Racing, spray-curl'd, like waves before the wind.
Sons of the Mistral, fleet
As him with whose strong gusts they love to flee,
Who shod the flying thunders on their feet
And plumed them with the snortings of the sea;
Theirs is no earthly breed
Who only haunts the verges of the earth
And only on the sea's salt herbage feed-
Surely the great white breakers gave them birth.
For when for years a slave,
A horse of the Camargue, in alien lands,
Should catch some far-off fragrance of the wave
Carried far inland from this native sands,
Many have told the tale
Of how in fury, foaming at the rein,
He hurls his rider; and with lifted tail,
With coal-red eyes and cataracting mane,
Heading his course for home,
Though sixty foreign leagues before him sweep,
Will never rest until he breathes the foam
And hears the native thunder of the deep.
And when the great gusts rise
And lash their anger on these arid coasts,
When the scared gulls career with mournful cries
And whirl across the waste like driven ghosts;
When hail and fire converge,
The only souls to which they strike no pain
Are the white crested fillies of the surge
And the white horses of the windy plain.
Then in their strength and pride
The stallions of the wilderness rejoice;
They feel their Master's trident in their side,
And high and shrill they answer to his voice.
With white tails smoking free,
Long streaming manes, and arching necks, they show
Their kinship to their sisters of the sea-
And forward hurl their thunderbolts of snow.
Still out of hardship bred,
Spirits of power and beauty and delight
Have ever on such frugal pasture fed
And loved to course with tempests through the night.*

Roy Campbell was an Anglo-South African poet who lived from 1901 to 1957. He was called the foremost African poet of his generation and was known for his outspoken condemnation of Freudianism and Marxism, both of which were fashionable at the time.



Cherries ripe for watching

Zoë Wanamaker makes Chekov's classic play at the National Theatre the pick of the crop

Catherine Ashmore



No Zoë Wanamaker, no more dancing!

Zeki Ilkan

When I eventually managed to walk through the doors of the Olivier Theatre, blocked up with crowds, I turned my head to the stage and that enchanting stage setting took me to the beginning of the twentieth century straightaway. I could see a living room with wooden walls cosily enlightened with candles, and a grand bookcase and sofas. As a history lover, I realised that I picked the right play to watch on my Bank Holiday weekend.

In 1904, the Russian dramatist and playwright Anton Chekov's 'The Cherry Orchard' was performed for the first time shortly before his death. It was great to be able to watch this remarkable story with the main character, Madame Ranyevskaya, portrayed so ably by the well-known actress Zoë Wanamaker CBE. I am sure you are all familiar with the cheerful face of Wanamaker from her famous roles, think Madame Hooch in Harry Potter and the control freak mother Susan Harper in the British sitcom My Family.

So, the plot of 'The Cherry Orchard' takes place just before the Russian Revolution of 1917. The story starts when Madame Ranyevskaya returns bankrupt back to Russia with her daughter Anya, after spending ten extravagant

years abroad.

She is the landowner of a beautiful ancestral property including a house and the large cherry orchard in which the heroine grew up. However, as Ranyevskaya settles down to enjoy her nostalgic idyll, a merchant called Lopakhin, played by Conleth Hill, arrives to buy the orchard from under her and trash the orchard with new expensive holiday homes. Ranyevskaya, too engrossed in her heavenly home, ignores Lopakhin's evil scheme and fails to stop Lopakhin and other hostile forces from buying it and forcing her away from the beloved place.

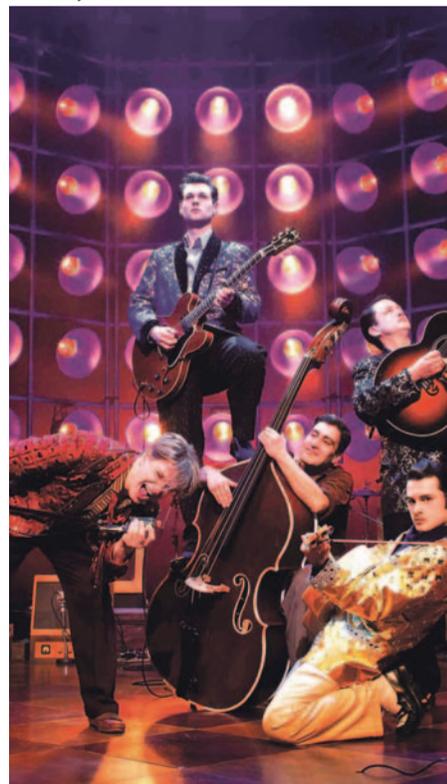
Yet again, another role brilliantly performed by Zoë Wanamaker. She is truly amazing in engaging with her role and you can see that she feels every moment of the story, which becomes very important in allowing the audience to experience the story as if they were a part of it. The time period is mirrored very well with the aid of enthralling costumes and decorations. Despite the sadness of the story, the play is not lacking in moments of laughter throughout. If you are looking for an evening well-spent, 'The Cherry Orchard' is strongly recommended.

National Theatre until August, £12

Million Dollar Quartet

Fast and fun, but this musical is a tad light on plot

Helen Maybanks

**Taiba Suddek**

The experience of watching my first London musical, 'Million Dollar Quartet' at the Noël Coward Theatre left me amused, amazed but also slightly disappointed. The theatre entrance was filled with anxious people when we arrived and the air crackled with anticipation. Inside we were greeted by music from the fifties whilst waiting for curtain-up. The simple scenery was just a single room: the recording studio in which unfolded the legendary meeting of the four most renowned musicians of the fifties; Jonny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, and of course The King, Elvis. The story was too bland for my taste as it was the reincarnation of a recording session that had happened by chance in the Sun Studio, run by Samuel Phillips, the man who had "discovered" the four artists.

The storyline was insubstantial, just revolving around Philips' agenda of persuading the musicians not to leave his studio, as they were individually threatening to do.

The musical was very enjoyable in general despite the story, as the musicians were phenomenal. Ben Goddard, who played Jerry Lee

"The musical was enjoyable in general, despite the story"

Lewis, was an especially outstanding pianist and capable singer, and highly gifted in capturing the spirit of the young aspiring hillbilly boy Lewis. The other actors gave solid performances although the least capturing character was Elvis, played by Michael Malarki, who gave a great musical performance but sadly failed to capture the iconic spirit of Elvis. On stage Elvis had a very distinctive way of moving and behaving, a way that banned TV channels from showing him from the waist down when broadcasting his concerts, and that made women go wild in his presence. Malarki did not show this unbelievable charisma and stage presence, which for me is what Elvis was all about.

All in all the performance was amusing; worth seeing if you are a fan of music from the fifties. It was dynamic, fast, fun and lightly digested.

Noel Coward theatre, from £10

Jane Hobson

Fred Durst: *The Musical*, the only thing worse than the *Spiderman* musical

Mad Blut does good

Exploring London knife crime on stage

Will Prince

So often in the media you hear directors and people of the arts talking of their desire to 'transport' the reader or viewer or listener, whatever it might be, away from their mundane reality. Whether the destination is Richmond, Rio or Ancient Rome, all too often you can find yourself back in that reality in a matter of seconds. As I walked out of *Mad Blut*, I could not say the same, but not entirely due to the play itself.

Mad Blut is an exploration of London knife crime, the brainchild of Philip Osment. The piece brings together interviews with victims, perpetrators and a wide range of those involved in between, all brought to life by actors through 'verbatim theatre' – they learn no script but rather hear the words recited through headphones. As the lights went down, my eyebrows were raised, but I was soon too involved to waste energy on looking skeptical.

The style brought with it a freshness and an air of credibility, although at times the cast seemed to lack the full emotion that their words appeared to cry out for. Nevertheless, the stories retain

the mark of the real characters, as they are handled with a delicacy that delivers the message with a real punch (no pun intended). *Mad Blut*'s strength comes in it being so far from the portrayal of knife-crime that gets trolleyed out by the press. Without showering you in numbers, it educates through personal accounts. It gives humanity to the statistics, a feat that I cannot laud enough.

Through the reformed gang member, the grieving mother, the church community discussing the decay of society, the audience is given glimpses into several cases, each with their own colour and personality.

Mad Blut made for an informative and engaging production but it was the Q&A session at the end that really transformed the experience for me. As is always the case with these things, the ball is pretty slow to get rolling and only started with a few ostensibly seasoned theatre types pointing out a few technical points they enjoyed. I'll confess, even I mentally ruminated on what I might say if picked on. What I hadn't banked on was the person sitting behind me commenting that they particularly appreciated the portrayal of Jamal,

who was stabbed in a playground in Walthamstow several years ago, as they went to school with him currently. My jaw dropped. Theatre can widen your empathy to knife-crime, but I'd never anticipated to be looking into the eyes of a girl visibly younger than myself who knew first-hand the subject of the play I'd just watched. She looked naïve and unworried and yet she was living with the grisly issue this entire project was attempting to tackle. And she wasn't alone, other friends, community support workers and prison officers came forward and shared their opinions, even adding real detail to the stories I'd just been told.

I realize this is likely to be unique to my experience, even if it wasn't; I've lessened the surprise somewhat. But it was built on the revealing insight of *Mad Blut* and I cannot stress enough the degree to which I admire project such as this. Topics like knife-crime are impossible to pin down, which makes its accomplishments all more impressive. This theatre isn't perfect, but its intentions are more than noble.

Mad Blut has ended

The Acid Test makes the grade

A 'girly night in' makes for a great night out

Will Prince

I think seeing *Mad Blut* a few days before Anya Reiss' new play at the Royal Court stood me in good stead. Who knows what sharp edged trouble I might have unwittingly meandered into on the walk from South Ken to Sloane Square? That said, any potential cross-fire that was avoided on the journey down, was certainly not in the hour and a half that followed.

The Acid Test, Reiss' second play, invites us into the front room of three twenty-something girls on the night that their swirling maelstrom of lady issues is interrupted by the arrival of one of their fathers, evicted by his missus and her new beau, the roofer. Dana, a flirty blonde, is toying with the idea of sleeping with her boss, purely for professional progress and deterred seemingly only by his gingeriness; the shrill and somewhat ditsy Ruth returns fresh from being dumped by her arty boyfriend; and Jess, daughter of Jim, appears more stressed by her father's presence than anything else. Open the

drinks cupboard and a lot of heart-to-hearts, DMCs and soul baring ensues.

The play does well in the breadth of issues it touches upon, even if a few sound as though they're straight off the MiddleClassProblem twitter feed (which also comes highly recommended). It portrays to a T the frictions of parent-child relationships and the endless supply of embarrassment the former always bring when visiting their offspring – never again will I listen to Marvin Gaye's 'Let's Get It On' without thinking of Denis Lawson, cast as Jim, grooving on down after a few neat vodkas.

But such can surely be expected from a playwright aged 19 (I refuse to go into more detail, the thought of such precocious success doesn't help the revision go down.) Self-worth, married life, sexual desire and sometimes sexual ambivalence all come under Reiss' magnifying glass and whilst the style is fast paced, fluid and very satisfying, the substance is a little thin. The comedy is rich, written scientifically, and the denouement draws to a tidy finish, not be-

fore a few twists. In all, she reminds me slightly of Chelsea's own local football team – technically very good, just short of a little magic and not quite hitting the target as was the case a few years ago.

The production in general has a vitality, no doubt due in part to the lively performances from Vanessa Kirby and Phoebe Fox, the latter's talent belied by her single line of past theatrical work. Dennis Lawson gives weight to the cast and galvanizes the comedy opposite the seemingly effortlessly sour-faced Lydia Wilson, who brings the same ice to the role as she displayed in *The Heretic*. The intimacy of the studio, effectively the Royal Court's attic, is exploited to the full, rather than take down the fourth wall, they let the audience sit on and around it.

The Acid Test is a very tight work that mixes two parts home truths to one part comedy and tops it up with sheer energy and watch-ability. Serve with Dennis Lawson and promising trio of young talent and can't you go wrong. I, for one, am keen to see what Reiss offers up next.

Manuel Harlan



Crying on a sofa with a bottle of vodka? Oh to be 12 again

HOLBEIN & WILLIS-JACKSON

“Careful lads,
don’t burn those sausages!”





Photo by:
ICU
photosoc

MUSIC

Music Editors: **Greg Power**
Luke Turner
Stephen Smith
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Album of The Week



Belle & Sebastian
Write About Love
 Rough Trade
 2010

It was released in October, but a trio of London gigs over the Bank Holiday weekend have rekindled local interest in this album. I have no hesitation in claiming that it is by far their worst album to date, though that has been said by most reviewers of every **Belle & Sebastian** album since 1996. The album is distinctly less melancholy than their previous releases, and features lyrics which at first seem vastly oversimple (“Write about love, it can be in any tense but it must make sense” rhymes just for the sake of it), but over time the album starts to take its place in their musical history. *Write About Love* sounds like the emergence from a dark 14-year-long tunnel of musical exploration. B&S have sung about the complexities of love, life and everything in between, and now they are coming to a retrospective conclusion that life is profoundly simple. This album, like Hemingway’s *The Old Man and the Sea*, is an example of an intelligent artist using simplicity to great effect. **Harry Rickerby**

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

1. Daft Punk
2. Radiohead
3. Bon Iver
4. Arcade Fire
5. Muse
6. The Beatles
7. RHCP
8. The Strokes
9. Crystal Castles
10. Foo Fighters

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

Make sure not to miss

Anaïs Mitchell

Bush Hall, Shepherd’s Bush
 Saturday, 4th June 2011
www.anaismitchell.com

If you think the idea of a folk opera based on a modern interpretation of the Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice sounds pretentious, then you’d be right; but it turns out that **Anaïs Mitchell** has written precisely that opera in a completely unpretentious way. A recording featuring American folk giants **Justin Vernon** (of **Bon Iver** fame), **Ani DiFranco** and **Greg Brown**, *Hadestown* is pure perfection from start to finish. The opera itself was performed in Islington in January, but for those of us who weren’t lucky enough to get tickets in time Anaïs is playing a solo gig in Shepherd’s Bush this weekend. Sure to feature several songs from the opera, and more from her excellent back catalogue, it promises to be a fantastic night. **Stephen Smith**

Field of Dreams

Kadhim Shubber continues the Felix Summer Festival Guide with a preview of East London’s Field Day

I have been trying to pin down what is truly appealing about festivals. What makes them so hellishly fun and why do we go to them? Of course there can’t be just one answer. Part of the fun is getting away from ‘civilisation’ and going a bit mad for a few days; but after a while you can’t help but begrudgingly admit that civilisation, with its comfortable beds, warm showers, and clean clothes is actually pretty sweet. Obviously part of the fun is being with your mates; but it’s probably not necessary to point out that we don’t just see our mates once a year at Bestival. What really makes a festival worth going to, in my opinion, is the line-up. It’s the opportunity to see a whole load of the bands that you love one after another (as well as hopefully being pleasantly surprised by those that you haven’t heard of yet.)

Which is why a big smile came across my face when I saw the line-up for Field Day. It reads like a who’s who of the alternative music scene in London. My eyes initially darted to the names **Jamie xx**, **James Blake**, and **Mount Kimbie**. But as well as the leading lights of the movement that should or shouldn’t be labelled ‘post-dubstep’, I also saw some of the better indie bands around today, like **Wild Beasts**, **Ducktails**, and **The Horrors**.

Even if that were all there was in one day, this would be a festival worth going to. But then throw into the mix Kieran Hebden (of **Four Tet** fame) going deck to deck with James Holden. And then **Matthew Dear** to get some funky grooves flowing. On top of that, a personal favourite of mine is also on the line-up: **Star**

Kadhim Shubber



New Age fun with a vintage feel

Dates: 6th August 2011
Location: Victoria Park, London E3
Price: £39.50
Website: www.fielddayfestivals.com

Slinger. Oh and also **Factory Floor**. Oh and...

Ok I won’t go on *ad nauseam*. But as well as the amazing line-up, if we roll back through the reasons why festivals are fun, Field Day’s format actually makes it almost perfect. Since

it’s a one-day festival, in Victoria Park in East London, it’s easy to get to. So actually you can arrange to go to it with those mates that maybe you don’t see as much as you should – the tickets are reasonably priced at £39.50. And while you do get to get away from civilization and romp around a park for a day, at the end of it all you can, if you want to, hop on a bus and sleep in a comfortable bed. A whole day packed with amazing artists and I don’t have to stand knee-deep in mud to brush my teeth in the morning; sounds perfect to me.

Rodrigo Braga: Imperial’s own Stevie Wonder

Stephen Smith

If this was the NME, I would start this article with a sentence like “**Rodrigo Braga** sounds like the illegitimate lovechild of **Stevie Wonder** and **Paul Simon** backed by a Samba band,” but it’s not, so I won’t. **Rodrigo Braga** is an excellent singer, guitarist and songwriter who performs meaningful and intelligent music which, if approached from a genre perspective, could plausibly be described as a fusion of American and Brazilian folk music. Now that’s proper music journalism.

Rodrigo’s music is complex, sophisticated, surprising and subtly jazz-influenced. On songs like *Drumbeatz* (which can be found on YouTube), you can hear the professionalism and musicianship leaking through your speakers, while *Apollo 18*, a song about rejection of modern culture, leaves the listener drenched in wit.

All this leaves me wondering why Braga is

“You can hear the professionalism and musicianship leaking through your speakers”

not hundreds of times more popular than he is. At a recent gig at Earl’s Court’s The Troubadour, he performed a show-stopping set of fantastic songs which would have had the entire audience dancing had they not got the entire audience thinking first. The distinctly mediocre pop-rock of Braga’s support, **Feldspar**, only highlighted how much of a gem he is amongst a sea of dull musicians.

Braga’s debut, *Between The Waves*, is free to stream at www.rodrigobraga.co.uk



There are probably more user-friendly eye patches out there...

MUSIC

Luke Tomlin



BONED at Metric

Greg Power declares open war on music haters, and invites you to the second Felix Music Night

Felix is throwing another rocking party at Imperial College Union's live music venue and all around super-club, Metric, on Saturday 11th June.

Following the success of the first Felix Music Night - 19.02 - we bring you the most anticipated sequel of the Summer: **BONED**. Come gaze in awe at our incredible roster of Imperial-based musicians from Jazz n' Rock and Music Tech, who will perform for you along with our very special guest, **Becoming Real**.

The line-up for the night is an exciting one, only rivaled by the line-up we had for the original Felix Music Night.

Special guest

BECOMING REAL
(Ghost-Step)

Alongside James Blake and Mount Kimbie, **Becoming Real** is defining the landscape of post-dubstep British electronic music, and we are extremely proud to have him perform at the Felix Music Night. If you are looking for the future sound of London's nightlife, look no further than this brilliant artist. Do not miss it! His unique live performance is unlike any other 'dance' artist you will see this side of Venus.

PHRIJ
(Jazz & Bass)

OPERATION MIDNIGHT CLIMAX
(Progressive Ska)

NICEBERG
(Chipstep & Breaks)

INESCAPABLE FATE
(Death Metal)

SMB
(Deep House)

Back due to popular demand:

SIMON HUNTER, A.K.A. MONSK
(Badman DJ set)

... And you could play too! Are you in a band? Or are you an amateur beat poet? We are still looking for one last act, so give us a shout if you want to take part in **BONED**!

We have purposely incorporated many eclectic musical styles in a single night, so as to appeal to as many tastes as possible, but we assure you it all fits together just right. Each set will be kept short and sweet, and the set-up times in between acts will be minimal, giving you a real bang for your buck.

It is to be a celebration of our local musical scene and an opportunity to bond with other music-lovers, share a drink and make new acquaintances. We want this to be a cross-society bonanza of tasty vibes and sweet music.

So that's 3 bands and 5 DJs: a total of 8 incredible acts, playing all night long for your listening pleasure, and all for a mere £3. Seriously, what more can you ask for?

We chose the date specifically because the vast majority of you will have finished your exams, so there is no excuse for not turning up to a night of fun, kick-ass tunes and great performances. Bring all your friends and their friends: the event is open to everyone, not just for Imperial students. This is the last showcase of Imperial's musical talent this year, and it is set to be a spectacle of epic proportions.

Come one, come all, to **BONED** at Metric on Saturday 11th June 2011.

A statement by Operation Midnight Climax:

In the 1950s, the CIA spiked unconsenting individuals with LSD in warehouses across the U.S. Now, we're not saying we're going to drug you or violate your civil liberties. We will, however, blow your mind with the sheer ecstasy of progressive ska music. Let midnight come so our bodies may unite.

Inescapable Fate are bringing the noise to BONED... in a big way

Greg Power

If you have ever strolled into Imperial Union on a Jazz n' Rock jam night, chances are you've been paralyzed by the sight of **Inescapable Fate**'s members tearing shit up with an admirable disregard for authorized decibel levels. **Inescapable Fate** (IF) is Imperial's foremost death metal band, and they will get the place they deserve in the limelight at **BONED**, the second Felix Music Night, taking place at Metric on Saturday 11th June. We spoke to IF about their story and their performance.

Who are you guys?

IF: We're a four-piece outfit: Kiran plays drums, Sean takes bass and vocals and Laurie and Will play guitar.

How did IF get started?

IF: Laurie and Sean first played together at a barbecue in 2006, covering 'For Whom The Bell Tolls'. After that, Kiran joined them and **Inescapable Fate** was born. After seeing the band live at a Jazz and Rock event, during which performance several fans were nearly ejected from dB's just for enjoying the show a bit too much, Will was invited to join the band, and the lineup was complete.

How would you describe your music?

IF: It's a good mix of thrash and death metal - we try to keep it catchy enough that everyone can enjoy it, whilst making sure that no-one can understand what Sean is saying.

What are some of your influences?

Laurie: There are too many to name,

but the likes of Carcass, Cave In, Entombed, At The Gates and The Smiths are as good as any.

Sean: For my bass playing it'd be Steve Harris, Cliff Burton, Martin Mendez and Marcus Miller. For vocals, I'm a big fan of Tomas Lindberg, Mikael Akerfeldt, Jeff Walker and Randy Blythe.

Will: It's tough to say, since I've listened to so much over the years. I like most things - anything from Judas Priest and Ozzy to Queen, or from Sting to Dream Theater or Opeth - it's all good. Most recently however, I've really gotten into the "djent" movement: bands such as Tesseract and Monuments. It's basically what happens when you mix groove with metal.

Why do you believe there's still a place for metal in modern music?

IF: Metal is an extremely adaptable genre that combines aggression, melody and sheer volume with a cornucopia of different (and sometimes unexpected) influences to produce rich and varied music with few boundaries. And everyone loves a good mosh.

What is the best live performance you've ever seen?

Laurie: Bolt Thrower at ULU in 2010. Classic West Midlands death metal. Bonus points for doing the "death" voice even between songs.

Sean: Iron Maiden at Twickenham Stadium in 2008.

Will: It's not all about how fast you can

play, but I do tend to enjoy the more technical gigs. I recently saw Symphony X play at Scala and it was phenomenal. Their talent is difficult to replicate on a good day, but they were playing above tempo and really working the crowd. It was fantastic.

Why do you think people should come see you play?

IF: Because we're passionate about our music and aim to put on a loud, energetic, and entertaining live show that can be enjoyed by metalheads and anyone with an open mind towards music.

Now all you have to do is come along and support **Inescapable Fate** as they rock the living crap out of **BONED**. Most importantly though, come and headbang your heart out.

Television Editors: **Matt Allinson**
Veronika McQuadeova

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TELEVISION

Glee: It's time to start believing

Matt Allinson relented, watched the damned show, and found out he liked it

Although difficult to explain in purely logical terms, especially when one takes into account the stratospheric amount of money produced by this show, its world tour, album sales and branded lunchbox tie-ins, I think that Glee is underrated. Undoubtedly if you haven't already stopped reading this article it's safe to assume that your eyebrows are raised so high right now they'd be shot down over Libya, so allow me to justify such an outrageous claim.

Straight off the bat I feel the need to declare that I live with two women, women who watch videos of kittens on the internet and insist on the flat having weird things like fluffy cushions, blankets on the sofa, and a clean shower. Furthermore, my beloved girlfriend is an active member of Imperial's fantastic



Musical Theatre Society, and as a result it was only a matter of time before I was exposed to the most potent piece of com-

mercial entertainment of the decade. As Stephen Fry's exceptionally good interview with Lady Gaga in last week's

Financial Times pointed out, it makes good financial sense to appeal to teenagers who feel like outsiders. It also makes good financial sense to produce brilliant pop music, so by combining both, Glee is on to a total winner.

All the above can be confidently stated without seeing a single minute of the show, but what took me by surprise and pulled me into the show was the little-commented-on fantastic sense of humour. Sue Sylvester, the cheer-leading coach bent on the destruction of the Glee club, is the best example of a comedy arch-nemesis character on television at the moment. The rate at which the scriptwriters have attempted to include story lines about every single aspect of teenage life, coupled with the fact that the show has to fit in at least 3 full-length musical numbers, leaves Glee with a plot about as subtle as

Pippa Middleton's arse. However the frantic pace of the show adds breathlessness to the comedy which makes it funnier, helped by some expert timing from the all-singing and dancing cast. So yeah it's auto-tuned in places and is single-handedly responsible for Journey reforming and bringing out a new album, two crimes which it takes a lot to compensate for. However through sheer hilarity coupled with pure old-fashioned sing-a-long and a story so unashamedly feel-good that it actually makes you feel good, Glee somehow manages to pull everyone along in its appeal. I'm no diehard "Gleek", and have no intention of rushing off to buy the DVDs and tickets for the live show, however in the likely event that it's on in my flat, I'll watch it and have a good time; and if you haven't seen it yet I recommend you give it a try.

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Books Editor: **Guo Heng Chin**

BOOKS

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The art of storytelling

Guo Heng Chin guides us through the nuts and bolts of a good story

Do you remember that one time when you stumbled upon a book that captivated you so much you could skip meals and read it way beyond bedtime just because you couldn't bear to tear yourself away from the pages? Or that pang of sadness and longing as you came to the end of the novel and had to part with the wonderful cast of characters with whom you travelled through the pages of the book? There's one thing in common with those books: good storytelling. Here's a brief rundown of the cogs and gears of what makes a story engrossing.

Plot and pace

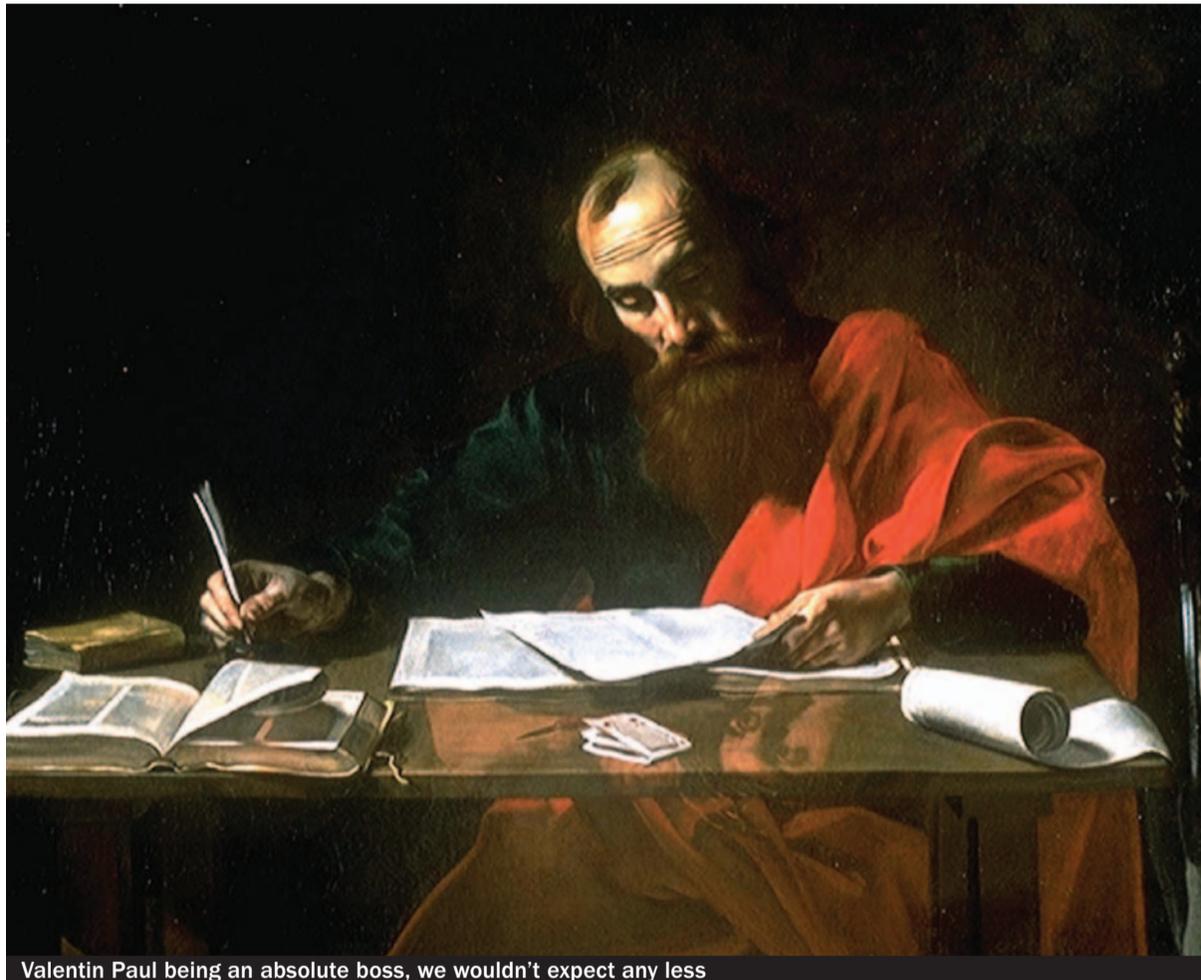
Plot is pretty much defined as 'something happening'. Though plot is the backbone of the story, it's surprising how many modern novelists forgo plot in the name of *avant-garde* experimentation, resulting in a piece which feels pretentious. Without a plot, a story is just a mumbo-jumbo of events.

Plot structure is generally divided into three acts: the setup, where the characters and setting are introduced; the conflict or confrontation where our hero or heroine faces a problem and is required to sort it out, and the resolution or climax, where everything comes together and our hero either rises triumphant or succumbs to the conflict. This structure is generally known as the three act dramatic structure and most stories fall under this category.

Pace is as important as plot itself, for a novel with no significant events for the first 100 pages often puts off readers (unless of course, you are writing for a 19th century audience). A well-paced novel keeps the reader constantly engaged by striking a fine balance between exposition and moving the plot. This balance is more important in science fiction and fantasy novels where whole imagined worlds must be introduced to the reader. An elaborately detailed world lays the ground for more complex stories and gives the reader immense satisfaction when the events unfold through the second and third act, provided they continue reading up to there.

There are plenty of plot devices to drive the plot and rhythm of the story, but as space is constrained, only two will be discussed here. Continuity is when the author plants an item in the early part of the story only to bring it out later in the plot to solve a conflict. A well-executed continuity brings about the 'Ah! That's genius,' moment from readers. Continuity is key to a good plot twist.

On the other side of the coin, there is the *deus ex machina*, a plot device



Valentin Paul being an absolute boss, we wouldn't expect any less

“Throw in a dash of the dark side [...] and you get one engaging character. That's why Darth Vader is cooler than Obi-Wan Kenobi”

which, in my opinion should be avoided at all costs, for nothing spoils a good story as much as a *deus ex machina*. The Latin term translates to 'god out of the machine'; it originates from ancient Greek tragedies where the actor portraying a god is lowered onto the stage by a crane. A *deus ex machina* is when the writer resorts to employing an improbable device which was not previously introduced, or a plot which defies the internal logic in order to excavate his or her characters out of a mire and resolve the conflict (e.g. an omnipotent entity suddenly emerges and solves all the problem). A *deus ex machina* turns to dust all the effort spent developing the plot and shortchanges the audience of the satisfy-

ing conclusion they deserve for sticking with the story for so long. Though not specifically book-related, but nevertheless a good recent example of an otherwise good story lost to *dues ex machina* in storytelling is James Cameron's *Avatar*. Christopher Nolan's *Inception*, on the other hand, was such a satisfying film because it did not break its internal logic even when things got rough.

The importance of plot goes way back into the antiquities: Aristotle, discussing dramatic theory in his seminal *Poetics*, considered plot more important than characters. Which brings us to the next main element of a story.

Characters

Is characterisation second to plot in what makes a story good? Would Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita* achieve the masterpiece status it enjoys had Humbert Humbert not been the colourful and intriguing character he is? Would Yann Martel's *Life of Pi* have won the Booker had Pi been merely as interesting as a pie? Going further back, would Milton's *Paradise Lost* have stayed eternal had it not been for the charismatic Satan?

Characters are what grounds readers to the story. It is with the characters that the readers empathise with, and empa-

thy is the bridge that connects the reality of the reader to the reality of the story-world. I'd like to think of characters as an avatar for readers to enter and explore the world of the story, very much like the Na'vi avatars used by the humans in *Avatar*.

What makes a protagonist interesting? Ambiguity and depth is always appealing. A knight in shining armor with unshakable devotion to the good is vanilla. Throw in a dash of the dark side, and a sprinkle of flaw like arrogance or self-doubt, and you get one engaging character. That's why Darth Vader is cooler than Obi-Wan Kenobi.

Or you can just make him or her tragically flawed like the Miltonian Satan whose own perpetual arrogance brought his downfall. You have to admit though, it's hard not to like a character who still vaunts aloud amidst racking internal emotions.

Or it could be just that the readers find it easy to relate to the protagonist. Bella Swan of the *Twilight* Saga is probably the most one-dimensional character in modern literature but yet an empire was spun out of the *Twilight* books and movies (Kristen Stewart is no better at playing her) because she lives the dream girls and *Twilight* mums around the world can only fantasise about. Harry

Potter started out interesting as he struggled to come to terms with the sudden heap of fame and infamy dropped on his lap as he stepped into Hogwarts for the first time, but in the last few books, he seems to have his gearstick jammed at the angsty teenager gear.

Narrative and style

A good story stays in the mind of the reader after they finish the book, but a good story with great delivery etches itself on the memory of the readers. Storytelling methods have changed drastically from the Dickensian time when an omnipotent third person narrative is conventional. The first person narrative is the norm for modern literature; the argument is that it allows the readers to get into the mind of the character more easily. The third person POV is still alive, though more often in science fiction and fantasy where there is a more pressing need to describe the world around the characters while modern literature prefers to deal with the internal, emotional environment of the character.

Narrative became more creative in the 20th century with literary colossuses James Joyce and Virginia Woolf innovating the stream of consciousness narrative which seeks to emulate the thought process. William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury* tells the same event from different character POVs. Rushdie's revered *Midnight's Children* draws its narrative style from the Indian storytelling tradition: for the first time readers (I was one of them) it might seem disconcerting, but once you get used to it it's a jolly fun ride down the surreal India he describes.

Experimentation with language forms the other facet of storytelling. No writer other than Vladimir Nabokov has such eminence as an English prose stylist. His *Lolita* remains the epitome of prose style; it's the only prose work that exudes such *finesse* in wordplay and wit and an abundance of luxuriant imageries that it reads like poetry.

Putting it all together

Impeccable plot and pace, brilliant characterisation and innovative narrative are tenets of a good story but of course they are not the only elements that make a classic out of a novel. Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged* has not the best writing nor narrative (it desperately needs an editor to trim it down), but its ambitious and controversial themes were what writ her name and the novel on stone. Nevertheless, those three elements are the fundamentals of most good storytelling and are executed to perfection in some of our most cherished stories.

TRAVEL

ICELAND

GUO HENG CHIN SPENDS TWO WEEKS IN THE GREAT ICELANDIC OUTDOORS



I read once that Iceland has the highest proportion of good-looking women in the world and I did not believe it until I went to the thermal pools. After visiting the thermal pools every alternate evening (to chill out of course, nothing else!) I can vouch that it's statistically significant that there are an inordinate proportion of beautiful women in Iceland (Reykjavik at least). The thermal pools are like a beach in summer, and most of the Scandinavian beauties are clad in bikinis even though the temperature above the water is a chilling 3-4 degrees celcius. There must be something in the water.

Moby Dick and the most disgusting food on earth

Culinary experience has always been one of the things I look out for when I am travelling. Iceland may not have the most innovative cuisines, but it does have cuisines that can not be found anywhere else in the world. The first is whale meat. Iceland is one of the few countries in the world where whale is commercially hunted.



The eruption of the glacial volcano Eyjafjallajökull last year severely disrupted European airspace but pinned Iceland on the tourist map. It's easy to see why the island in the middle of the North Atlantic was not exactly the place most opt to go for vacation: it is not heir to a rich cultural heritage as many European countries are, nor does it exude an exotic charm and sun of Asian escapes.

However, Iceland does evoke its own sort of charm. I was in the capital of Iceland, Reykjavik for two weeks to work on my MSc project during which I had the chance to sample controversial Icelandic dishes, frequent the city's geothermal pools popular amongst the locals and explore the great outdoors that Iceland had to offer.

Reykjavik

Reykjavik is the northernmost capital in the world and is believed to be the place where the first Viking settlers who founded Iceland settled. Today, half of Iceland's population lives in Reykjavik.

Like all capitals, it is home to the country's best museums. Icelandic museums are humble compared to the ones in Europe, but are still a rich source of Icelandic culture. The Culture House holds the Icelandic Saga museum on its ground floor. The sagas are Iceland's cherished literary heritage and also serve as a historical account of Icelandic life during the middle ages.

Whale watching is another attraction in Reykjavik. It cost about €40 to go on a trip which lasts for a few hours. In the summer months, the whale watching boats drop by the puffin colonies as well. However, whale sighting is not guaranteed on the trips.

From Reykjavik you can drive or follow a tour around the Golden Triangle circuit, which covers the Gullfoss waterfall, Geysir and Þingvellir (Þ is pronounced as th-) National Park, three of Iceland's popular sights. Aurora sighting trips are available all year round, but are weather dependent.

However, everything in Iceland is exorbitantly priced, especially eating out. A simple meal in a restaurant puts you back 2000 Icelandic Kronur (£10). A paperback costs £13. And a pint of beer costs £5!

Hot pools and hot chicks

One of the distinctive attractions in Iceland is the geothermal pools. The pools are not just tourist spots; they are also the social hub for Icelanders. Maybe the cut-throat price of alcohol makes the pub less appealing for socialising, the thermal pools fulfill a social function very much like the pubs in Britain.

The rich geothermal resources in Iceland have given rise to a large number of thermal pools across Iceland and cheap access as well. Geothermal water used to be channeled directly into the pool but the rich mineral content corrodes the pipes, so now they use the geothermal water to heat up normal water (that's how much geothermal resources they have), so I was a bit disappointed that it does not reek of sulphur like some of the natural *onsen* in Japan. The water in the pool is treated with minimal chlorine, so you are expected to shower thoroughly before you enter the pool.

Traditionally, whale meat has been consumed as cheap meat. In the late 1980s, a moratorium was imposed on commercial whaling, but was lifted in 2006. Now Moby Dick is making a comeback on restaurant menus.

My first taste of the largest mammal in the world was in the form of a burger at a hip restaurant bar called Geysir in downtown Reykjavik. Moby Dick has a similar tangy texture and seared appearance to its bovine counterpart, but a much richer and fuller flavour. It has a distinctive bloody aftertaste, and if you like your beef rare, you would enjoy a loin of Moby Dick.

Moby Dick is available as steak and even on a stick as kebabs. But the best whale meat I've ever tried was at an upmarket sushi restaurant an Icelandic friend recommended me. It's a bit on the expensive side, but definitely worth visiting just for its whale sashimi. The smoked slice of Moby Dick wrapped in a core of wasabi cream cheese, watercress and pickle bursts with heavenly flavour as you take a bite. Dipped in the specially prepared citrus and olive oil soy sauce, it was hands down the best culinary indulgence I experienced in Reykjavik.

Hakarl (pronounced hau-kat), or rotten shark, is the most infamous of Icelandic cuisines. Made from rotting Greenland sharks for 6 months, it has a fearsome reputation and eating it is considered a feat of manliness. Gordon Ramsay puked while eating it. Anthony Bourdain called it "the single worst, most disgusting and terrible tasting thing [he's ever eaten]". It evoked gastronomical terror when I mentioned hakarl to Icelanders; amongst the comments I got from them: "you only eat it once in your life.", and "I wouldn't eat something that tastes like urine...".

Hakarl's reputation stems from its overwhelming ammonia smell, which invokes a gag response from first timers. It comes in unmenacing light brown cubes. The hakarl has a chewy texture and it's only when you munch it for a while that the ammonia stench assaults your taste buds and nostrils. Never kiss after eating it, advised a local.

Venturing into Earth's butt-crack

Iceland may not be well known for its outdoor activities, but it does have some very interesting and unique spots for those seeking adventure. Glacial hiking is certainly a trip worth doing. There is a glacier is two and a half hours away from the capital popular among adventure companies but is large enough that you feel that you are the only human there. You can try your hands on ice climbing on some of the ice walls.

Those with a diving qualification might be tempted to dive in one of the most unique diving sites in the world. Located in the Þingvellir National Park, Silfra is the rift between the Eurasian and North American continental plates, and is a UNESCO World Heritage site. That's right, it's probably the only place in the world where you can dive in between two continents. It's an open water dive like no other because it feels like diving in a water-filled cave; you dive through winding crevices 4-5m apart, and though you stay at the depth of 10m most of the time, right below you is a fall of up to 30m! Silfra also has a stonking visibility of over 100m, making it one of the best viz sites for diving anywhere in the world. The National Park is also home to the world's oldest parliament, right next to the Silfra crack.

Lifestyle Editor: **Richard Keller**

LIFESTYLE

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The éclair that grates relativity

Charles Betts

Last week, whilst consuming a coffee and éclair, I had a debate with a friend about string theory, gravity, and whether everything is made of particles or waves. It was then that a rather charming French friend stopped for a brief chat. And, sure enough, we concluded that French women are definitely made of waves (not that they don't have good particles too).

It was at that moment that the topic of Dominique Strauss-Kahn's alleged rape on a New York chambermaid strung up. And it appears that amongst the quagmire of myriad rumours and juicy details that have engulfed the story, one thing stands out: France romanticises sexual predation.

In a country where cafés and patisseries are found on every street corner, it is apparent that sex and politics go together like croissants and coffee. It is why many people had little problem with the reputation of the married former IMF chief and presidential hopeful as a "great seducer", entrenching many a woman's gravitational field. France is sexy and proud of it – a country where flirting, seduction and sensuality add a certain spice to the daily dose of *joie de vivre*.



This éclair is totally blowing my mind right now...

Feminists say that, to succeed in France, women in politics, business and the media have to put up with "heavy flirting" bordering on harassment. But as my friend pontificated on how France is questioning its self-image as a land of

easy sexual give-and-take, where men flirt and women parry and no one makes a fuss about it, my mind ventured into a parallel universe as I could just not get over how underwhelming my chocolate éclair was – I might as well have been

eating a pastry filled with liquid poo.

The problem with all those French patisseries that have started to conquer London – Paul, Ladurée, Pierre Hermé – is that they are all overpriced, all incapable of producing a decent éclair. The

"Sex and politics go together like croissants and coffee"

difference between these patisseries and Greggs is that in the former you expect to find high standards of service and product, as well as originality, flair, and sophistication. But you don't.

And then there is Dalloyau, located in Paris. Only two and a quarter hours from St Pancras, it's worth the trip because the French have kept the best for themselves. Their éclairs are brilliant. Just brilliant. The chocolate crazily rich, the pastry delightfully light. As my mind faded during my discussion with my friend and turned towards the lacklusterness of my éclair, I could only gauge that Physics and its Theory of Everything doesn't have an answer to why so few things are absolutely the best in their class. Everything is supposed to be relative. And yet my taste buds tell me that the only éclairs that stand out, that are without question and unanimously the best of their kind, are those from Dalloyau.

Do you have no friends and no style? Perfect! Write for Lifestyle

Are you hilarious, topical, witty and well written? No? Well neither are any of our Lifestyle writers. If there is something that you feel strongly about, a burning issue that cannot be left untackled, a point that you feel needs to be made urgently, then feel free to submit a 600 – 800 word piece to Lifestyle. lifestyle.felix@imperial.ac.uk.

We will allow people to write anonymously but we will not accept anonymous submissions (we at least have to know who you are.)

We'll give extra brownie points to students who let us know what they're writing about before they write it.

100 minutes from LCY to ZRH

Richard Keller on a relaxing sojourn in Zurich

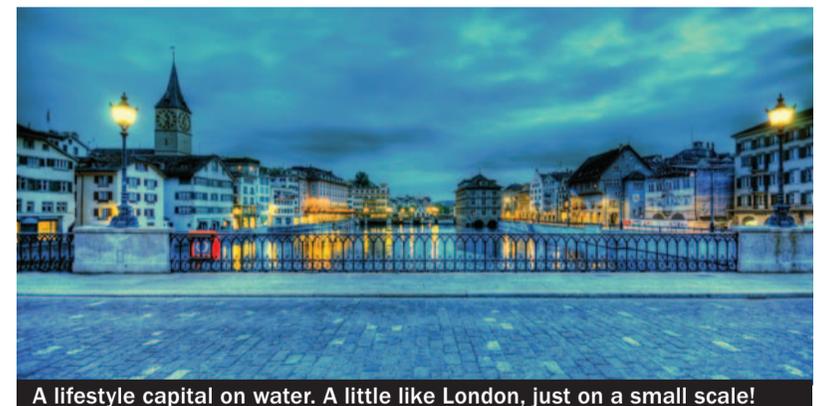
I was in Zurich last week; a beautiful sunny day in what the *Zürcher* like to consider to be the best of Switzerland, its peak. It lacks the 15,203 ft altitude of the *Dufourspitze*, though, on a day like today the view across the lake is just as amazing. Strolling along *Bahnhofstrasse* the fashion statements (for women) walking by present themselves mainly as wearing shorts or a mini skirt, leather boots that go all the way up to the knees with flat heels and a top that has flowers printed all over it. In short, life is beautiful here.

It's refreshing to get out of London every so often; there is an unmatched pace to the city that is going to cost me a few years of my life one day. Right now I don't have to worry about that, I've come here to delve into the well-liked societal appetite for coffee houses. One thing to note about the city I'm in is that it's probably the most un-wordly banking-capital. There's only one week every year, when the world's *bottin mondain* come to Zurich, the week before the Art Basel opens its doors. This

is the time when the best parties take place. Rich people usually only visit Zurich to see how their money is doing, then fly home again the same day.

Sitting in a little café in a side street just off *Paradeplatz*, the people in Zurich appear to be generally very happy. It seems nobody is working today; everyone has become a member of the 'Café Society'. A perfect place to discuss business, art, politics and philosophy; and to gossip. There has been a revival of the coffee houses again, after they first flourished in the 17th century. A meeting point for people of all classes, which has become the place of choice for work, rest and play – somewhere in-between home and office.

With free Wi-Fi this conveys the impression of an ideal location to get some work done for the day. I can start typing on my laptop while sunk into an armchair and kindly ask the waiter to bring me a hot masala chai covered in a thick layer of lovely frothed milk. It's like working from home, with an endless supply of *Luxemburgerli*, little cream



A lifestyle capital on water. A little like London, just on a small scale!

filled delights, to go with your tea.

Spinning the globe you may find coffee houses to be a far cry from what you expected. Don't hope to be served an Italian espresso in a Middle Eastern *ahwah*, or a hot chocolate in a dutch *coffeeshop*. What remains is the idea of a place for people to gather and shape commerce, literature, history and revolution alike.

Hours later, when it is still 28 degrees

and all work is done, there's nothing better than to enjoy a freshly made ice cream. *Acanto* is not the gelateria at *Piazza della Cisterna* in San Gimignano, where you can enjoy licking your *amarena cornetto* under the Tuscan sun, but it's as close as you can get. Switzerland is not Italy, but there's always an Italian close by *che fa buon gelato italiano*. Then it's back to business, I have a flight to London to catch in two hours.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES



RIFLES, POLAR BEARS, AND SUB-ZERO TEMPERATURES

ALEX KENDALL REPORTS ON PREPARATIONS FOR SUMMER EXPEDITION TO SVALBARD

So of course you're going to have to take rifles." "What?" We had gone to see Lorraine Craig, Chair of Imperial's Exploration Board, about our proposed expedition.

"Rifles. There will be polar bears on Svalbard; they outnumber people. I've had them poke their heads into my tent once or twice."

"Ah, okay... yes we'll take rifles."

And so began the process of turning the thoughts that I had during the summer of 2010, into a year of planning and preparation. The aim was an expedition in the summer of 2011 to Svalbard in the European High Arctic, an archipelago of large islands between 78° and 81° North.

None of us are climbers or had any other particularly technical experience. What we can do is walk, and what better place to walk for long distances than over an ice cap. Imperial has seen three expeditions to Greenland in the last 10 years, but the last time an Imperial expedition went to Svalbard was in 1960. Our plan was simple: walk for a long time over Svalbard. The details (how, where and for what reason) were to be worried about later.

Our team of six had the first team meeting. Training started shortly afterwards, twice a week and then one weekend a month. The plan developed – we would be hauling sledges each weighing about 90kg for 350km, aiming to summit Svalbard's highest mountain

We're taking "enough [food] for each person to have 4500 calories per day"

Newtontoppen (1717m) and reaching the 80° north line of latitude, which just touches the tip of the main island, Spitsbergen.

At the end of the Autumn term, over New Year's, we all went to Scotland, camping for a week to practise being cold and hauling sledges. Unfortunately for us it must have been the warmest winter Scotland has had for a while.

Temperatures rarely dipped below zero and there was a worrying lack of snow. After hauling the sledges over a high pass above Rannoch Moor, we gave up out attempts at skiing and hauling and decided to set up a base camp and walk from there. This however required us to be close to a pub for the coming New Year celebrations so after a 7km walk along a frozen loch in the dark, the most pathetic petrol fire ever made and a short train journey, we settled down as the only campers in Roy Bridge for the rest of the week.

The episode in Scotland convinced us that skiing wasn't a good idea and so we are now taking snow shoes and crampons. The rest of the equipment and food list was a mammoth task in itself to

purchase and assemble and at the time of writing most of the 400kg of it is sitting in a warehouse in Wandsworth, waiting to be shipped next week. 300kg of that is food, enough for each person to have 4500 calories per day. The food list is extremely important as to have the energy to trek at temperatures averaging -15°C we not only have to eat a lot, but have the morale and desire to eat it. The main meals consist of a carbohydrate with a sauce. Choosing the sauces involved an evening sitting round with about 15 powdered bags of sauce 'tasting' them. Most were inedible and were ditched but we have a cosy selection to give us a bit of variety. As well as main meals we have powdered desserts, porridge and raisins for breakfast, and 1000 calories per person per day of snack food.

The main difficulty in planning an expedition is trying to understand what it's going to be like when you get there. The problem is that most expeditions go where no one is really sure what it really is like. The main settlements of Svalbard are well known and we were lucky enough to have met people who have lived and worked there who have been extremely helpful. We have received a huge amount of help from the British Schools Exploring Society who are helping us ship the food and equipment and some brilliant advice from their Leader in Svalbard – "don't go up that glacier, it's 100% impassable" (nuff said, we're avoiding that particular glacier). Most of all though, Imperial's Exploration Board have been crucial in not

only providing us with financial support and advice, but also for putting us in touch with other funding bodies. I was recently asked by the trustee of one trust if we'd like to take his father's rifle with us to the Arctic as it had been used in the 1930's to shoot seals.

The skills we needed to learn range from expedition first aid to crevasse rescue to shooting, all of which we'll hopefully never have to use. It may seem odd to prepare for a year for a month's travel but the nearer it gets the more exciting it becomes. We leave on August 7 and begin walking on August 10, returning to the Nordenskiöldbreen glacier where we started on September 10. Half of that time will be in 24 hour daylight and nearly all of it over ice and snow. Most of the time we will be 1000m above sea level and there are dangers from crevasses, polar bears, frostbite and fog that can last for days are very real. If we reach our 80° north objective and carry on the 7km to the northern tip of Spitsbergen there will be no more land until the North Pole. But after a year I know we're ready.

So all in all I'm not too worried about the polar bears. Two rifles, a flare gun and four trip wires should be enough. All the preparation means we can concentrate on appreciating the spectacular place we are going to. Jagged mountains covered in ice and snow stretching into the distance; an ice cap hundreds of metres thick that will be our home; the sun in one long set and rise, never quite touching the horizon until late August; and the feeling of being in the wild.



From left: Alex Kendall, Andrew Elliott, Nathaniel Bottrell, Sietse Braakman, and Heather Jones. 6th member Alistair Cott is not pictured

HANGMAN

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Twitter ... is not here again.



So yeah twitter is still not back. I'll tell you why. Imagine exams are a Catholic priest, and we are boys. They can't keep their hands off us, and no one will stop them.

Unintentionally Homoerotic Rap Lyrics



Jay-Z - La-La-La (Excuse Me Miss Again)

"That's gay. I ain't into liking dudes. No way."

Me thinks the lady doth protest too much. Also I think if you just talk to a woman and say 'Excuse me miss, but I am straight' she may think you're overcompensating slightly. Maybe that's why you had to ask her to excuse you again - you are coming off as defensive.



Black Rob - Whoa

"Finger near a nigga asshole like whoa."

Yeah they will be saying "whoa, what the fuck is your finger doing so near to my asshole?"



DMX - Party Up (Up In Here)

"You niggas remind me of a strip club. 'Cause every time you come around it's like: 'What? I just gotta get my dick sucked'."

So your idea of a party is informing your friends that looking at them makes you want a blow job. That may ruin the mood a bit.



Lejo - Now It's On

"Keep your posse on my penis."

I think his posse would have something to say to that you know. Do they not get a choice in the matter? They should form a union.



Nate Dogg - Hardest Man In Town

"I got a lot work to do so toss me and be gone. You're a big man now."

A rude way to ask for a hand job. The second sentence implies it is a rite of passage.

DRUNKEN MATE OF THE WEEK

Send your photos to felix@imperial.ac.uk. As facebook stalking to find them is hard

People in exams: worse than Mladić?

Guy who walks out after half the time:

He puts his hand up and gives in the neatly stacked answer sheets. He then stands up and walks out with a self-satisfied grin on his face. The fact that he is a smug bastard is why he is so used to 'self-satisfying'. He waits around and tells everyone how 'stimulating' that exam was and how he found question 3 part b 'incredibly interesting'.

Girl who has a mental breakdown halfway through the exam:

She's been revising for months now, but will still go and throw up after an hour. At the end informs everyone that she has 'failed', results day comes, she got a first.

Guy who takes the paper with him:

He'll be writing and scribbling out answers all the way to the end. He will also not fill in the front cover of the extra paper he has until after the exam has finished. The minute it takes to fill out the front could be crucial. After the exam he runs home and looks up every answer, and tells everyone in a 5 mile radius that he thinks he missed a mark or two.

Guy who uses 10 booklets:

Sitting up at the front, he writes an essay for a 1 mark question. For a 3 mark question he writes 2 essays and will later cross one out after deciding that it doesn't include every min-

ute detail. He seems to take pride in the fact that, while normal human beings are struggling to even put down one word, his alien brain is spouting out thousands of poetic sonnets, even in a maths exam. Will probably be talking to **Guy who takes the paper with him** and **Girl who has a mental breakdown halfway through** after the exam.

Guy who is coughing and sniffing the whole way through:

He's either taken too much cocaine that morning or, more likely, is too timid to put his hand up and ask to go to the toilet. Please, for the sake of everyone in the entire hall who can hear you sniveling, just man the fuck up and ask to get some tissues, I'm sure you'll recognise them from your nerve-calming escapades the night before.

Guy who still hasn't mastered how to fill out and stick down the strip at the side:

No, you don't rip off that bit, that's for them to rip off if they can't read your name. You deserve to fail just for that.

Girl who is wearing as little clothing as possible:

She thinks she's fit, like a real world 9. She's wearing denim shorts so short they actually qualify as a belt, presumably mistaking the exam hall for a fucking Rihanna video shoot.



Rule #34 of the tabloid guide to journalism: the question mark in the title means that anything goes...

In case you didn't notice her, she walks in after everyone has sat down and slowly heads to the front, giving every guy a 'you're a pervert for even daring to set eyes on me' look.

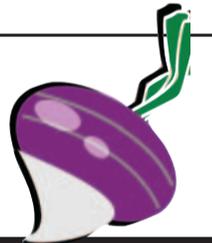
Guy who walks in late thinking he's a badboy:

Yeah, that's right bitches, I don't care about anything. It's an exam, and I don't even give a shit. Oh, I'm late; yeah well I play by my own rules. I'm going to just sit down and lean back in the seat like I'm Fat Joe.

He thinks that his rock star ways mean that **Girl who is wearing as little clothing as possible** is 'dripping wet for him'. She thinks he's as much of a dick as everyone else does.

the turnip

Hangman's Finest College News Source



Higgs boson found in sock drawer

The Higgs boson has until now been an entirely theoretical construct. Mainly so that fat people can shift the blame for all the times they ripped their trousers when kneeling down ("if it weren't for the Higgs particle I'd be wafer-thin!"). The discovery did not, however, occur in the supercooled coolness that is the LHC, but in fact in a lowly undergraduate student's bedroom one morning as he was looking for that one missing sock that you can never find. We tracked down this extraordinary individual for an interview:

"Honestly I forgot I even had that. Last [night] me and my housemates got pretty blasted at the union and as we wandered back home we just found it in a garbage pile outside Burger King. My mate was like 'dude I think that's the Higgs boson.' I didn't even know what that was because I'm a biologist, but I stole it anyway as stealing traffic cones is so cliché. When I got home I forgot about it and passed out."

If the employees at Burger King realise what they threw out with the trash (and that's a pretty big if, we are talking about burger-flippers here



I usually find lube, old magazines, and a whole lot of shame in my sock drawer

after all) they will no doubt attempt to claim the Higgs boson as their own, although should this occur it is likely that this lucky biologist will invoke the law of shotgun, thereby nullifying any potential lawsuits placed against him.

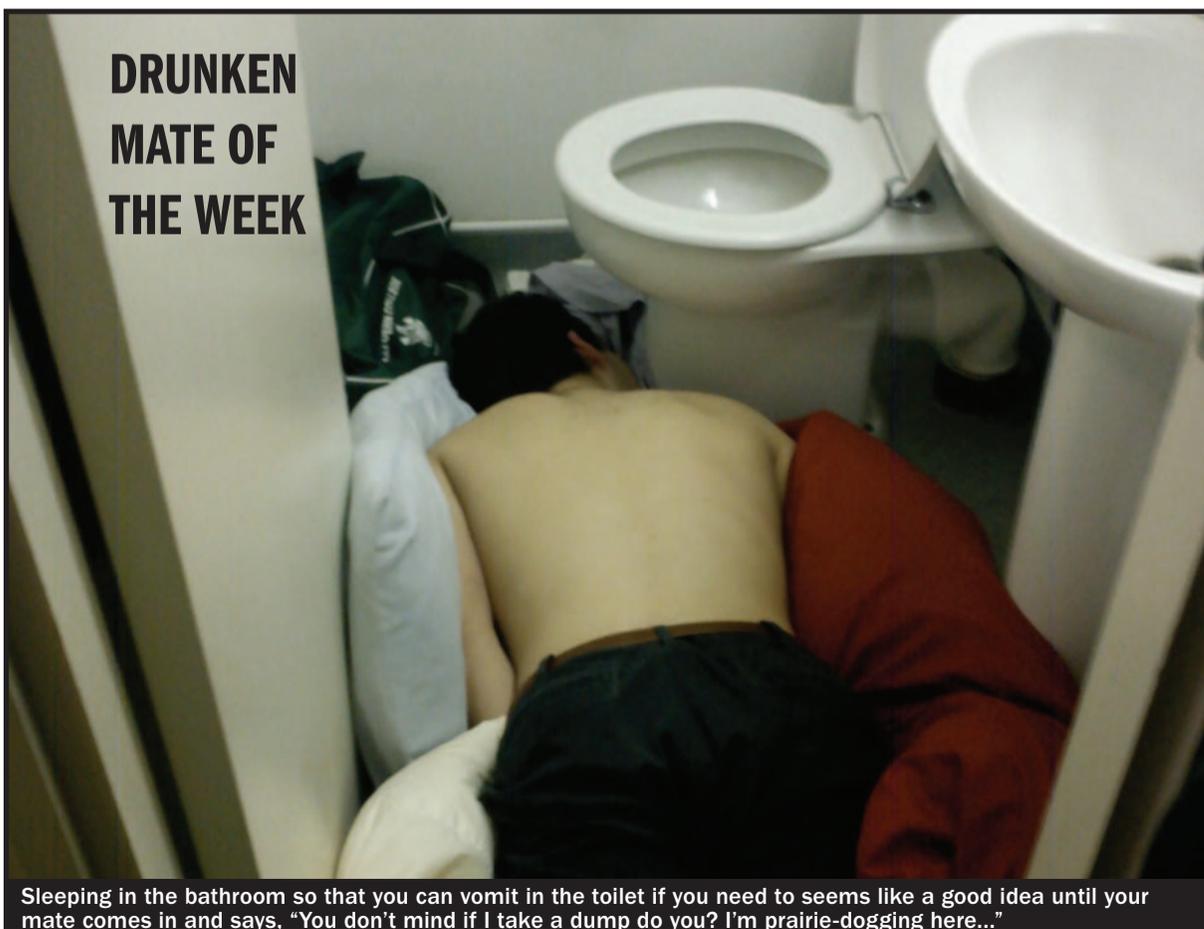
The implications of this discovery are enormous: not only are we now one step closer to understanding the Universe, but all those an-

noying physicists who bet against its existence because the money would be a consolation prize will now be that little bit poorer, unable to afford pocket protectors for the next term. Our biologist is certainly going to be winning this year's Nobel Prize in Physics, which he'll probably spend on student essentials: paying off his loans and copious amounts of alcohol.

THE NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS



Man waves hands in air, reported to “just not care”



**DRUNKEN
MATE OF
THE WEEK**

Sleeping in the bathroom so that you can vomit in the toilet if you need to seems like a good idea until your mate comes in and says, “You don’t mind if I take a dump do you? I’m prairie-dogging here...”

Horoscopes

Aries

This week, you’re in the cinema when the man beside you plays the old ‘I’m yawning’ trick. You begin to suspect that he’s a bit of a maverick when instead of putting his arm around you, he just stares open-mouthed at your face. For the entire film. Without blinking...

Taurus

This week, you’re a fluorescent light bulb. You have a perfect vantage point to stare down girl’s tops. However, you do not have hands or genitalia to pleasure yourself. Life’s a bitch, no? Also, you overhear that you’re getting replaced by new-fangled spotlights. Damn hipsters...

Gemini

This week, the end of term is tantalisingly close and you start planning your summer holidays. Unfortunately you get an internship at a bank and thus consign yourself to the grind instead of the beach. Obviously it’s your call but you can’t help think that it’s somehow Thatcher’s fault...

Cancer

This week, you’re manning your post in Afghanistan when a group of Taliban fighters launch an attack. You charge into a hail of bullets and single-handedly repel the assault using only the chin strap on your hat. In honour of your bravery, Prince Philip lets you shag Queenie.

Leo

This week, you’re trying to surreptitiously take a photo of some young children. You’re not being weird or anything, it’s just a beautiful shot. Ok, maybe you shouldn’t have offered them sweets and locked them in your basement but GODDAMNIT IT’S ART!

Virgo

This week, you’re having a relaxing cigarette outside the Library when some guy walks out and spills his coffee all over you. You take the only reasonable course of action and stub your cigarette out on his forehead. He looks at you with joy and says, “You’ve finally noticed me...”

Libra

This week, you’re trying to shag Ariane. She’s such a fucking tease. You’ve complimented her, identified the constellation correctly, and even fucking had a bloody conversation with her. What do you have to do to get this cyber-chick to give it up!?!? GAH!

Scorpio

This week, you’re living upside down. It’s not the best to be honest. You spend the whole time smelling people’s feet and trying to stop falling into the sky. The toilet arrangements are frankly unspeakable and getting punched in the nuts constantly is getting annoying...

Sagittarius

This week, you’re wondering if you’re going to let your boyfriend lick your asshole. It’s kind of weird, but then again it might feel nice. When you explain your conundrum to your overstressed, exam-mode best friend, you’re unceremoniously told to “fuck off.”

Capricorn

This week, you decide to start going to a martial arts class after getting the shit kicked out of you in the Union. On the first day the instructor calls you in front of the class and roundhouse kicks you in the face. Apparently you’ve “just got that kind of face.”

Aquarius

This week, you get a booty call from your hottest ‘hoe’. Apparently her ‘bitch-ass man’ is asleep and she’ll be coming over to yours with “no panties on.” You’re not impressed and shout down the phone, “goddamnit mom I’ve got an exam tomorrow!”

Pisces

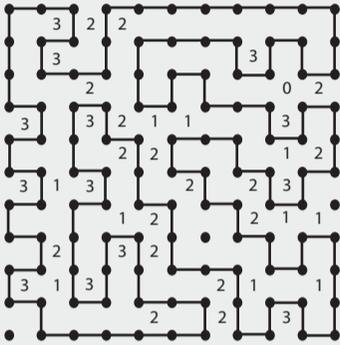
This week, you’re trying to pay attention to the person that you’re talking to but you’re distracted by the massive bulge in his pants. He notices and says, “Oh don’t worry, it’s just my lunch” and pulls out a lump of rotting chicken. You politely decline when he offers you “a bite.”

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

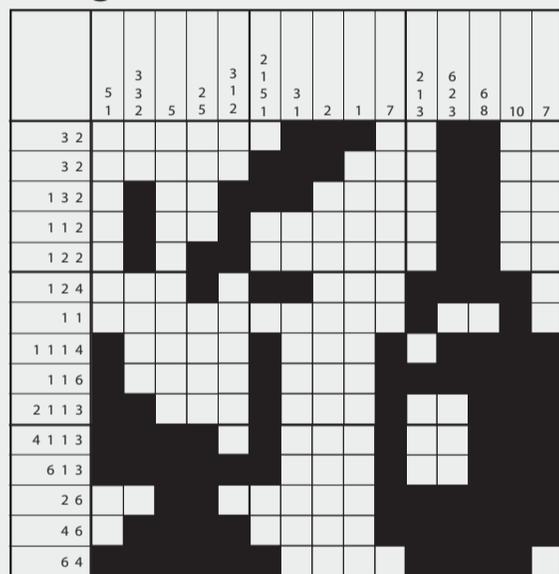
PUZZLES

Last Week's Solutions

Slitherlink



Nonogram



Crossword

QUICK



CRYPTIC



GOING UNDERGROUND

B	E	L	S	I	Z	E	P	A	R	K
2	5	12	20	9	26	5	16	1	17	11

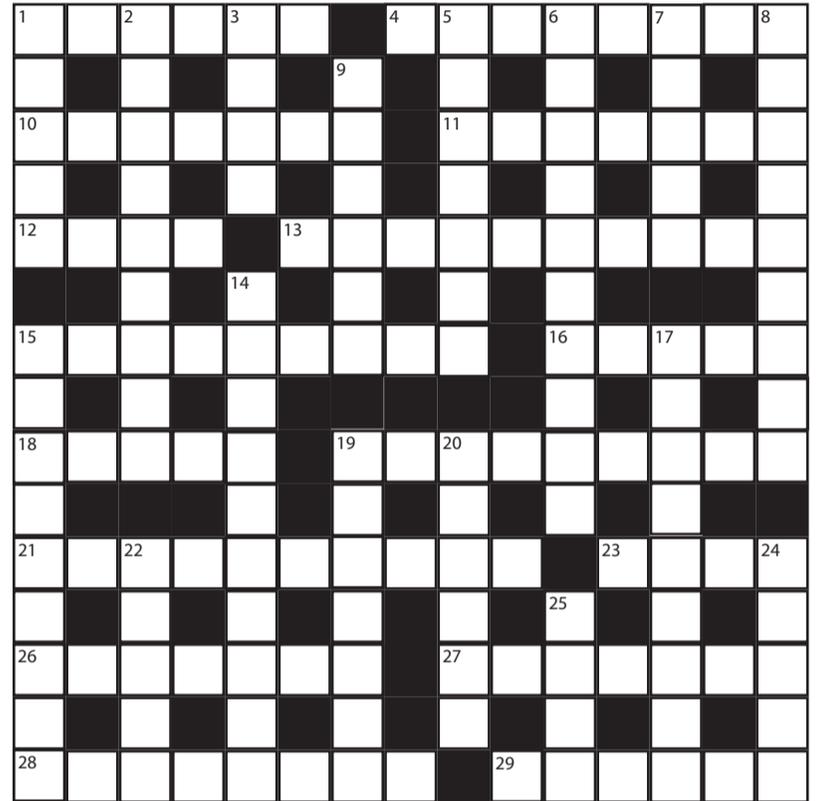
Crossword

Across

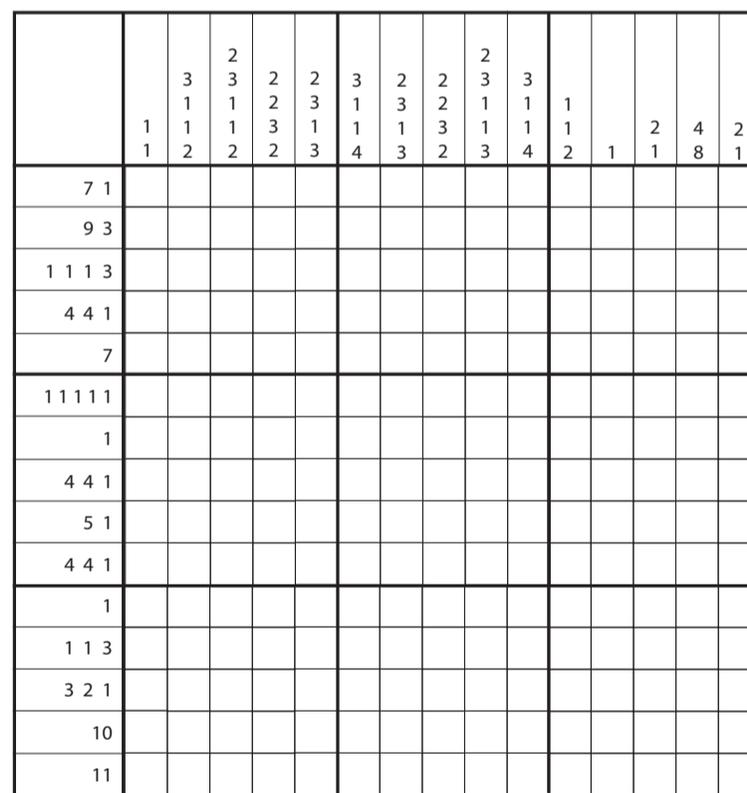
- Fasten; crumple (6)
- Act as an impediment to (8)
- Newspaper piece (7)
- Moroccan city located near the Gibraltar Strait (7)
- Feeling nothing (4)
- Something achieved by a small margin (5,5)
- Not allowed (9)
- Media award (5)
- Listlessness and dissatisfaction due to lack of excitement (5)
- Roman commander (9)
- Argentine Marxist revolutionary (3,7)
- Saliva; layer of earth (4)
- Existing forever (7)
- Continent (7)
- Stone with layers of chalcedony and agate (8)
- Plymouth _____, football club (6)

Down

- Physical strength (5)
- Boat with twin hulls in parallel (9)
- Small parasitic insects (4)
- Skilled craftsman (7)
- A cheese (6,4)
- White ceramic (5)
- White ceramic (9)
- Removed outer covering (6)
- Decrease in loudness (10)
- Arrow makers (9)
- Inappropriate levity (9)
- Soldiers on horseback (7)
- Of small width (6)
- Title for various Muslim leaders (5)
- Make fun of someone (5)
- Withstand (4)

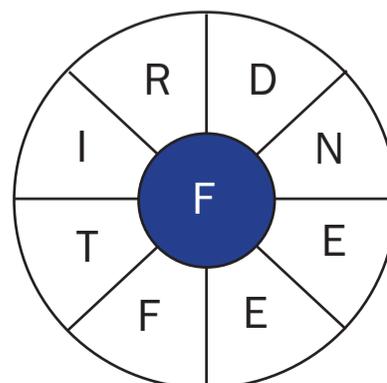


Nonogram - ARMAGEDDON



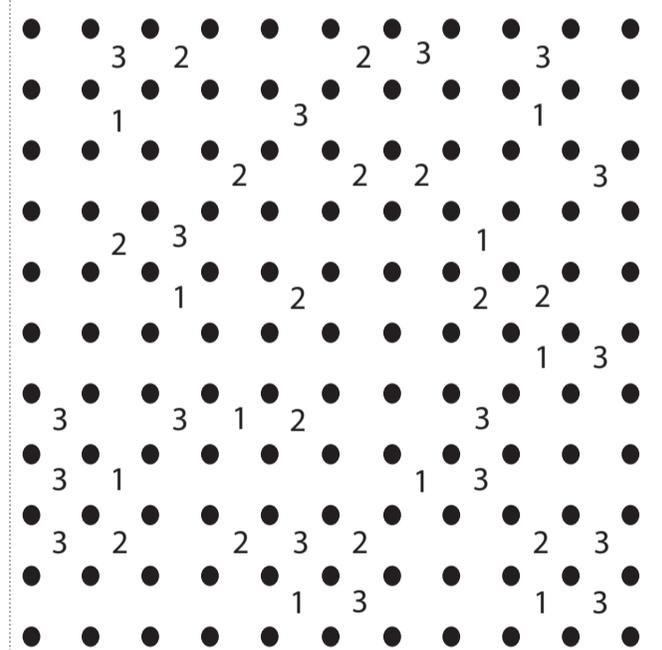
Word Wheel

TARGET: 27



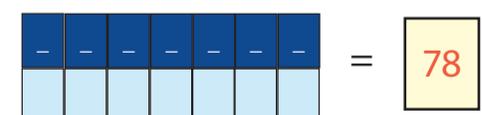
Make as many words of at least 4 letters as you can, always using the central one. **NO** plurals, conjugated verbs, comparatives or superlatives, because I said so.. There is always at least one 9 letter word.

Slitherlink



Going Underground

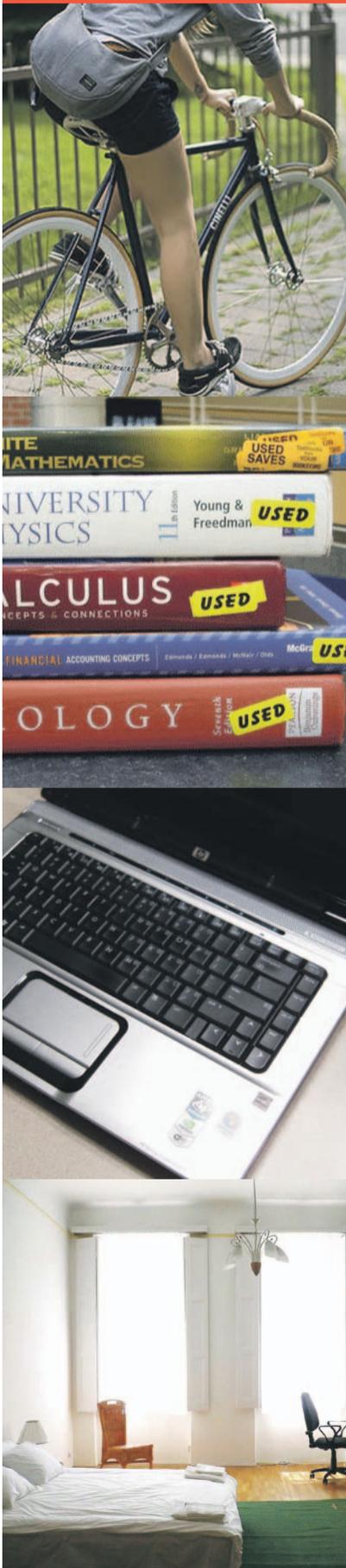
Which London tube station sums to?



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

Master Bedroom

Master bedroom in West Brompton.
Available 19th June – 5th September.
£145pw (or best offer).
Fully furnished with desk and king-sized bed.
Three minutes walk to West Brompton tube.
Contact Michael via mlt09@ic.ac.uk

Double Room

Small double room near Lancaster Gate.
£130pw + bills and fortnightly cleaner.
Six weeks deposit required.
Sharing with two professional women in early 30s.
Non-smokers aged 25–36 only.
Contact dgarciam@ic.ac.uk

Flatshare

Flatshare in West Kensington.
Available 21st June – 10th September.
£135pw including internet.
Sharing with two male penultimate year computing students.
Contact csl209@doc.ic.ac.uk

MISC

Auditions for IC Big Band

IC Big Band are auditioning for new vocalists and musicians.
Open to all students, staff, and employees.
More info at: www.icbigband.co.uk/IC_Big_Band_Auditions.pdf or email Chaz via ck1007@ic.ac.uk

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.

Women Seeking Men

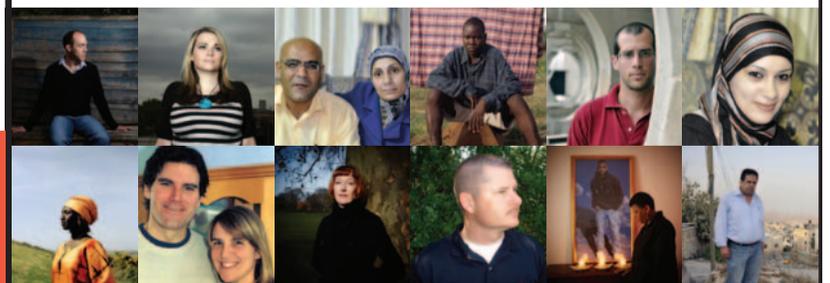
Stupendously bored wannabe journalist looking for vibrant and exciting fresher guy. Must be willing to sing loudly in the street and be interested in the finer details of the rise and fall of G-Unit as a musical force. If interested, leave a large flan outside the library on Wednesday at midnight, I'll be watching..

The FORGIVENESS project

An exhibition telling the stories of people responding to the trauma of criminal and political violence or acts of terror. These are accounts of people who have survived tragedy, who have lived through atrocity and who have found it in themselves to forgive.

The Forgiveness Project exhibition
Sherfield Foyer
8th–16th June

Opening evening: 8th June
5.30pm – 7pm: Opening of the exhibition, with refreshments, followed by 'Dialogue on Forgiveness' led by the Chaplaincy.



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SPORT

Felix Sports League

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Women's cricket

Priya Shah



Imperial women's co-captain, Priya Patel sharing the runner's up trophy with Hampstead's captain

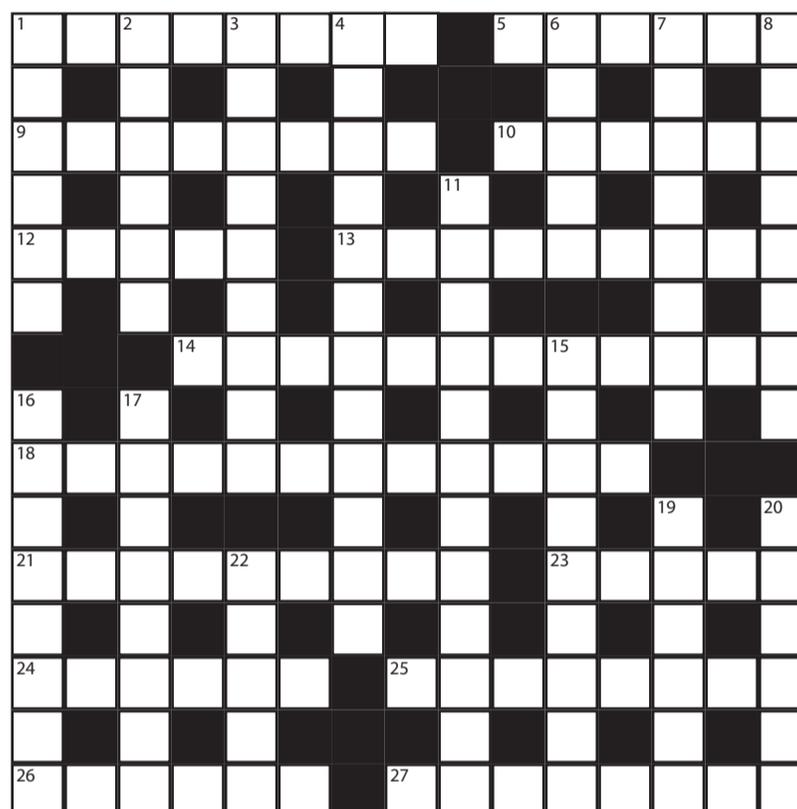
...Continued from Back Page
ished at the top of the group thus making the final.

A tense playoff match for the third position, between Potters Bar and Headstone Manor ensued. Even with the pitch slowing up, Headstone Manor managed to post a challenging total of 49, losing just the one wicket. In reply, Potters Bar started well, however 3 quick run outs left them reeling and left the song 'Another One Bites The Dust' ringing in our ears. Nevertheless, the lower order batswomen steadied the ship and managed to guide their team to a rather nervy victory and thus achieved 3rd place overall in the tournament.

And so, it was time for the final. The atmosphere was tense, with Wanstead choosing to bat first. Bessie opened the bowling, and with Wanstead showing aggressive intent Hamperial showed off some great fielding, stopping some crucial boundaries. Lucy H bowled next, hoping to thwart the batswoman with some slower balls. However, Wanstead seemed undeterred with some powerful strikes leaving the Hamperial fielders helpless. A high edge off the last ball of the over, offered Hamperial some hope, but alas it was too high for Vicky the WK-y. After 3 overs, the score was 40 for no loss, despite accurate bowling from Rebecca and a great dive by Lucy to almost stop a boundary. Jenny D started her over well with two dot balls, but Wanstead punished a solitary loose short ball, pulling it to the boundary for six. Desperate to break the partnership, Jenny H bowled the last over. However, there was no stopping Wanstead whose openers seemed to be able to find the gaps all around the ground, regardless of some attacking fielding by Bessie at backward point. Finishing their innings with 62-0, Hamperial knew they had a match on their hands.

Jenny D and Jenny H opened the batting with great intent – smashing one four over midwicket and hitting a gorgeous straight drive over the bowlers head. With 14 being scored off the first over, Hamperial were slightly ahead of the required run rate. Unfortunately, the next over proved to be our downfall. Wanstead's Melanie had a sensational catch off her own bowling, following this by bowling Hamperial's Becca for a golden duck! On her hat trick ball, the pressure

Cryptic Crossword 1,491



Across

- 1 Russian purists thrown out of the saddle (8)
- 5 The occupants have no wok, so back on the plaster! (6)
- 9 Pear tree torn down to provide witty banter (8)
- 10 Multiple marriages annulled by wise men (6)
- 12 Purple bacilli split to lose two (7)
- 13 Widespread cases of mid-pieces bursting at the seams (9)
- 14 Sewing shop decapitates Harld (12)
- 18 Group frenzy as stray messiah runs wild (4,8)
- 21 One crocus uprooted on the highway (9)
- 23 Sad to build the other way around (5)
- 24 Large drinking vessel absorbs shock (6)
- 25 Somehow arraign a ruralist (8)
- 26 Holiday beyond the Orient (6)
- 27 Positions of stopping place (8)

Down

- 1 Southern ogre goes for a walk (6)
- 2 Skewer me, and I become wan (6)
- 3 Make a mess when you scorch a rhodium psych test (9)
- 4 Those who came before managed to repress codes, somehow (12)
- 6 Termite without Electromagnetism is a bit cliched (5)
- 7 An instrument for putting some wine in wine (8)
- 8 Homeric trips (8)
- 11 Boxer's centre of mass (12)
- 15 Mixed malt units can really wake you up (9)
- 16 A bisexual camel is confused yet friendly (8)
- 17 A man's sit ripped to shreds in the tidal waves (8)
- 19 We skim off the top of the milk, revealing ourselves as Inuits (6)
- 20 Has patience for supports (6)
- 22 Honour to South-Eastern fat people (5)

was too much and she gave away a wide – leaving Hamperial to breathe a very long sigh of relief. Vicky, the new batswoman in, set about increasing the run rate with a powerful four over mid wicket and guiding the ball past the square leg umpire. Unfortunately, it was not to be, with Vicky being bowled for 13 runs and 27 needed off the last over. Hamperial ended with 47-3 off the 5 overs, losing to worthy winners Wanstead, and finishing 2nd overall.

The post-match ceremony was carried out in the spirit of the day – with fun and friendship. It was a truly fantastic day out, and the Imperial College Ladies aka Ice Cream Ladies were all welcomed with open arms. We'd like to thank Hampstead Cricket Club for inviting us to partake in the tournament.

Read this article online at felixonline.co.uk

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

Cricket coalition finish second

Captain **Priya Shah** reports as Imperial women's cricket team join forces with Hampstead



No, we don't understand why the dog is there either...

Cricket, cupcakes and comedy – who could ask for more on a glorious Bank Holiday? For those of you weren't chained to your desks revising, you'll remember that Good Friday was like the perfect English summer's day. With the clear blue skies, sun beating down and public deciding 'less is more' when choosing their outfit for the day – one could have mistaken this to be in the height of summer.

Imperial women's cricket team were lucky to be invited to join forces with Hampstead women's cricket club, in their inaugural 6-a-side tournament. Little did we know that we had been welcomed into the arms of celebrities, with Jim Carter (actor) as Chairperson of the Hampstead CC and acting as master of the ceremony for the day.

Imperial took a squad of 5 players to the sun drenched ground in Hampstead, ready to face women's teams from all over London. First up, Imperial & Hampstead (whom I'll now refer to as Hamperial) faced a confident looking Headstone Manor. With only the loss of 1 wicket, some quick singles, and an economical over bowled by Priya Patel, Headstone Manor achieved a mediocre 39 off their 5 overs. Becca and Jen, the two opening batswomen for Hamperial, took 1 over to get their eye in, not wanting to be over complacent. With 3 fours and a single scored by Jen in the second over, Headstone Manor were left floundering. The barrage of fours continued and Hamperial raced to victory comfortably within their 5 overs – leaving the Headstone Manor girls shamefaced.

After a rather long mobile max timeout (long live

the IPL) – in which we ate our weight's worth of cupcakes and flapjacks, Hamperial faced Underhill in their second group match. Our reputation as a strong batting side continued, with Amy scoring a quick fire 33, including two sixes. It was only afterwards we found out that she was actually a hockey player!!! With Leanne being clean bowled, Hamperial were determined not to falter, and Bes-sie joined Amy to steer us to a comfortable 65-2 off 5 overs. Great overs were bowled by both Kiran and Kushani – each taking a wicket and Kushani taking a great catch at deep mid-off, off Kiran's bowling. Combined with some impressive fielding by Kirsten, this ensured that Underhill were dead and buried, reduced to 31-5.

From the following group matches – it was evident that Wanstead, Potters Bar, Headstone Manor

and Hamperial were the strongest teams. With two comfortable wins under our belt, and one group match remaining, we were resolute not to enter the final with any black marks on our mark sheet. The match against UCL was a tense affair. A mean first over bowled by Kushani set the tone, and UCL struggled to find the gaps in the field. With only 23 on the board, a tight final over by Priya Shah giving away just 2 runs restricted UCL to 25-1 from their 5 overs. Hamperial, feeling confident that the match should soon be in the bag, opened the batting with experienced batswomen Kushani and Lucy H. However, UCL bowled perfect line and length, leaving Hamperial struggling to push the run rate past 5 an over. Frustratingly, the match ended in a tie; however it still meant that we fin-

...Continued on Page 31

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TELEVISION



Why you should believe in Glee: [Page 20](#)