**ISSUE 1493** 

#### "Keep the Cat Free"

#### 17.06.11



The student voice of Imperial College London since 1949

Charles Poor

**Union Colours Awards** 80 students honoured by Union for 'outstanding contributions': Page 3

### **ARTIFACT: SCIENCE MEETS ART**

Imperial and Royal College of Art students collaborate in a new project that combines science and art: Page 16

### **Union forced to** clarify future of **Summer Ball**

No concrete long-term strategy in place says Union

#### **Ben Scally** Kadhim Shubber

The Union has been forced to clarify that no plans for the future of the Summer Ball have been set in stone after several Deputy Presidents raised concerns following last week's Felix article. Union President Alex Kendall said that the statement given to Felix regarding plans for the future of the Ball gave the 'wrong impression" that the decisions had already been made and emphasied that student input would be sought and included in future decisions

In a letter printed this week in Felix the Union admit that the "idea and vision" of moving the Ball to Hyde Park may not "necessarily reflect the wishes of the student body" and reassures that no decision would be taken without properly engaging the student body: "Any change of venue would need to be discussed at [...] the Council of the Union."

The statement originally sent to Felix last week, from a senior Union official and approved by the Union President, laid out plans to expand the Summer Ball into "a larger student ball for London" co-ordinated by the Union. The clarification was forced after three Deputy Presidents (Education, Welfare, and Clubs & Societies) and two members of the Union Executive Committee raised concerns that the statement made

to Felix suggested that concrete plans had been put in place when they had in fact not.

Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) Heather Jones said, "I felt it necessary to clarify to the student body that the Summer Ball is decided by students and that no long-term decisions had been approved."

Alex Kendall said that Felix had not misrepresented the statement and that the Union is still of the opinion that a bigger Summer Ball would be better, explaining that the way to have more high-profile live acts without increasing the cost is to expand the Ball. However, he conceded that it had been made to seem that a concrete decision had already been taken. In the letter the Union admit "this is not a strategy that has been brought before the Executive Committee of the Union or to Union Council and voted upon.'

The letter says that "ultimately it is not [the Union's] opinion, but yours that matters" and urges students to "come forward and make your voice heard."

The original statement also said that the Union had an "expression of interest" from UCL on collaborating on the Ball next year. However, Matthew ...Continued on Page 4

Professor Sara Rankin is asking school children around the UK to donate their baby teeth. Find out why on Page 6



Union Court rules that Kendall

did not behave inappropriately

when he told student to with-

draw from election: Page 4

#### Further details on CaSE decision

College confident about ability to lobby independently as it emerges that Management Board took decision to leave: Page 4

#### Summer election results

Election complaints finally settled and full results of delayed central Union election released: Page 6



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#### MUSIC



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White-water rafting and active volcanos: **Page 21** 

Professors win President cleared by Union Court

Professor Nigel Brandon and Professor Elisabeth Paice recognised on Oueen's Birthday Honours List. Page 3

**OBEs** 

## HIGHLIGHTS

### On campus

#### Nestlé Marketing Director on business experience

Vernon Bradley, current Marketing Director at Nestlé, discusses his 30 year career which has spanned markets across the world. He also holds 12 years of exposure to the high profile Chinese market. Open to all with tickets requiring booking in advance. Visit http://bit.ly/lx2xDz to register.

## Lecture Theatre 2, Business School 20 June 18:30–19:30

#### **Freezing time with lasers**

Professor Physics John Tisch explores a world of highspeed measurement technology, in which laser-based cameras of capable freezeframing motion are being developed. Open to all with registration required in advance. Contact k.weeks@imperial.ac.uk to register.



#### LT 1, Blackett Laboratory 22 June 17:30–18:30

#### **Greying Matters**

This free event brings together Imperial researchers and the British Society for Immunology in order to investigate what exactly happens to our brains as we grow older. The talks will be followed by a series of games designed to test your memory and presentations into the work of young scientists. Open to all with tickets to be booked in advance. Contact tickets@danacentre.org.uk for tickets.

### Dana Centre, Science Museum 23 June 19:00–21:00



### Last issue next week!

\*cough (not this week)



There probably isn't a more appropriate time to use the words, "well, this is embarrassing." Due to a, shall we say, 'timetabling oversight' we mistakenly said last week, and the week before, that this would be the last issue of the academic year. In fact, that's not the case, the last issue is next Friday 24th June. Feel free to point and laugh, and then maybe give a small cheer for one more week of Hangman, Puzzles, and all that 'news stuff' that I know you all love to read. Next we'll have a bumper issue for you with a review of the year and more Centrefolds than is probably legal to print...

Editor

# THE SCIENCE MAGAZINE OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE **NEW ISSUE DUT**

## FRIDAY 24TH JUNE

LISTEN TO THE LATEST I, SCIENCE PODCAST ON WWW.ISCIENCEONLINE.CO.UK

## Lolcat of teh week



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## NEWS

#### Imperial success in Birthday Honours List

#### **Matt Colvin**

Two Imperial professors have been recognised on the Queen's Birthday Honours List, which was published last Saturday.

Professor Nigel Brandon, Director of Imperial's Energy Futures laboratory, has been awarded an OBE alongside Professor Elisabeth Paice, Visiting Professor of the Professorial Department of Surgery.

Professor Brandon received his OBE for services to relations in science between the United Kingdom and China. Brandon has been a leading figure behind facilitating partnership between scientific communities in both the UK and China, resulting in collaborative projects between the two countries on the issue of clean and renewable energy.

Professor Paice was recognised for her services to Medicine. Paice has acted as Dean Director of Postgraduate Medical and Dental Education for North Thames from 1995 to 2001 and as Dean Director of London Deanery from 2001 until 2009. She developed a new educational commissioning system as Acting Director of Medical and Dental Education at NHS London from July 2009 until April 2010 and was named as NHS Mentor of the Year 2010 last December.

## Union awards honour students

#### Matt Colvin

Winners of this year's Union awards were announced on Monday at the final Union Council meeting of the academic year.

The awards recognise those working across the Union, from clubs and societies to representation, with a belief that 'those who have gone over and above what is expected of them should be recognised.'

Of the 109 individuals nominated for awards, (consisting of Colours, Outstanding Services Awards and Union Fellowships) 80 were decided to have met the necessary criteria to receive an award.

At the Council meeting, special praise was reserved by Union President Alex Kendall for two award winning individuals.

Kendall commended Dan Wan, who has received an Outstanding Services Award, for his role in publicising and helping to organise December's Life Sciences protests.

Additionally, Fellowship winner Nathaniel Bottrell was lauded for his extensive work in Union minibus training, with Kendall claiming that trips requiring the use of vehicles could not have gone ahead without him helping individuals to become approved



#### drivers.

Christopher Birkett and Jenny Wilson received the highest accolade possible, a Fellowship with Distinction, thereby being deemed by the Union to have made 'an innovative development to the work of the Union such as to leave a positive legacy that will make a lasting impression for future members.'

#### Colours

#### Ahmad Alsaadi Diana Anderson Dominic Andradi Brown Aaron Berk Elwin Carlos David Coolegem Bernice Cutler Rory Fenton Elizabeth Griffiths Joseph Harris Stuart Haylock Jasmin Hodgson Vanessa Hume Mevani Jagodage Robin Jones Christina Kontoghiorghe

#### **Outstanding Services Awards**

Paul Beaumont Deena Blumenkrantz Michael Colwill Michael Foster Adam Funnell James Geraets Scott Heath Christopher Hopper

William Ibbotson

Oluwatosin Ajavi

Gilead Amit

Benjamin Lindsey Kin-Hing Lo Roxanne Middleton Annalan Navaratnam Isaac Obisanya Jack Patten William Pearse Stefan Piatek Charles Poon Gregory Power Kajann Prathapan Uthishtan Ranjan Thomas Rushton Mohammad Salamsi

Laura Jeffrey

Nigel Kheng

Elena Lovo

Joe Mckenna

Ben Moorhouse

Nathaniel Bottrell

Anil Chopra

lad Marrouche

Jenny Wilson

Stefan Nubert

Jonathan Kim

Adam Khamis

Roger Liew

Chia Lim

Hamza Shaikh Aamir Shamsi Varun Sharma Christine Simpson Shivendra Singh Michael Squire Charles Thomas Ryan Tunstall Marcus Ulmefors Kevin Wallace Oliver Wilkie Edward Willans Simon Worthington Jennifer Zanin

Rhodri Oliver Mark Ramsden Deep Shah Kadhim Shubber Dan Wan Henry Whittaker John Winters Monya Zard

Hannah Thedorou

**Imperial College Union Fellowship** 

Fellowship with Distinction Christopher Birkett Jen

#### **President's Awards**

Senior Stewards Team Dan Wan Simon Archer Cinema Society

Physics & Medicine (for undergraduate representation)

#### Council denies DPFS Honorary Life Membership

#### **Matt Colvin**

The decision of Union Council on Monday to award Honorary Life Membership (HLM) of the Union to only five of six Sabbatical Officers, excluding Deputy President (Finance & Services) Ravi Pall, was overturned at a meeting of the Union Court on Wednesday.

The rejection of the Council's decision arose after a complaint that the procedure of the HLM vote was unconstitutional as the Sabbatical Officers were asked to leave the room while the other Council members debated the awards. The Sabbatical Officers were also not allowed to vote. In the constitution it stipulates that all full members of the Union, which includes Sabbaticals, have a right to participate in all Council discussions. Although the practice of asking the Sabbaticals to leave the room is a longstanding unwritten rule, the Court ruled that it violated the Union's constitution.

In the decision to deny Ravi Pall Honorary Life Membership, some Council members cited what they deemed to be an unsatisfactory effort throughout But Union Court quashes decision due to unconstitutional voting procedure

his year in office. The RCC Chair, Nathaniel Bottrell, pointed to the Deputy President's short written report for that Council meeting as indicative of his efforts. The members subsequently voted whether to confer Pall with membership, with five voting for and six against, along with 10 abstentions. Union President Alex Kendall explained his misgivings about the Council's decision: "Ravi has done a great job this year and has been a very proactive Sabb. He has a strong personality and this can sometimes test some people's patience but he is a good man and has had to deal with some tricky issues this year."

Ravi Pall argued that because a lot of his work involved sensitive staffing issues, it was impossible to report fully to Council. He said that Council members "massively underappreciated the amount of effort [he] had put in" due to the loss of two permanent staff members, the Finance Manager and Commercial Services Manager.

While no complaint was made against the result during the meeting, one made afterwards led to the issue being discussed at Wednesday's meeting of the Union Court.

Union Court Chair Hamish Common said that it was "with a heavy heart" that he quashed Council's decision because Council had not knowingly acted improperly and that it was common sense to ask the Sabbaticals to leave the room while they were being discussed; he suggested that it would be a good idea that the constitution be changed to allow this practice to continue.

An emergency meeting of Council met on Thursday lunchtime but it was abandoned as it was not quorate. Another meeting has been scheduled for the 22nd of June, when Council will again decide on HLMs for the sabbatical team.

#### Sponsored Editorial

### **More student cuts** Discount haircuts for Imperial students at Fresh Hairdressers

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- shake dry £28 Women's shampoo, cut and
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News Editors: Matt Colvin Alex Karapetian

news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

## NEWS

#### **In Brief**

## Management Board rook decision to leave CaSE

It has emerged that the decision to cut Imperial's  $\pounds$ 3,000 per year membership of the Campaign for Science and Engineering (CaSE) was made by the College's Management Board.

A trusted source, who wished to remain anonymous, told Felix that the Board felt that Imperial could lobby effectively by itself and through the Russell Group, and therefore had a reduced need for CaSE.

A College spokesperson did not confirm or deny the claim but did appear to suggest that Imperial's own lobbying efforts were sufficient, saying that "every week many members of the College are interacting at the most senior levels in government and Parliament" to ensure that Imperial's interests are properly represented.

The spokesperson also said that Imperial had made savings in excess of £70,000 over the past two years due to ceased subscriptions. He further explained the principles behind the decision, saying that the College looks for "clear benefits from the membership or subscription fees it pays," which in general involves influence on the organisation's strategy or the receipt of direct services that benefit Imperial's activities.

CaSE Director Imran Khan said "senior government ministers have publicly credited" his organisation with "helping to make the argument for sustained investment in science, and for making sure that the UK's immigration rules reward science and engineering skills." He said that most CaSE members saw this as a benefit of support CaSE but said he respected Imperial's right to take a different view. **Kadhim Shubber** 

## Dyson provides money for Imperial engineering scholarships

The James Dyson Foundation has set up a £1 million scholarship scheme for postgraduate design and engineering students. The Dyson vacuum cleaner creator said that engineering needed to be promoted to help the UK's economic recovery. The donation will be used to fund four postgraduate bursaries of £25,000 per year for students at Imperial, Bath, Bristol and Corpus Christi Cambridge, awarded on the basis of "passion" for engineering, academic ability and financial need. **Alex Nowbar** 

## Treasury finally appoints Chief Scientific Advisor

A chief scientific advisor (CSA) has finally been appointed to the Treasury, previously the only remaining government department without a CSA. The position is being filled by James Richardson, who will retain his role as the Treasury's director of public spending. CaSE director, Imran Khan, applauded the move saying, "We desperately need someone within the department who can talk about how critical a long-term investment strategy for science and engineering is for the UK's future." **Alex Nowbar** 

### Union Court clears President Complaint that Kendall intimidated student not upheld

#### Kadhim Shubber

The Union Court has ruled that Union President Alex Kendall did not act inappropriately when, during the central Union elections when he was Returning Officer, he told a student to withdraw his nomination for the position of Community Action Group (CAG) Chair. The Court also ruled that Kendall had not acted in a biased way in approving candidate material.

The complaint was made on the 30th of May by He-in Cheong after Kendall emailed Student Trustee-elect Abdul Patel at the opening of nominations on the 9th of May, saying that he could not be CAG Chair because trustees cannot hold other positions on another Union Committee and then telling him to "withdraw from the election". Abdul Patel claimed that he had felt intimidated by the President's email and was bullied into withdrawing. Furthermore, the complaint made to Union Court argued that the Union President was incorrect to suggest that Abdul Patel could not run for the position, saying that he was allowed to contest the election but would have to resign one of his positions if he had won.



The Court decided that because Returning Officers had the power to force candidates to withdraw from elections, it followed that they also had the power to force candidates to withdraw their nomination if they were illegible. On the issue of illegibility, the Court decided that candidates should be forced to resign their position if they run for a constitutionally incompatible role.

On the question of whether Abdul had been intimidated into withdrawing from the election,

the Court argued that if there was any damage caused by the initial email, it was remedied by the emails that followed. Through several emails on the 9th of May, and a Facebook Chat conversation, Kendall explained in more detail to Abdul Patel his options. The chain ends with an email from Abdul Patel in which he says that he doesn't have the time or resources to mount a strong enough campaign against his possible opponent for CAG Chair and then goes on to thank the President for his "invaluable advice." The Court Chair Hamish Common said that although Abdul Patel later claimed that the real reason that he withdrew was because he had been intimidated, there was no direct evidence that he had not meant his words when he said them.

Alex Kendall apologised to He-in Cheong, who brought the complaint on Abdul's behalf, for the language he used in emails to her while discussing the complaint. In an email sent on the 31st of May, Kendall called her "bloody pathetic" and accuses her of being corrupt. Although his conduct towards He-in Cheong was not the subject of the complaint, Kendall admitted that his behaviour was inappropriate.

#### Union clarifies Ball plans

...Continued from Front Page Burgess, Sabbatical Officer for Finances and Services at UCL Union, told Felix "a collaboration would only happen if it were on UCL campus" and emphasised the importance of "a UCL event on UCL campus." UCL has previously staged its Summer Ball off campus but moved it back due to overwhelming negative feedback from its students. In response to Imperial's offer of collaborating in a future Summer Ball, Burgess said, "We feel it's a nice idea but wouldn't move the event off our campus."

A senior Union official told Felix that the expression of interest came from a "senior staff member" at UCLU and that not having UCLU, one of the largest Student Unions in London, on board would have a "significant impact" on future plans for the Summer Ball.

The spokesperson said that the Union will "consult heavily with Imperial students next year to determine the steer for next year's event" and emphasised that the Union would "first and foremost" plan a Ball that fulfilled the wishes of Imperial students above "a wider audience." However, the spokesperson also said that plans for a London-wide student Ball would be would need to be in place before the start of the new term. It is believed therefore that feedback from this year's event will play a crucial role in determining the future of the Summer Ball.

The Summer Ball will be held on Saturday 18th June. Tickets are £45 until midnight on Friday 17th June and then £50 on the door. Tickets can be bought from thesummerball2011.com.

## Former Rector sacked from board

Sir Richard Sykes ousted in mining company coup

#### **Alex Karapetian**

Sir Richard Sykes, a former rector of Imperial College, is one of two people to have be ousted in a boardroom coup within the Eurasian Natural Resources Company (ENRC) two weeks ago. The former chairman of Glaxo-SmithKline and now ex-deputy chairman of the Kazakh mining company was removed from the 14-man board along with his fellow independent director Ken Olisa, after a vote by the company's shareholders who claimed they were tired of the two interfering, The Independent reports.

The company was surrounded in controversies regarding their public listing on the London Stock Exchange and Sir Richard is calling for the Financial Services Authority (FSA) to tighten its listings rules following the latest disputes which arose regarding corporate governance. He said that "there are serious questions to be raised about the corporate governance of companies like ENRC. It should never have been allowed to list on the London exchange with such a small free float and such dominant shareholders."

The founding shareholders supported on the board by Kazakh government representatives are Alijan Ibragimov, Alexander Machkevich and Patokh Chodiev. Sir Richard claimed the trio were mad and described his experience as having been "more Soviet than City", calling for "a much tougher [regulatory] regime, otherwise London's reputation will be damaged".

The company entered flotation on the London Stock Exchange in 2007 with less than 20% of stock available to the public, below the requirement for entering the FTSE 100. The FSA made an exception to the company, deeming it to be large enough for its shares to be liquid. An independent review, however, recommended that the founding shareholder trio, which held 35% of the company between them, should not serve on the board. Flotation was ultimately delayed by six months.

Sir Richard Sykes held the position of rector from 2001 and was succeeded by Sir Roy Anderson in 2008. The biochemist was the Senior Independent Director and non-executive Deputy Chairman and Chairman of the Remuneration Committee of the ENRC from October 2008. He is currently the Chairman of The UK Stem Cell Foundation.

Commenting to the Daily Telegraph on his time on the board, Sir Richard explained "the reason [he] joined this company was because [he] thought it had great potential" and that it was "difficult to understand why there would be so much conflict." He reasoned that "it goes back to the fact that less than 20% of stock was free float with the rest government stock".

The ENRC have been in a variety of controversies besides the flotation concerns, including their purchase of a mine in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the resignation of the chief executive Felix Vulis for "personal reasons" in 2010.



## THE RCSU SUMMER BALL 2011 WEDNESDAY 29TH JUNE

## RCSU.ORG.UK/BALL







**Tickets £15** 

News Editors: Alex Karapetian Matthew Colvin

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## NEWS

#### **In Brief**

## Department of Mathematics top in Europe for research

Imperial College has been ranked as having the most influential mathematics research of any institution in Europe by a recent chart created by Thomson-Reuters. Ranked 13th for top institutions in mathematics, above any non-US institution overall, Imperial is listed as having 777 papers with 5,369 citations as of February 2011.

Dr Emma McCoy, Head of the Department of Mathematics, said that she is "very proud of this success, which reflects the breadth and depth of our world-leading research" and that the ranking is "testament to the years of intense work that has been put in by many over recent decades".

The rankings involved counting the number of citations per researcher to determine the level of influence the research papers have had and included research published from 2001 to 2011.

She added that the rankings demonstrate the "impact this research is having, not only in the mathematics community, but in the positive influence mathematics has on the world around us".

Two mathematicians were also singled out by the rankings as particularly "highly-cited" individuals, notably algebraist Professor Martin Liebeck and geometrician Professor Simon Donaldson, who is one of the most well known mathematicians at Imperial. Professor Donaldson, widely regarded as one of the top mathematicians in the world, received the Fields Medal at age 29 and is also a fellow of the Royal Society.

Professor Maggie Dallman, Principal of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, said that "research in mathematics underpins our understanding of many key areas of life" and that she is "pleased to see Imperial is celebrating such international success in this field."

"We are also proud to be working collaboratively with researchers, at home and abroad, to fulfil our goals and bring about significant global economic and societal benefits". **Alex Karapetian** 

#### **Union election results**

The election results were delayed pending the Union Court's decision regarding the complaints made against Returning Officer Alex Kendall – **See Page 4** 

CAG Chair – Heather Jones Council Chair – David Smith Court Advocate – Abdul Patel Disabilities Officer – Charlotte Ivison Entertainments Committee – Jiajun Tan, Alan Soltani, Jack Hewitt Environmental Officer – Yaroslav Voropayev Equal Opportunities Officer – Dolan Miu Gender Equality Officer – Dolan Miu Gender Equality Officer – Joachim Dias Interfaith Officer – Sayinthen Vivekanantham International Officer – Hao Gan LGBT Officer – Christopher Schlumberger-Socha RAG Chair – Jack Hewitt

A more detailed breakdown of the results can be found at www.imperialcollegeunion.org



t almost sounds like something straight from a children's fairytale: using the milk teeth of children to build a palace. But this is no tooth-fairy-gone-rogue story, rather it's the inventive collaboration of Imperial's Professor Sara Rankin and artist Gina Czarnecki. The pair aim to move the debate about stem cells away from the controversies of embryonic stem cell research and to challenge perceptions about discarded body matter with a new project called 'Palaces'.

The project's centrepiece is a 2-metre high sculpture made from crystal resin, a "spectacular fantasy palace" that will slowly be covered with children's milk teeth. "Just as barnacles cluster in groups or in the same manner that crystals form and grow, so too will the milk teeth spread and proliferate across the surface of the palace," says Czarnecki, explaining how the piece will grow organically over time.

Children are encouraged to send in their teeth when they fall out and are 'compensated' with a special 'milk token' that they can leave beneath their pillow as an I.O.U. for the tooth fairy. Professor Rankin jokes that her son wanted to know if she had tested the tokens to make sure that they actually worked.

One of the objectives of the project is to remind the public that the term stem cells doesn't only refer to embryonic stem cells, but also to adult stem cells that are found in bone marrow, teeth, and even fat. "This is about moving the debate on and increasing people's understanding. The term 'stem cells' get bandied around a lot because people don't know that there are different stem cells," says Professor Rankin. Currently, we discard certain 'waste' body

Currently, we discard certain 'waste' body parts, like teeth, fat from liposuction operations

and umbilical cords, when they're actually a rich source of adult stem cells. The research that Professor Rankin is currently focused on, which involves trying to activate adult stem cells within the body instead for regenerative purposes, could see these 'waste' body parts becoming extremely valuable.

But this is not only about making a scientific point. 'Palaces' has a much broader and loftier goal of encouraging interest in science. "This is using art, not to illustrate science, but also to catch people's interest and to get them to ask the questions," says Rankin. Outreach is a large part of her academic life. She remembers how visiting an outreach laboratory in Bristol as a teenager transformed her life and made her realise she wanted a career in science. "I had no idea that research was an option until that visit. That's why I think it's really important to give that opportunity to as many people as possible."

As a PhD student she used to grab up some equipment from her lab and head over to schools where her friends were teaching and do demonstrations for the kids. As well as the general benefits of getting kids interested in science, she says, it was good for them to see a female scientist. "When you ask kids to draw a scientist, it's always an Einstein-esque man."

She's keen for Imperial students to get involved as well. Both by donating their teeth – you'd be surprised how many parents keep their kids' baby teeth, she tells me – and by going to schools and spreading the word. It's clear that Professor Rankin feels passionate about the importance of outreach. She points out that it's not just the children who benefit, "it actually brings a lot to your career in terms

of communication skills, presentation skills, and it's also a nice diversion from the daily grind of academia."

'Palaces' has received coverage in the major news outlets and has garnered attention world-wide. It will be first exhibited in Liverpool this December, before coming to the Science Museum from April–June 2012. The plan is to travel the sculpture as much as possible so that children who have donated a tooth can come and see where it has ended up. "I love the idea that children are going to be able to give a single tooth, and then later perhaps visit the Science Museum and they can see what donating something has created," says Professor Rankin. The hope is that the experience will encourage children to think more positively about donating in general and carry that through life.

The project currently has around 500 teeth but they're aiming for around 12,000. The teeth so far come from all around the world, including Brazil and the USA – they're asking people to submit their location when they submit so that they can track geographically and chronologically the growth of the project. So does Professor Rankin think it's at all weird that they're building a sculpture with children's teeth? "Some people don't like the idea and find teeth a little disgusting, but I've been to so many schools and all the kids love it," she says.

If you would like to get involved by going into your old primary school and speaking to children about the project, email Professor Rankin at s.rankin@imperial.ac.uk



#### FRIDAY 17 JUNE 2011 FELIX

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

## **SCIENCE**

#### In brief

#### **Catching a wave**

Physicists have come one step closer to unveiling the elusive quantum world with a new experimental method developed by Canadian scientists. The article, published in Nature, shows how a team from the National Research Council of Canada Institute for National Measurement Standards were able to perform a direct measurement of the wavefunction of a photon, which is the elementary unit, or 'quanta', of light.

The wavefunction is central to quantum theory and is a complex distribution which completely describes a quantum system. In contrast to everyday experience where the state of an object, such as its position or momentum, can be precisely determined, things become fuzzier in the quantum world. Particles can be here or there, and Schrodinger's cat can be dead or alive. The Catch-22 (until now, at least) was that by attempting to measure a quantum object, its wavefunction would 'collapse' to a new value and then evolve as a different wavefunction. Jeff S. Lundeen, one of the authors of the paper, comments, "A feature of the wavefunction is that, unlike a water wave, the very act of observing it changes it, making it a slippery object to measure."

The team were able to circumvent this problem by performing two complementary measurements of a photon in succession; one 'weak measurement' which is gentle so as not to disturb the wavefunction, followed by a second normal (or 'strong') measurement. Although the weak measurement lacks precision, accuracy can be regained by averaging over many measurements.

In the experiment, individual photons were generated by attentuating laser beams. The position of the photons were weakly measured through measuring their polarisation. A lens was then used to select for photons of a given momentum.

Another intriguing aspect of the experiment is how the imaginary components of quantum numbers can be made manifest. Observables from strong measurements are real numbers while the mathematics requires that weak measurements can have real and imaginary components. Both the real and imaginary numbers can be realised in the dial of an apparatus: the real component determines the position of a pointer, while the imaginary component determines the momentum kick. This new method for observing the quantum world will be vital to fields as diverse as quantum information and drug discovery

#### Melissa Lever



#### **Charlie Harvey**

It was on a cool, clear autumn day in northern Minnesota when two scientists, driving towards a fieldwork station, stopped for gas. It was at this petrol station that Martin Saar and Jimmy Randolph had a flash of inspiration that could one day help in the fight against climate change.

Road journeys in America are notoriously long, allowing many long discussions to be had. On this particular trip, the men had only two things on their mind. Firstly, the work they had been commissioned to do by Minnesota Geological Survey on the potential for storing carbon dioxide in the local area. And secondly. they talked about Jimmy's current research into geothermal energy.

Geothermal electricity production works on the principle that the Earth has, deep down, vast stores of heat energy locked up. Water can be pumped into fissures in these rocks, where it can heat up. Once back at the surface the water can be used to drive a turbine. Geothermal energy requires no fuel, so it is one of the least carbon-intensive power sources. As global targets for carbon emissions become stricter, geothermal energy is becoming more widespread. To meet the targets, an alternative to using

lower-carbon electricity is to remove the existing CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere. Known as carbon capture and storage, the  $CO_2$  is stored underground as a liquid where it cannot act as a greenhouse gas.

The big 'eureka' moment came when Martin and Jimmy realised these two disparate activities could be combined. Instead of simply storing the liquid carbon dioxide underground, why not use it to extract energy from the earth to create electricity as well?

"It really was a brainwave", says Martin. Although only half-joking at the time, three years later the pair are well on the way to making the technology a reality.

The idea, known as CO, Plume Geothermal (CPG) involves circulating the liquid CO, that would normally be stored underground through geothermally heated rocks. CPG has many advantages over its rivals. CO, is much better at extracting heat from the rocks than water. In addition, the landscapes used for carbon capture are vast. So large, in fact, that



if all available sites in the US were used, the entire electrical generating infrastructure could be rendered carbon neutral. The traditional method relies on fracturing the rock to allow the water to flow. This, however, can lead to seismic activity. In Basel, Switzerland, for example, a geothermal plant had to be shut down after it caused an earthquake.

Using carbon dioxide to fight warming

Such dramatic incidents never fare favourably with the general public. Although CPG has a greatly reduced seismic risk, it is associated with carbon dioxide - a term that has been vilified in the media for years. "Climate change advocates go on the news and say CO<sub>2</sub> is dangerous and it's bad, and then go on to say 'oh, by the way, we're going to inject it under the ground where you live", says Dr LaForce, who researches carbon storage at Imperial College London. She has seen numerous CO. storage projects delayed or killed because of public disapproval. "Unfortunately with this, and with any  $\text{CO}_2$  storage project, the barriers are not so much technical as they are social."

As well as lack of public support, carbon capture schemes have come under fire producing CO<sub>2</sub> themselves. CPG could change all this. "This approach could make carbon capture economically feasible as the power generated from the geothermal heat at these sites could run all the pumps and other electric systems required", says Martin. As well as removing CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere, it also creates electricity with very low emissions.

As fossil fuel stocks run out, and oil prices rise ever higher, projects like CPG are likely to be come increasingly more attractive, and even indispensable if we are really serious about reducing our impact on the atmosphere. Maybe one day, geothermal energy and carbon capture will make petrol stations, like the one that inspired Martin and Jimmy three years ago, a thing of the past



Storing CO, underground can help reduce quantities in the atmosphere, and help generate clean electricty as wel

## **SCIENCE**

## **Collaborations clash at Tevatron**

#### **Kelly Oakes**

Earlier this year, the Collider Detector at Fermilab (CDF) collaboration tentatively put forward new results suggesting that they had observed a new, unpredicted particle. A month later they published more results that seemed to reinforce the earlier data. But last week the DZero collaboration, also at Fermilab, announced that they had tried to find the same particle – and failed.

DZero and CDF each have their own detector at Tevatron, a proton-antiproton collider at Fermilab in Batavia, Illinois. The detectors are physically different, so data collection and analysis for each happens separately, giving independent results.

The events of interest in this case occur when a proton and antiproton collide and produce a W boson – a type of force particle that mediates weak interactions between fundamental particles and two jets of other particles. The rate at which this interaction should occur can be calculated using the standard model of particle physics. When the CDF looked at the data from a bunch of events they found that the rate at which a W boson was produced with two jets was higher than predicted by the standard model. This created a bump in the energy distribution of the two jets.

One way to explain this bump is that a particle, with a mass that corresponds to the energy of the bump, was created during the collisions. But no known particle has the correct mass, so the bump seemed to indicate that a new, unpredicted particle had been found. The statistical significance of the result was just below that needed to claim a genuine discovery.

However, when the DZero collaboration tried to replicate the CDF's results they saw no bump, meaning no extra events and no new particles. DZero has submitted a paper to the journal Physical Review Letters detailing its findings, and the group held a seminar last Friday to announce the result before publishing a preprint of the paper online.

Since the DZero and CDF experiments were set up they have published around 500 papers between them and have only disagreed a handful of times. This time, the odds seemed to be stacked against the CDF – the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN also checked its data to see if any particle shows up with the mass expected, but found nothing.

Tevatron is due to shut down in September, as the LHC begins to overtake it, but data analysis will continue beyond the shutdown. A task force consisting of members of both the DZero and CDF collaborations, as well as theoretical physicists from Fermilab, has already been set up to coordinate a study of the two analyses. A spokesperson for the DZero collaboration told the journal Nature that they should already have more than enough data to resolve the conflict.

Several theory papers that try to explain the CDF results had already been submitted to the online preprint server arXiv before DZero announced their take on the findings. Even if the bump does prove to be a fluke, there are many reasons to look for physics beyond that provided by the standard model of particle physics. Any new result would be added to a long list of motivations for theorists to crack on with developing new models.



### Why does it always rain on me?

It's not because you lied when you were seventeen. **Sam Furse** discusses Britain's recent drought, floods and the plight of the blue whale



everywhere, Britain has woken up to the declaration of droughts in several parts of the Kingdom. Queendom. Whatever it is – it is dry. It is also the first half of June after a stinking cold winter. It is tempting to strike up something British and indignant about why the weather is what it is and how exacerbating, inexplicable or inconvenient it is. Although British, I am also a scientist and am going to take that perspective.

ike recovering alcoholics

Suspiciously, or perhaps not, climate change scientists have yet to be questioned publically about this. This might seem reasonable in some contexts: questioning them as though they are any more responsible for climate change than the rest of us is unreasonable. So far water companies and the Department for the Environment have been bullied about it on the BBC's Today programme, but that is only really about short-term measures for human water consumption. What about the more serious long-term aspects?

The IPCC and others have published data suggesting that the changes to our atmosphere will result in an increase in the average temperature of the Earth. This makes sense given what we know about the physical behaviour of methane and carbon dioxide. Although the mean temperature is predicted too imperceptibly to the average person (0.5 °C), there will be a decrease in cold weather and an increase in the number of hot periods. This is mathematically rational too. However, we were told that Britain's climate would become warmer and wetter. Of course, warmer makes sense but that hardly reconciles with the fact that we've just had the coldest winter in years.

The wetter climate is also ponderable. How is this so? We have flooding in parts of the country that have not seen such weather conditions before, but how often these places have witnessed flooding throughout their entire history is not clear. It is slightly hard to work out what this means. First, meteorologists seem to tout the idea that how wet something is is entirely determined by how often water is poured onto it by natural means. This means that places like Antarctica (made of ice - for the time being anyway) and the Atacama desert next to the Pacific Ocean are amongst the driest on the planet. So, does wetter mean wetter or watered?

We are in drought before spring is even (legally) over – that rather rails against wetness, either by being poured on or by being wet.

I do not doubt that the climate is changing – it is a certainty even based on the chemistry alone. But are we losing sight of it all just a bit? Apart from a 0.5 °C increase in temperature which is common knowledge, the glaciological definition of 'ice age' means we are in the middle of one at the moment. We are also in the middle of a mass-extinction event. In Earth's history the oceans have been filled with water-soluble iron oxides and there have been tropical forests at the poles.

So how seriously do we take this? It is a crying shame that the blue whale, the largest animal ever to have lived on the Earth, will be extinct in the next couple of thousand years because whaling has reduced numbers and thus the genetic diversity to 1% of what it was even 500 years ago. The opposite point is that evolution cannot stand still. Like language, politics and even reality television, it has to change and move. The loss of amazing and boring species alike makes room for new ones. It is sad that the dinosaurs disappeared, but without that happening, there would have been no room for the blue whale or us, come to that.

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## BUSINESS

## A new tech bubble

Alexandru Podgurschi sees history repeating itself



LinkedIn's owners celebrate their IPO by pointing and laughing at the poor people standing beneath ther

ou might have still been running around your primary school grounds in the late 1990s, but the Internet was about to witness its largest market revolution. While Silicon Valley has seen its fair share of bubbles over the last decade, the dotcom bubble that marked the turn of the century was probably the most significant. Now economists warn us that a new bubble may threaten the stability of Internet-based companies: the initial public offering (IPO) bubble. And the first company to define it is LinkedIn.

LinkedIn has been known amongst businessmen as a professional Facebook, a tool to make new connections and expand their professional network. Launched in 2003, LinkedIn has become the global tool for professional networking, now claiming over 100 million members. That is several times less than what facebook can boast about, but there are no 12 year-olds thinking the whole world needs to know they just had a snack on LinkedIn. It keeps you in touch with people you have worked with or met at a networking event, lets you track a company, look for and advertise a job or simply find others interested in a business idea you

have in mind.

The company went public on the 19th of May and sent investors into a frenzy. The stock price skyrocketed from \$45 per share to over \$94 within a day, thus evaluating the company at approximately \$8.9billion. While that sure led to a lot of champagne being drunk at the LinkedIn offices in Mountain View, California, it prompted market analysts to consider whether the new wave of IT companies to go public are considerably overvalued.

LinkedIn is the first major social networking website to go public and therefore became the first indicator of just how much social media is worth in the modern world. What sets it apart from other social networking websites is the fact that it has a clearly defined revenue source that is not limited to online advertisement. Users can choose from a selection of account types, ranging from the free one to the Executive one. While Executive does sound cool, it will leave you \$74.95 poorer per month.

Groupon now seems determined to follow. The company was founded less than three years ago and is often referred to as the fastest growing company ever. Despite that claim, it still managed to lose about \$400 million last year by pursuing long-term goals regardless of short-term consequences. Its latest ambition seems to be achieving global coverage, as it expands in other markets such as Japan, Russia and most recently China. What everyone is anxiously waiting for is the day Facebook will finally file for an IPO, despite the fact that everyone at Facebook avoids announcing a date at all cost.

Investors are clearly willing to provide the funds, putting significantly more emphasis on the brand value of the companies than on the revenue and profit generated. What has been sold in the market so far has been the potential rather than the actual profit that these websites present.

Whether the surge in share prices of hot new internet companies is another bubble like the one that shook the tech world in the late 1990s remains to be seen, but economists maintain their usual scepticism. California has once fallen for the dot-com bubble and this new one seems remarkably similar. If you happen to have a revolutionary and popular social network to sell though, now would be a good time to head up to Silicon Valley and do it.

#### **Business News**

#### **Greek and Irish debt**

The prospect of Greece and Ireland defaulting on their debt is once again on the minds of sovereign bond investors. "It's 100 percent certain that Greece will default," according to financial historian Niall Ferguson, "The only question is what euphemism will be dreamt up to cloak the fact that it's a default."

Investors are particularly concerned that Iceland's rapid recovery and return to the international capital markets could encourage the "bankrupting yourself to recovery" approach. "People should be careful when it comes to drawing comparisons between Iceland on the one hand, and Greece, Portugal, Spain and Ireland on the other," Iceland's Finance Minister Steingrimur J. Sigfusson warned in an interview in Reykjavik. "Iceland didn't have the ability to save the banks. Trying to rewrite the events that led to that eventuality as some sort of an export product is irresponsible."

Mr. Stigfusson went on to say, "Iceland should be humble and avoid advising other countries, especially when it comes to banking. What happened was an emergency situation which couldn't be avoided."

#### Fed considers formal targets

The US central bank, the Federal Reserve, is considering setting explicit inflation targets, as used by most other central banks, such as the Bank of England.

The Federal Reserve currently uses the so-called 'dual mandate' system, where it aims in general terms to keep a 'prudent balance' between employment and inflation. Their view is that these two are inverseley correlated and thereofre need to be balanced out through central monetary planning. Since this mandate was introduced in the 1960s, the Fed has been able to vary this balance according to percieved economic conditions.

The Fed Chairman, Ben Bernanke, has long argued for this move to explicit targets. The move may be being hastened by the growing criticism of the bank in recent years.

#### **Osborne endorses firewalls**

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, used his annual Mansion House address to the City of London's financial elite to endorse proposals for banks' retail operations to be ring-fenced from their investment divisions.

Strict separation of investment and retail banking activities have been the subject of proposals for decades, and have gone in and out of being law. The latest calls have been growing since the financial crisis of 2008. Advocates hope it will limit the impact of future bank failures of consumers. Opponents see it as unnecessarily hampering the ability of banks to return to profitability and repay the taxpayer for their bailouts.



## unionpage

## **UNIONAWARDS2011**

Union Awards are our chance to say thank you to all the members that have volunteered for the Union this year. Without our volunteers, Imperial College Union would not function. Thanks again to all who make the Union what it is.







Results

**CAG Chair** Heather Jones

Council Chair David Smith

Court Advocate Abdul Patel

Disabilities Officer Charlotte Ivison

**Entertainments Committee** Jiajun Tan Alan Soltani Jack Hewitt **Environmental Officer** Yaroslav Voropayev

Equal Opportunities Officer Dolan Miu

**Gender Equality Officer** Mikhail Nikitin

Healthy Living Officer Joachim Dias **Interfaith Officer** Sayinthen Vivekanantham

International Officer Hao Gan

**LGBT Officer** Christopher Schlumberger-Socha

RAG Chair Jack Hewitt

#### **COLOURS**

Ahmad Alsaadi Diana Anderson Dominic Andradi Brown Aaron Berk **Flwin Carlos** David Coolegem **Bernice** Cutler Rorv Fenton Elizabeth Griffiths Joseph Harris Stuart Haylock Jasmin Hodgson Vanessa Hume Mevani Jagodage **Robin Jones** Christina Kontoghiorghe

Roger Liew Chia Lim Benjamin Lindsey Kin-Hing Lo Roxanne Middleton Annalan Navaratnam Isaac Obisanya Jack Patten William Pearse Stefan Piatek Charles Poon **Gregory Power** Kajann Prathapan Uthishtan Ranjan Thomas Rushton Mohammad Salamsi

Hamza Shaikh Aamir Shamsi Varun Sharma Christine Simpson Shivendra Singh Michael Squire Charles Thomas Ryan Tunstall Marcus Ulmefors Kevin Wallace Oliver Wilkie Edward Willans Simon Worthington Jennifer Zanin

college

#### **OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS**

Paul Beaumont Deena Blumenkrantz Michael Colwill Michael Foster Adam Funnell James Geraets Scott Heath Christopher Hopper Laura Jeffrey Adam Khamis Nigel Kheng Jonathan Kim Elena Lovo Joe Mckenna Ben Moorhouse Stefan Nubert Rhodri Oliver Mark Ramsden Deep Shah Kadhim Shubber Dan Wan Henry Whittaker John Winters Monya Zard

#### **FELLOWSHIP**

William Ibbotson Oluwatosin Ajayi Gilead Amit Nathaniel Bottrell Anil Chopra Jad Marrouche Hannah Thedorou

#### **FELLOWSHIP WITH DISTINCTION**

Christopher Birkett

Jenny Wilson

Simon Archer

#### **PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

Senior Stewards Team Dan Wan

For Clubs, Societies & Projects

- For Undergraduate Representation
- For Undergraduate Representation

Nathaniel Bottrell (on behalf of the Minibus team)

Cinema

Physics

Medicine

imperialcollegeunion.org

Comment Editors: Anna Perman Jan Piotrowski

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## COMMENT

#### The right lessons must be learnt from the Ball

This year's Summer Ball, which is tomorrow if you are reading this on Friday, is potentially a fork in the road. If it proves to be a great success then the Union will have been vindicated and there will be a powerful argument for its continued expansion. If it is not a great success, there will be cause to step back and reflect. Either way there are lessons to be learnt but they must not be the wrong lessons.

Let us take the first outcome. That the number of tickets sold reaches or even defies expectations. That the experience of the majority of students who attend the Ball is overwhelmingly positive and that the increased focus on live music and the festival atmosphere is vindicated as the right move. The plans that the Union laid out last week, that they have this week clarified as a "vision" rather than a concrete strategy. will have received a boost. There is no better way to gauge student opinion than to count the number of people who voted in favour with their feet. But the Union must be careful not to mistake this boost for carte blanche. They have made the right noises about doing a better job of bringing student input on board, but they must deliver on these promises. The need to plan the Ball in advance carries with it the danger that students are only able to tweak the details instead of building the foundations. In this respect the Sabbs, as student representatives, have an important role to play.

The alternative outcomes are that the Ball is a damp squib or, god-forbid, a unmitigated disaster. There is no denying that this would be a vote of no confidence in the Ball, but it would be wrong to assign blame to this or that aspect of the Ball without evidence.

It's not often that one gets to compare ongoings in the Union with ongoings in Parliament and Government, but this happy, or unhappy opportunity (depending on your view) has arisen in the case of the Summer Ball. The Government was forced to pause the NHS reforms and embark on a listening exercise after the fierce opposition to Andrew Lansley's reforms. The reforms are now substantially changed. If the Ball fails to impress, and we hope that this does not prove to be the case, we would urge the Union to embark on a similar listening initiative this year, before students leave for the summer holidays and before the groundwork for next year's Ball begins to be laid down. It would demonstrate the Union's responsiveness to its students but furthermore it would ensure without any doubt that the plans for next year's Ball would be finely tuned to the wishes of the students that the Union is duty-bound to serve.

## **FELIX** Media morons

British media coverage of Libya is flimsy and subservient



#### **Stephen Smith**

t is a strange quirk of the British media that it is generally harshly critical of the internal affairs of our government, yet often almost blindly supportive of our affairs outside the EU. Consider, for instance, NATO's recent intervention in the Libvan civil war. Major newspapers rarely seriously questioned whether the heavy bombardment of Tripoli was a breach of UN Resolution 1973. More importantly, few major newspapers asked in any depth about why our government was apparently so keen to use our resources to "protect civilians" in Libya, but not in Syria, Yemen or Bahrain.

The government's reason - "humanitarian concerns." - was accepted and lauded by many, and treated with cynicism by others. In an interesting (but extremely short and under researched) article in The Guardian, Neil Clark suggested that the real reason for the intervention was to further Western economic interests in the Middle East. Regrettably, he went no further in his claim. At no point did he mention the very important factors in the matter that would have greatly strengthened his argument: that Libva is an oil-rich country; that Gaddafi is an unstable leader: that the rebels seemed to have the upper hand in March, and that a military intervention would make the future (rebel) Libyan government indebted to the West.

That few major British media outlets went any further than to insinuate economic reasons demonstrates the journalistic disease that has been around for decades; very rarely do private media sources stray far from the allegedly neutral BBC version of events when it comes to foreign affairs.

Take, as another example, British involvement in the NATO bombing of Yugoslavia in 1999. At the time, the British media praised NATO for its intervention in the region. After the event, facts came to light which demonstrated that NATO had fabricated claims about genocide of 100.000 Albanians to justify their intervention. These claims had been quickly

swallowed and published by the British media, and NATO then used this media frenzy to justify their intervention. The revelations about NATO's exaggerated claims have rarely been published in British newspapers, presumably because the others fear the embarrassment of admitting that they were wrong.

It may seem, then, that The Guardian is the pinnacle of quality journalism, but I do not believe this to be the case. The fact that The Guardian has been slightly more commendable than other newspapers on a number of occasions, does not mean that it is much better than the rest of the British media. In the article I mentioned earlier by Neil Clark, he gives no evidence supporting his claims, nor any deep analysis beyond a wink and a nudge in the direction of Western imperialism. Compare this with the excellent range of articles by Al Jazeera journalists on the same matter with comprehensive source-citation and deep analysis. What's more, many of these articles are written by UK- and US-based writers (Joseph Massad, Noam Chomsky, Larbi Sadiki).

Many will argue that the Qatar-based Al Jazeera will naturally have a more indepth view of Middle Eastern politics. But surely, the fact the UK is participating in military action demands serious analysis by the British media. If the Iraq war has taught us anything, it should be Have your say on that government reasons for military intervention should be very carefully and this article at thoroughly analysed.

With its romanticised coverage of the Libyan rebels, is the British media 'rolling over' on Libya?

Rarely do media sources stray far from the allegedly neutral **BBC** version of foreign affairs

> Why is it, then, that the media seems so reluctant to question our foreign affairs? I get the impression that it may be a feeling of over-inflated national importance left over from the days of the British Empire.

> We subconsciously hold on to the ridiculous belief that those outside Europe and North America are poor, under-developed barbarians, who need our help to be "brought into the modern world". As a result, our media institutions take the government's "humanitarian" involvement in countries like Libya at face value - only our military help can boost "the economy and the prosperity and security of [Libya's] people," said the Telegraph.

Alas, it is beyond the scope of this article to directly criticise British (or US) foreign policy, but I do think that our nation's attitude towards itself is in dire need of reconsideration. The fact that the most well-researched, and unbiased journalism on British foreign affairs is from a Middle Eastern news corporation should shock our own newspapers into rethinking the quality of their articles. Perhaps more importantly, it should encourage us to treat what we read, hear felixonline.co.uk and see with an even more critical eye.

## COMMENT

## The minefield of social etiquette



Samuel Furse

"It is not just apologies that make for an etiquette minefield" ow many times have you ever wanted to tell someone who is apologising to you, to \*\*\*\* off? Not because they slept with your best friend, but just because of the grovelling, sickening nature of it. I amaze myself about how fervently I want to sometimes. But equally, how often has an apology barely scratched the surface of the wrong it is attempting to right?

These two examples are relatively easy. but what about the middle ones, when someone probably should apologise and does? There are various approaches one could take. Some people thank them. I am not so sure about this, but it would show an acknowledgement of the apologiser's effort. However if you think they should apologise, why thank them? I suppose the opposite reaction would just be to say nothing and walk away, but this is hardly positive re-enforcement. What if they need to do it again? The chances are that they simply will not bother. Telling them "It's fine/It doesn't matter" is one I have done in the past, but I feel a pang because often, it does matter. Though I am pleased they have said so, I do not necessarily want to wear that pain on my arm. I want to move on. I suppose there is the big hug and "I'm-so-pleased-youcalled" combination, but anything more clearly from a cheap American drama, I cannot imagine.

Dodgy-coloured hair, breast augmentations and accents that make me want to rip off my ears aside, it is not just apologies that make for a modern etiquette minefield, but a variety of 'new' situations. I was asked if I wanted to go speed dating last week. I am reliably informed that this has changed a lot - it is not the lonely stalker-fest that it is believed to be. But that does not help with the etiquette of the situation. Clearly in one's three minute slot, the need for jokes about unchristian acts with a banana are unlikely to go down well. After all, one has hardly met the person, it is just not the time. However a more circumspect approach might just leave me with nothing to say, and so I would come across much like 'Tim nice but dim'.

It is not just these sorts of things people worry about – what to say and when, how to behave, what one expects in a flatshare all add to the pile. There is even an unwritten rule about the use of mobile phones on trains, i.e. the more people there are on a train, the more you should try to avoid using your phone. Of course some people do not care about such rules, but everyone around them is silently firing large telepathic daggers squarely at them.

I suppose the question is partly 'why does any of this happen at all?' Why do I worry about what to say to someone when they apologise to me, or when a woman with a predilection for 80s fashion invites me to a party I don't want to go to? We are supposedly a less 'buttoned-up' society than we were 50 years ago. People dress differently, and formal titles are less common. However casual racism and people who wash only once a week have also become less common. Ironic really, as people who indulge in these activities are normally called common. Or at least are thought of as common - no one is allowed to say it, that would be snobbish. Etiquette is clearly as tricky a mistress as ever she was – be her in a spandex boob tube or grovelling for your forgiveness.

#### Letter clarifying future of Summer Ball

The Summer Ball is, for many, an opportunity for a final party with friends before the summer holidays or even the job market for anyone finishing their degree and so, rightly, students want a say in how they say goodbye to their year or even their degree. The fact is that students were involved in making this decision. You elected the Deputy President (Finance and Services), the President and the Ents committee to do this job.

These 6 students, elected by the student body to put on this event (amongst other things) decided to make changes, some forced by practical necessity, the borough Council imposing restrictions changing what we can do and when, and some out of choice but it's important to remember. these are the people that you. the student body elected to make these decisions. It's also important to remember that you had a say in whether or not these decisions stood. When Union Council passed reports by the DPFS that stated more of college would be used, the event would start earlier and that there would be no marguee on the Oueen's Lawn students had a chance to make the changes they wanted.

Last week an article was published saying that the Union has a long term strategy to expand the Summer Ball to Hyde Park. We'd like to clarify that this is not a strategy that has been brought before the Executive Committee of the Union or to Union Council and voted upon. It is an idea and a vision for the future from the people that the student body elected to put on this event - not necessarily one shared by every student or student representative but the vision of the people students voted for. Any change of venue would need to be discussed at the Executive Committee and Council of the Union.

A Summer Ball in Hyde Park doesn't necessarily reflect the wishes of the student body – ultimately it is not our opinion but yours that matters. This year's Summer Ball will be a fun day for everyone who comes but if there are changes you'd like to make for next year then please come forward and make your voice heard. **The Union** 

## Don't forget to remember...



**Rhys Davies** 

"We are a thousand conversations. If we couldn't remember them, who would we be?" 'm a bit embarrassed. Y'see, you've caught me at quite an inopportune moment. I was going to write this letter on something important, I'm sure of that. The only thing is... I can't remember what I was going to write about. You don't happen to know, do you? Wait! Hah, got it! Memory, that's what it is.

It's a funny thing, isn't it? For a start, we're not quite sure where or what it is. We know roughly where to find it – temporal lobe, second left at the hippocampus – but after that, our sat-nav breaks down. And while we can come up with some pretty theories to explain mostly how it works, we still haven't got all the kinks worked out.

Déjà vu, for example. I, myself, have it from time to time. Some say it's a neural quirk, adding a notion of familiarity to the novel but I'm not entirely convinced. Some mornings I wake up thinking what an odd dream I just experienced, that it could never happen, only to be left slightly spooked when it comes to pass a few weeks later. It's something like having my very own Oracle of Delphi behind my retinas.

Of course, remembering things before they've happened is strange in itself but there are still oddities even when causality flows in the proper direction. Despite being the foundation of my current academic achievements, I can remember very little of my days in primary school. Fair enough, it was a long time ago. And yet, I remember vividly Mrs. Gulliford shooting me the most poisonous look after I yawned in class. This one, inconsequential memory is the only thing I can pluck from the murky mists of that past. So far, this pearl of synaptic-firing has been of no use to me whatsoever and I can't envisage a future when it ever would. But it is implanted so firmly in my consciousness I know I'll never forget it, even to my final days.

That's the strange thing with memory, or one of many at least. We don't remember what is important, what is useful: the bones of the wrist before an exam, the interview time with a prestigious company or the phone number of that girl from Metric. Instead, our heads are filled with junk: the word "custard" in five languages, the number of pecks in a bushel, Ann Widdecombe's birthday.

But, then again, I might have this all wrong. Obviously an ordered and detailed memory is useful where exams are concerned but life is more than a test. Maybe there is some gatekeeper in our mind, more acute and astute than we could ever hope to be. Maybe this subconscious bouncer only retains what really is important. If I were ever examined on my life, I know I'd never get 100%.

Memory is one of the things that make us who we are. Even in Imperial, a personality isn't formed by learning a textbook by rote. It's crafted over time through myriad interactions with those we know, those we love, those we hate. We are a thousand conversations. If we couldn't remember them, who would we be?

I can't remember what kind of bike I was riding when I got lost in Pontypridd but I can remember how glad I was to see my Dad again, even as he gave me a rollicking. I can't remember what they asked when I came here for my admissions interview but I can still feel the thin film of sweat that coated me as I walked out of the room. I can't remember what film we went to see on our first date but I remember perfectly how my girlfriend looked, stood there in Gloucester Road Station. This memorydemon has better things to worry about than facts and figures, dates and times.

In fact, I can't even remember the date properly. I know it was roughly a year ago. Almost exactly a year. Wait, actually, it was a year ago to... Oh dear!

# DANCE C

# OMPANY



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ARTS Artifact

Students from Imperial and the Royal College of Art team up in daring collaboration. **Meredith Thomas** reports

n artist and a scientist walk into a bar. They find each other incomprehensible and mysterious and fail to have a meaningful conversation. They leave vowing never to move out of their comfort zone again. Not really funny is it? Before I continue, I must declare an interest in writing this article. I am involved in organising collaboration between Imperial College and the Royal College of Art (probably the UK's premier post-graduate school of art). This daring plan is codenamed Artifact. But more on that later...

It is almost a truism that the worlds of art and science are totally isolated from each other; isolated by their collective rolls, methodologies and goals. In my belief this is symptomatic of a dangerous lack of understanding between these two vital components of a functional and vibrant culture. Studying, as we do, in a university exclusively dedicated to science and engineering it is easy to forget that there are other modes of thought, just as necessary and valid. There is even a degree of hostility directed towards other areas. During the debate over higher education funding I heard a number of colleagues angrily question why degree subjects, other than the sciences (and grudgingly law) received funding at all when they "gave no benefit to society". A particular hatred was reserved for degrees like fine art. The lack of understanding swings both ways. I once fell out badly with a friend who claimed that "my relentless logic left me dead to the dead to beauty and spirituality". For the health of our friendship we now avoid discussion of all philosophical matters.

As an engineer with a strong interest in the arts I feel compelled to challenge these attitudes. Yet it is hard to deny that a real gulf exists. I would love to argue that the distinction we make between "geeky types" and "arty types" is a false one, but I do not believe that in all honesty I can. In my experience there is a genuine difference in patterns of thought. As scientists, we are trained to be ruthlessly rational and filter everything we observe and conclude through a strictly logical framework. In contrast art graduates have been taught to develop their intuition and exhibit heightened sensitivity to the subtleties of emotion and aesthetic. Being used to thinking in a particular way makes it very difficult for one group to understand the work of the other unless pains are taken to make it particularly accessible. This is a generalisation, there are plenty of individuals and even institutions who bridge the



gap but they are the exception rather than the rule.

So given these problems, what does Artifact hope to achieve? I have already suggested that the culture clash can cause hostility but I think there is a greater danger; that of missed opportunities. When science and art come together some pretty spectacular things can happen.

The mysterious world of research and the insights it offers frequently serves as inspiration for artists. You may have spotted the work of Helen Pynor, creator of 'Headache' (Felix No#1479). Here an artist, so affected by contact with Imperial's very own Dr Dexter, went on to produce a piece dedicated to exploring brain diseases. In my view the controversy surrounding her use of a human brain unfairly distracted the public from a good news story. A respected contemporary artist and a top researcher were working together to raise public awareness of multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease in a thoroughly laudable and effective manner.

Examples of art inspiring science are undoubtedly harder to come by. However the arts in general can certainly provide a driving force for research. An example of this is the reactive dyes now available to fashion designers. A lot of the finance and motivation for advances in this area has come from the fashion industry. I recently spoke to a textiles designer working with our chemistry department to develop CO2 reactive inks. Clothes made from these fabrics blacken in atmospheres with high emissions; clearly a spectacular way to highlight environmental concerns.

Artifact has taken its cue from another example of people from different worlds exhibiting a total inability to understand each other, men and women. A speed dating event took place last term with Imperial and Royal College of Arts students and staff invited. The mark of a successful match, was not romance, but an eagerness to work together on a collaborative project. The fruits of these partnerships, drawing on the strengths of both parties will grace the walls of The Blyth Gallery this September. Through the collaboration we hope not only to give people a glimpse into life on the other side but to develop real dialogue between members of these two institutions.

#### **Collaboration**

#### **Emma Emerson (left, top)**

Emma Emerson is currently studying a RIBA Part 2 Architecture Masters at the Royal College of Art. After completing her undergraduate studies in Architecture at Brighton University, Emma went onto work with the Royal Institute of British Architect's in-house think-tank, Building Futures. She has been involved in organising the 2009 London Festival of Architecture with RIBA London and spent a month with the British Council in Venice at the 12th Architecture Biennale. The upcoming Artifact exhibition will present an investigation into the architectural potentials of a specific organic textile grown from a culture of bacteria and yeast. This collaboration has provided a platform to initiate discussion surrounding sustainable futures through an exploration into Biological Architecture and cutting-edge symbiotic materials.

#### Lizzy Griffiths (left, bottom)

y name's Lizzy Griffiths and VII've been studying Biochemistry at Imperial for nearly two years. I've always loved drawing and painting, and although my parents made sure I didn't pursue art as a career, it has remained a hobby that I always have time for. I am part of the Leonardo Fine Arts society here at Imperial and do the occasional illustration for Felix, so a joint collaboration with a member of the RCA seemed like a great idea. Our project involves growing fabric from a bacterial culture, which is exciting because it is making art out of living organisms; it also ties in well with my biochemical background. We hope to make a structure out of this fabric that will be displayed in the Blyth Gallery over the summer, which will be a fantastic opportunity to show how art and science can complement each other



#### **Chloé Brillatz**

Chloé Brillatz is a UCL planetary science masters student. She studied maths and physics in classes préparatoires in Paris and engineering geology at L'Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Géologie de Nancy in France. Last year she worked for two geotechnic engineering companies in Paris and in San Francisco. She enjoyed being a geotechnic engineer but she wanted to discover research in another field she likes - planetary science. She got in touch with Artifact because she sees in sharing scientific knowledge a way to improve human minds and human societies. According to her, universe exploration gives humility and responsability to people. In that sense she works with Elliott Montgomery to share scientific knowledge and to raise ethical questions through art.

#### **Elliott P. Montgomery**

Elliott P. Montgomery uses designed artifacts to raise questions about impact responsibility. He is in the Design Interactions department at the Royal College of Art, and previously earned a bachelors in industrial design at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. In the past, he has worked with start-ups, non-profits, and government agencies.

The work for the Artifact exhibion, in collaboration with Chloé Brillatz, is a historical recounting of the efforts of geologist August Haquet, who in 1968 was the first to propose the notion that portions of the planet are not native to Earth. The project will take the form of reenactments of moments from Haquet's work. A series of photographs from this reenactment will be the final output, along with a recorded reading of this fictional history. Books Editor: Guo Heng Chin

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## BOOKS

### The misadventures of a Nobel physicist Ian McEwan's foray into comic satire

#### **Guo Heng Chin**

Ian McEwan's latest book, Solar, is probably the lightest piece he's written to date. It is a departure from the serious, dark tones characteristic in most of the work that McEwan is renowned for (such as Atonement, Amsterdam and First Love, Last Rites). Solar is a satirical fiction that follows the life of Nobel laureate physicist Michael Beard and satires the current effort in tackling climate change.

The novel opens in 2000 with Michael Beard in his fifties. Though one of the most respected physicist in Britain, Michael Beard is disillusioned with his job as the 'mascot' of the National Centre for Renewable Energy. A hallmark of mid-life crisis, Beard finds that his well of inspiration has dried up since coming up with the Beard-Einstein conflation which propelled him to fame and won him the Nobel. His personal life is tumultuous; after cheating on his fifth wife Patricia, he is at the butt end of her recrimination as she starts on an affair with Tarpin the builder, a violent simpleton who is the complete opposite of the intellectual and weak

Michael Beard. His wife's affair makes him more drawn to her, as he begins to realize that Patricia is his perfect lover. Depressed and jaded, he decides to take up an offer to go on an Arctic expedition with a motley bunch of artists to discuss environmental concerns. Upon his return, an accident triggers a chain of events in which the truth is ironic and misunderstood in a very McEwanesque way.

It is nice to see Ian McEwan foray into comic satire. He is an author whose writing style would fit snugly into the genre: his cynical tone is perfect for satire and his dark, no-punch-held humour makes for a lot of literally laugh out loud moments. Some of the best laughs are in the first half of the book, especially during the Arctic expedition. As usual, Ian McEwan brilliantly sets the stage for the pivotal accident in a manner which will sweep you off your feet when you reach it and ensure that you will not see coming.

Unlike Ian McEwan's Booker-winning Amsterdam, Solar felt less well researched. Whereas in Amsterdam, McEwan gets into the head of a composer and the nitty-gritty of composing music in a way that engages even the music-illiterate readers, McEwan delved less into the physics behind Michael Beard's field (perhaps not to bore readers), save for the Beard-Einstein conflation. The maths behind the Beard-Einstein conflation is not described in detail, for obvious reasons. McEwan did however explored climate change with some depth and his description of Michael Beard's experience in the Arctic felt exceedingly real. Ian McEwan himself spent some time with a group of scientists and artists abroad a ship near the north pole in 2005, which was the basis for inspiration for Solar.

The other thing that lets down the book might be the plot. It may be a bit slow for some people, but once it gets off it's a page-turner. There are though, some parts of the book that felt redundant, perhaps it's a symptom of 'lack of editor' where a novelist became so famous that the publishing house dare not assign an editor to edit the work, thus resulting in a draggy plot (e.g. the last few Harry Potters).

Next week: Solar is an enjoyable read with unfor-An epic gettable comic moments and sharp satire, but it is not Ian McEwan at his best. Fantasy finale



## Looking for a better book to read A lacklustre second novel in the trilogy

#### **Rhys Davies**

I have always been an avid reader, ever since a young age. I'm not picky either - as long as I have something papery in my hands, I'm glad to read it. I'll read and enjoy – mostly anything.

I say mostly because try as I might, I just couldn't enjoy Looking for Mrs Dextrose by Nick Griffiths. The book focuses on the adventures of Alexander/Pilsbury Dextrose as he attempts to track down his mother, drunkenly left behind by his father, Harrison Dextrose on one of his own adventures across the globe. On paper, it sounds like the basis for an exciting story. Why then can it not even raise a yawn from me?

Firstly, I found it quite dull. In the first hundred pages, nothing of any note Want to happened. The prime chance to grab my interest - wasted. I am aware that even write about great books take time to build story literature? and pace but I don't think this is one of them. Writers like Tolkien take a great deal of time and pages describing the books.felix@ background, both of the world and the imperial.ac.uk

Email

characters, and this helps to engage the reader. Instead, in this book, Alexander travels to a nearby forest village on an errand that is ultimately revealed to be completely pointless. The rest of the early part of the book is spent drinking in a bar.

That too is another problem. I get the feeling that this is supposed to be a funny book but I was left feeling rather underwhelmed. Either I'm missing the vast majority of the jokes or it simply isn't that funny. A great deal of the "humour" revolves around the drunken character of Harrison Dextrose but being constantly drunk, asleep or unhygienic is hardly amusing, in this book at least.

His son, Alexander, is not much better. As protagonists go, he is more than a bit wet. He comes across as very reactive, very rarely acting on his own initiative. The first person narrative from him is a mix of social embarrassment, neurosis and cowardice, which is mildly entertaining and is the only thing that makes the book readable.

Plot and character are both pedestrian

but there are moments when the style of writing shines through. Griffiths has a colourfully inventive way of describing things, if not always tasteful. I feel there is the potential for something better, which is unfortunately missed out on.

However, that creative style is a double-edged sword. The book is populated by a cast of colourful characters, each one with their own distinctive accents. While funny if heard aloud, transferred to great swathes of print makes them near unintelligible, obstructing the story at hand. Several times I had to stop and work out what a character was saying never a good sign.

Looking for Mrs Dextrose is the second book in a trilogy. Based on what I've read, I don't think I'll bother with the first or last books. It is not a bad book. It does have its occasional redeeming features if you can summon the will to carry on with it. But I found it quite boring, far less than it promised. You can read it for yourself and see if

you disagree with my harsh appraisal. But I wouldn't get your hopes up.



Music Editors: Greg Power Luke Turner **Stephen Smith** music.felix@gmail.com

## **MUSIC**

#### **Competition**

Another competition! We have two Lovebox tickets to give away for FREE! Artists such as Skream, The Wombats, Roll Deep, Metronomy, Example, Ed Sheeran and Architecture in Helsinki are dying for you to win the pair of tickets and come to see them live at Lovebox on Friday 15th July.

To get your hands on these (that's over £60 worth of tickets) all you need to do is send the word "Lovebox" to music.felix@gmail.com, or, post the question "Can I please go to Lovebox Mr Editor sir?" (or any other witticism of your choosing) on Felix's Facebook wall by Tuesday 21st June to enter the draw.

Any submissions recieved after 21st June may not be considered. Please be aware that the tickets will grant you entry to Friday at Lovebox only. you will not have access to Saturday or Sunday. The winning author will be informed by email by Friday 24th June. The Editor's decision is final.

Most listened to this week by Felix Music members on last.fm	<ol> <li>Radiohead</li> <li>Daft Punk</li> <li>Kanye West</li> <li>Coldplay</li> <li>Bon Iver</li> <li>Arcade Fire</li> <li>Muse</li> <li>Two Door Cinema</li> <li>Bloc Party</li> <li>Fleet Foxes</li> </ol>

na Club

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

#### Make sure not to miss Guillemots

Southbank Centre, Waterloo Saturday, 18th June 2011 www.southbankcentre.co.uk

If you're not planning on getting to the Summer Ball until 6, make sure you head over to the Southbank Centre for Bandstand Busking featuring the epic and brilliant Guillemots as well as She Keeps Bees, Peggy Sue, Woodpigeon and Sam de la Haye. Bandstand Busking forms part of the Southbank Centre's annual Meltdown festival (this year curated by The Kinks' singer and songwriter Ray Davies) which has already featured a large number of great and eccentric artists this year, including a fantastically bizarre performance by US indie royalty Yo La Tengo last Sunday.

Bandstand Busking, which has in past years featured Emmy The Great and Wild Beasts, is absolutely free of charge for all, so it's a great way to see one of the UK's most exciting bands on a student budget.

While you're on the Southbank, you should also pop into the nearby Hayward Gallery to see their exhibition of Traccey Emin's life and work. Tickets are only £9 for Students, and there is free entry to the rest of the gallery. Stephen Smith

## T in the Park

Katherine Portilla takes a look at Scotland's finest weekend

his will be the eighteenth T in the Park taking place on the second weekend of July in the region of Kinross-shire, Scotland. Contrary to what the name may imply this is not your average tea party, or perhaps better said it's nothing of the sort! Named after its main sponsor, the brewing company Tennents, T in the Park is a festival known to offer a huge variety of first class music and this year is no exception. 2011's line-up includes big names such as Coldplay, the Arctic Monkeys and Foo Fighters whose performance records promise not to disappoint. While The Killers have made several appearances at T over the years, Brandon Flowers returns on his own this time around having released a solo album last year. Beyoncé and MCR are sure to get the crowd pumped and the list goes on with nufolk favourites such as Noah and the Whale and the successful Jimmy Eats World.

Originally a two-day festival, T in the Park has evolved into a major music experience spanning a total of seven main stages over a three day weekend. Previous years have seen performances by the Kings of Leon, Moby, Muse and The Chemical Brothers among others. A large camping area is completed with an array of various stalls and shops to cater for all tastes and fancies. Three days of top notch bands and artists not enough? Seek some thrills in an expansive funfair complete with a big wheel or take a gander into this year's Ceilidh tent for some Gaelic fun. In addition. T often shows host to a comedy tent and silent



**Dates:** 8 – 10 July 2011 Location: Balado, Kinross Price: £185 Website: www.tinthepark.com

#### disco as well.

Festivities will carry on into the wee hours of the morning with house legends such as **Dead**mau5. Swedish House Mafia and Scotland's own Calvin Harris on deck. Prefer some drum and bass? Pendulum alongside Chase and Status will be there to provide the heaviest of bass. Special treats such as City and Colour, the italian electronic and dance music project Bloody Beetroots Death Crew 77 and many more will make this year's festival one to remember.

Tickets for the festival start at £185 for full weekend camping, where for an additional tenner you can arrive earlier and start the party on the Thursday! A variety of single or two day passes are also available, in addition to lockers and campervan tickets. Note that parking tickets must be bought in advance.

### London's Lovebox is an indie-fan's heaven

#### **Stephen Smith**

This week's Felix Music competition gives you the chance to get free tickets to Friday at Lovebox, East London's award-winning medium-sized festival. If you are the lucky winner, you'll get to see dubstep king Skream, indiepop deities The Wombats alongside famous electro-pop outfit Metronomy and many, many more (see above).

But Friday is not the only day. The festival extends over an entire weekend, and the music just gets better and better.

Saturday sees a combination of great new artists and old favourites, with US post-punk band The Drums and the BBC's Sound of 2011 winner Jessie J taking the stage alongside very popular pop-singer Lykke Li and the celebrated Snoop Dogg.

If that's just not enough to encourage you to get down to Victoria Park in July, Sunday sees 70s pop-punk gods **Blondie** perform alongside the hugely popular Scissor Sisters, RnB queen Kelis and Swedish pop royalty Robyn, as well as a huge number of other top artists such as



more black ties

#### 2ManvD.Is and Beth Ditto.

But there's much more to Lovebox that just

**Dates:** 15 – 17 July 2011 Location: Victoria Park, London E3 **Price**: £99 Website: www.lovebox.net

the music. For art lovers, there's the multi-disciplinary arts stage Circus Kinetica as well as a mystery art installation, Fringe Street.

Small-scale dance stages are in copious supply with In the Trees, NYC Downlow and a DJ van, Art Against Knives, dotted around the festival

To enter our competition to win tickets to Friday at Lovebox, simply e-mail the word "Lovebox" to music.felix@gmail.com or write on the Felix Facebook wall.

Alternatively, if you want to get tickets for the whole weekend, you can buy them for £108.50 on ticketmaster.co.uk or £99 on HMV Tickets. Tickets are running low as the festival date approaches so make sure to buy now to avoid disappointment.

## MUSIC

## Did you get BONED?

If the answer is yes, Gregory Power personally wants to shake your hand

hanks to the 150 or so badasses who came out to **BONED** at Metric last Saturday! Hope you had a good time. The night was a success. Check out Christopher Walmsley's awesome pics of the night on the Felix Facebook page. A huge thank you to Will and Chrissie for the sound and lights.

Thanks for all the great performers too: The **Inescapable Fate** Jam Band, **Ramy Kozman**, **SMB**, **Phrij**, the rest of the losers from **Operation Midnight Climax**, our special guest **Becoming Real**, **Monsk** and utter nutter **Niiiiiiiiiiiiceberrrrrrrrg**. Support independent talent and Imperial art. PEACE.





Monsk getting ethereal like a bad man... Or in other words, Simon Hunter djiing like a guy with rolled-up sleeves



Dperation Midnight Climax, living up to their name by the looks of it.

### London Underground: the final installment of Techno Nonsense

#### **Simon Hunter**

For those of you paying any attention to the underground dance music scene here in London, there has been one true star to emerge over the past year, and that is the Boiler Room; yet describing it isn't easy. It's not a club night because to get in you need an invite and it's usually all over by 11pm. Rather, the whole event is more like a radio show, broadcasting over Ustream to thousands of people sat at their laptops (like I have done numerous times, wishing my life wasn't so dull). Every week, the biggest names in the underground scene make it down to Corsica Studios in Elephant and Castle to play out to the lucky two hundred who got guest list, and to a few thousand internet fans across the world. This week marked the first birthday

of the Boiler Room, and to celebrate, they opened their doors to the public. But this is Techno Nonsense, and I'm supposed to be writing about labels, so I'll get back on track. The reason I mentioned the Boiler Room is that it is a spotlight for what is happening in the UK's Bass music scene, and what I wanted this article to be about. But I couldn't choose a single label to focus on. Hessle Audio, 502 Recordings and Numbers have all put out records of such consistently high quality over the past year that you realise your massive hatred for Will.I.Am is irrelevant. The three aforementioned labels have released music from the likes of James Blake, Jamie XX, and many other quality producers who aren't also current buzzwords at the NME.

Yet there are two sides to the story.



Ben UFO (co-founder of Hessle Audio), Oneman (founder of 502 Recordings) and Jackmaster (Numbers co-owner) are all DJs. "So what?", you say, "everyone's a DJ these days". True, but very few people actually make any moves in the dance music scene for being DJs alone. Most are producers first, achieve popularity and the public assumes they are a DJ, so they all rush to see a Deadmau5 DJ set and have no idea that all they saw was a guy playing his own music from his laptop.

Ben UFO, Oneman and Jackmaster on the other hand know what they're good at and stick to it. In any one set from the label-heads you are likely to hear 1970's disco, 80's house music, hip-hop, 90's garage and tracks that won't be released 'til 2012.

That's what makes the scene so exciting, you have really talented producers putting their own spin on genres such as grime, garage and dubstep, and brilliant DJs exhibiting the best in not just current music, but music that stretches back decades. Can you tell I'm pretty excited about going to the Boiler Room on Thursday?

Travel Editor: Chris Richardson

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## TRAVEL Why drive? Samuel Furse turns his back on fourwheeled transport (except for taxis)

have yet to take helicopter gunships seriously. Whenever I hear about them-which has been regularly since the business in Libya kicked off—I immediately think they are referring to something out of science fiction, or at least Bucky O'Hare.

As you might imagine, this is a far cry from commuting on the 0702 from Paddington to Didcot. The absence of guns, bombs and Kate Adie alerted me to this quite early on, and Paddington station was the poorer for it I imagine. What I was equally unaware of was any alternative transport to work. If there were no fast trains, as happened occasionally, I would get a slow one. It would be annoying and take nearly twice as long.

I moved to London ten years ago and had never really used the tube before then. I had used trains a bit. I went to school in the arse-edge of Kent and so in order to go anywhere interesting or see anyone who did not live there, I needed a train. If I did not want to be accompanied by my parents that is. I was quite tempted to start driving at age 17. I got a provisional licence, and was keen to start driving. Perhaps wisely, my parents would not let me drive their cars (no idea why) and a year or so later I came to London to go to University anyway, and never needed to drive. Relations who live in the country have since told me with a punishing regularity how important it will be to me if ever I leave London. And they are probably right. And now that I have a PhD and am over 25 my insurance premiums will be less than they once were (apparently Drs get a discount. Clearly they have not seen my friends from ICSM on a night out). And I live somewhere where there is off-street parking, so not only would the insurance for that be cheaper but the inconvenience of it being broken in to or nicked would be somewhat reduced.

So, there was no longer anything to stop me. The expectation was that as soon as my PhD was over and I got a decently-paying job I would get a car. I might have to save a bit, I cannot fit into a Smart car even if I really wanted to and a g-wiz looks to me like a self-opening sardine tin that will not survive an altercation with a cyclist, let alone anything else. A nice little Volvo or something would work though, I thought. So, only a matter of time.

In the mean time I was offered lifts for things. Clearly the expected standard of my conversation outweighed the palpable decrease in fuel economy that resulted from carting me around and outside the capital. I was never sure whether this balance for my host ever came off,

but I never noticed a problem. What I did notice was how long journeys took.

A few times I was driven from North London (near Enfield) to West London (near Maida Vale). The route took the M25 and took no longer than any other as far as I could see. But it consistently took comfortably more than an hour and a half. Sometimes two hours. The Piccadilly line from Oakwood, changing at Piccadilly Circus and the Bakerloo line to Maida Vale would take an hour at most, in fact it can be done in 47 minutes according to the TFL website. If you are a Londoner, you may scoff at TFL's estimates of journey times; rather like getting speeding points if you are driving an old mini in a 50 miles an hour speed limit zone, they are more something to aspire to than to expect. However, more than occasionally they do turn out to be true (TFL estimates that is, not furious Clarksons in dated small cars breaking the speed limit). I thought little of it after that – just a quirk of those roads or whatever.

But more recently (last year) I was offered a regular lift to my weekly riding lesson in Surrey. The plan was for a pick-up just near Vauxhall and a drive down through a combination of motorways, A roads and country lanes. It seemed a sensible route. I never really went to check this route but reasoning that the driver herself did not want to spend more time in traffic than she had to, and basing it on the pace of car journeys driven by my parents and so on, it all seemed normal. There was a week when my regular lift was not there though. I had taken myself to Vauxhall, which was always slightly inconvenient but doable, but she did not turn up. Ten minutes or so later we exchanged texts to the effect that she was ill and not coming. Oh well, I will get the train, I thought. So, I got the tube to Victoria and got the train down, got a cab at the other end and made it to the yard in rather less time than it would have taken for the car journey over all. I also got the cab-and-train combination on the way back. I did not analyse this at the time, but later realised that if getting the train took half the time and half the fuss, and half the cost (no tube journey to Vauxhall) meant there was little competition between the two. Also, the giver of said lifts and I ran out of things to say to one another rather rapidly and so a change was welcome on those grounds too.

Most recently, I was offered an interview for a job in Exeter. At the time of writing I have vet to make the journey. but looking up the trains, it seems that the railway journey will take 2h24' from Prizes for anyone who can guess what this is a photo of? A train? Hah! How short-sighted. This is a photo of Mankind's phallic domination of Mother Nature. *Isn't it obvious*? did ask for the quickest one and clearly that is not it. The quickest route by road appears to be 3h32', a full half an

#### "The slow but sure improvement in railway infrastructure in Britain will leave the car standing"

Paddington. Add half an hour for me to get to Paddington and what I am assured is a ten minutes walk from St David's station at the other end and we have a round three hours for the journey. The AA route planner judges the best road route to be along the M4, loop around Bristol and then take the M5 down to Exeter. Another sensible-sounding route. Doubtless the M3 to Southampton and then a sojourn along the south coast would be a pleasing path, but I hour longer than the railway one. Not accounting for lavatory stops and the tractor in front of you of course. This journey does also rely upon an average speed of 54 mph. Yeah right.

With these examples, one may wonder how the car has ever been useful. And clearly it has been and still is. Although train journeys are increasing in number—the tube now carries 1.000 million journeys every year, which it did not ten years ago-so are the number of cars on the road. However, cars are also coming under increasing fire for their environmental impact. I am not sure what impact this aspect has for many 17 years olds who are talking their driving test but something one would expect them to say would be that driving will give them a freedom to travel. This freedom is not free though, as we know from a back-of-an-envelope calculation of the

cost of running a car for a teenage male who has just passed his test. More flexibility than freedom, perhaps.

You may have noticed earlier I sneaked in that I had used a cab on some journeys and that said journey was much quicker than a car alone would have been. Clearly I would be disqualified had this been a Top Gear challenge, but it was not. What the cab did do though, was save me from needing to walk. That part of the journev would have taken me 40 minutes rather than the 10 it took in a cab. And perhaps that is the point: cars are quick if they prevent one from needing to walk, but they are slow when compared to railway travel. And slow up against railway travel in Britain?! That is a poor showing.

Just imagine when the slow but sure improvement in railway infrastructure means fast trains over all of the main lines in Britain. It will leave the car standing.



## TRAVEL

## **Return of the Mummy**

Priya Garg visits Arequipa, sees a Incan mummy and cycles down an active volcano

informally requipa, termed "la ciudad blanca" due to its luxurious white buildings, almost Arabic in stone and construction, lies in the Andes mountains overlooked by the looming snowpeaked volcano of El Misti, which rises majestically some 5822 feet above the city. Bordering El Misti lay the summits of Chachani and Picchu Picchu. the superstitious "Apus" or Inca homes of the Gods and spirits controlling the nature of the universe, nestling this ancient town and UNESCO world heritage site below their watchful eyes

Our first stop in this beautiful, dusty, sun-baked landscape was the museum to see a fourteen year old Inca maiden, Juanita, who was sacrificed at the top of Mount Ampato through a mixture of a sedative drink and a blow to the head. Her body was an appeasement to the restless earthly spirits who had, in the Inca philosophy, caused the latest natural disaster in anger against sins of the Arequipian people. Left in a shallow grave with metallic llamas, embroidered cloths, bowls and scallops, her body frozen in ice was preserved for hundreds of years and discovered by chance in a crater to now find itself inside a glass refrigerator. Here tourists can peer through their fingers and mist to gaze at her sinewy shrivelled muscles, still growing long black hair, crooked teeth or hunched-over posture. Undignified as her current state may be, she allows a unique vision of a primitive, glorious and difficult period in one of the most fascinating bygone human civilisations.

Following this, and abandoning our plans to fly over Nascar to visualise the mysterious Inca crop circles due to several plane crashes and escalating prices. we decided to take our lack of water ability and raft down grade 4 rapids up



"It felt like riding a Victorian Penny Farthing over sixfoot boulders [...] each bump juddering through our arms and shoulders"

Chilli Creek (with several paddles). Suitably dressed like two M&Ms in yellow puffy buoyant jackets, we added helmets and wetsuits then clambered in to our raft with one guide, one safety man and one extra canoe whose sole purpose seemed to be to spray us in the face. Splashing over rocks through the Andean wilderness was a mixture between cold fingers, exceptionally beautiful scenery and a shot of adrenaline. One particular highlight was when the guide told us, "now hold on and when I say get in the boat, you get in the boat,"







Volunteering at the local sch

only for a huge wave to overthrow the raft causing speedy propulsion of its passengers downwards with the current, Becky losing grip and disappearing into the rapids. Luckily she was fine, and I got my come-uppance the next morning on our cycle ride down an active volcano.

Cycling El Misti, I had neither factored in the gravel and sand path, nor the lack of suitably sized bikes. Hence once at the peak, the massive distance between the male bike's seat and handlebars, meant that when perched upon the bike it felt like riding a Victorian penny farthing over six foot boulders with each crunch, bump and skid juddering all the way through our arms and shoulders. The constant squeeze of brakes formed bruises on the surface of each palm. Far from being Lance Armstrong, it was more like a toddler with training wheels, slowly taking each skid and sand dune as it came. Becoming slightly more confident I looked up to see our descent down the path of the volcano and promptly my front wheel locked and flew out of a pothole, throwing me off my seat and both my bike and I down on to the sand path.

Needless to say, I was more relieved than Becky being on a ten hour toiletless bus bursting for a pee, when we finally encountered an asphalt road where I could freewheel down to the base of

the volcano. Becky managed another inhuman feat in the burning temperatures and thinning oxygen by racing the instructor up the tiered sandy hills. I took that opportunity to take a personal break in the car just being glad it wasn't me.

The next day involved 'voluntary work at a local Peruvian school for children living in extreme poverty. Taking a bus to the outskirts of Arequipa we were overwhelmed with the basic nature of the area: unfinished one brick wall thick houses, dirt strewn streets, rocks, rubble, children with dusty faces picking through the rubbish, and then one small three roomed school in which they could learn English and Spanish. After sweeping and mopping we lay in wait for the scrum that formed at the gates. Suddenly there came a deluge of tiny children calling us "teacher" and pulling at our sleeves asking us to show them how to do a jigsaw puzzle, listen to them displaying their counting talents or even give them a piggy back ride. After being used as the local lift service around the playground from a series of three year old boys who gave me no rest, not even when I lay flat on the playground floor, where they all grabbed a leg and an arm and tried to spin me round, we made our way exhausted but filled with a sense contentedness from the day.

On a whim, as the night crept in, we accepted an invitation from one of the volunteers at the school to a local rock concert of a famous Argentinean band. Joining the 9000 strong crowd we listened to a mixture of salsa, heavy rock, metal and Bob Marley covers as the light faded over the city, and it disappeared to become thousands of flickering electric lights in the distance as figures danced in the shadows.

On our final day in Arequipa as we bustled through the streets back to our hostel the ethereal sound of classical Beethoven violin music floated in the air. Stopping, captivated, Becky stared in to the Plaza D'Armas. "Where do you think that is coming from Becky?" I asked, wondering what orchestra could be playing at this time of the day in Peru. "Whatever it is, it is beautiful" Becky replied. In answer to our question the local garbage truck trundled round the corner, blasting the choral symphony from its speakers with a toot of its horn.

Farewell Arequipa and your odd singing garbage trucks, your white colonial buildings, your chequered travellers trousers, extreme sports, still-active volcano and absorbing Inca history. As the Peruvians shout and drum their feet whilst on their public bus service, shouting in their driver's ear "Vamos! Lima! Let's go!" the time has come for the end of this trip, final stop. Lima and then we shall see you very soon.

#### hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk

#### **Twatter**



#### The\_Cleggomatortrontown <3

guys, you haven't told Miriam about this girl I've been sexting?

Barack\_attack\_I33thaxor

lol no. Have you actually met her in real life?



The\_Cleggomatortrontown <3

no. She made me send some pics of my dick though. That's not weird right? That's a lad thing to do yeah? I'm a lad

gahahahah. This is me keeping a straight face :Z
Cameron\_DA\_Maneron!!!

SUPERACEGORTHEROAR87

does she have a twitter? Who is

this mystery bird?



The Cleggomatortrontown <3

yeah but I'm not telling you her name coz you guys will just be dicks. She's really nice. She's a Ukranian primary school teacher



I'm following her on twitter lol

Barack\_attack\_I33thaxor

Cameron\_DA\_Maneron!!!



me too lol. This is so funny. Better than the petis filous



FFs. How did you guys find her?



#### SexyOlechka69

heya guys. Welcome to following sexy olechka's twitters. I teaches children. I am a really so horny for my darling cleggyweggy <3

**DRUNKEN MATE OF THE WEEK** Send your photos to felix@imperial.ac.uk. Try not to tweet them by accident...

## Weiner sends picture of wiener via Twitter

ongressman Weiner has recently been in a lot of trouble after sending various pictures of himself in his underwear, and naked, to women he has met on the Internet. First of all, just to clear this one up, that's his real name. He's the only politician who wouldn't need to change his name on becoming a porn star. Starring in politically charged porn where he hammers some sense into Sarah Palin by hammering her senseless. It's also likely he uses "Congressman Weiner" as a pet name for it. Congressman Weiner meets Senator Hand and they hammer out some legislation together eventually spitting out a white paper.

This all started when Congressman Weiner accidentally tweeted a picture of his boxercovered erection. He had meant to send it privately to a woman as what he describes as a "joke". The joke was presumably: "look at this erect Weiner". He claimed that his account had been hacked. As apparently that's what hackers do; they send women pictures of erections. The most troubling thing is that he didn't even try to make it look bigger by stuffing his boxers. What kind of fucking politician shows such poor judgment as to not make you look like the porn star you sound like? Also he was just wearing some plain grey boxers. He's trying to impress someone and he hasn't even put on designer boxers for the job. Honestly what the fuck was he thinking. He deserves to lose his job for such rookie errors.

His reaction to all this was to claim that he couldn't say "with certitude" that it was not him in the photo. In other words: "Oh shit I really regret taking that. Oh wait, hang on, I took a picture of my dick, but my face isn't in the picture. So for all people know it wasn't me". Although it didn't help his case out five days later when more pictures, including naked ones, came to light. Some were semi-naked pictures he took of himself, with his Blackberry, in the mirror at a gym, as apparently he's an attention-seeking girl on Facebook.

Finally he held a press conference admitting that he had sent the original photo, and that he had done the same thing several times. He said he was "deeply ashamed" and that it was "very dumb" showing "terrible judgment". This can only be talking about the decision taken in the original photo not to stuff his boxers, or at least use Photoshop to digitally enhance himself. He admitted to swapping naked pictures of himself by sexting as well as emails, Facebook and Twitter. How come he has so much time on his hands? He said he used his Blackberry and home computer. He must have a good Internet connection or his wife would definitely have caught him feverishly trying to upload a cock shot as an attachment to an email.

He referred to all of this as a "mistake". That's partially true, but mistake usually implies that you accidentally do something once. Not that you repeatedly take pictures of your



cock and send them to women by various different means. The balls up, or actually more aptly cock up (inside his boxers) was accidentally tweeting the picture.

It's not just sending photos. He also apparently had phone sex with a woman he met on the Internet. When asked, he said he was "reluctant" to say exactly what they did. So in other words: yes he had phone sex.

He called up former President Bill Clinton to apologise, and swap tips on bitches and hoes. Clinton probably just took the piss out of him for not even getting a blow job.

## the turnip

Hangman's Finest College News Source

## Water contaminated with plutonium, alcoholics claim "we were right all along"

The recent surge in birth defects and radiation sickness on campus have been traced back to the water from the fountains containing over 100,000 times the recommended limit of plutonium. The contamination first came to light when a student pulling an all-nighter went to refill his water bottle, only to notice it glow a faint green. "When I took a sip it tasted like someone had dumped a reactor core in my mouth." Others have described it as "Ukrainian", "OH GOD IT BURNS" and "slightly astringent".

Tap water typically contains trace amounts of chloride, fluoride, sodium and magnesium, as well as a significant amount of hydrogen and oxygen, so this inclusion comes as a surprise to many. However, readers must be advised that hydrogen peroxide also contains hydrogen and oxygen but tastes a lot more like death. It has also appeared to wipe the smugness from tap water enthusiasts who bang on about how it's superior to bottled water.

#### Those affected will get no special treatment, due to it being Imperial

Alcoholics in the Union Bar and Young's have responded to the news with a smug, slightly boozy sense of victory. "See! I knew water was bad for you!" claimed David O'Pierce before collapsing into a puddle of his own sick in the Quad. When told that bottled water was still safe he responded angrily, "I'll bottle your ma! And your donkey..." before passing out.

There have been unconfirmed reports of superpowers as a consequence of drinking the water, including super-nerdiness, epic underarm 'fuzz', and a heightened sense of superiority. However, it is believed that radioactivity only has the desired effect if administered via a spider bite. Hypochondriacs all around campus are said to be "very worried".



those too snobby for tap but still enjoy being irradiated

## THE NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS Horoscopes



## New police riot mask designed to 'confuse' protestors



Ahhh I've been looking for a fool-proof way of cumming in my own mouth... Cheers bro!

## Aries

This week, you get a little hungry around lunchtime, but you ignore your urges because you... are on a diet. That's right. You've restricted yourself to only eating cock once a day and lunchtime hunger pangs or no, there's no way you're giving up your morning dick...

### aemini

This week, you look at yourself in the mirror and say, "my god, what a handsome bastard." Your girlfriend hears you and warns, "If I hear you being that arrogant once more, I'll fuck your brother again..." When your brother visits later that day, you know she's not kidding ...

Leo

This week, you're polishing your knuckles in preparation for a good old game of fisticuffs on the Queen's Lawn. When the Rector removes his shirt, revealing a rippled bulging physique, you begin to wonder if you've underestimated your opponent.

### Libra

This week, the clouds make way for the sun, but in your rush to take advantage of all that glorious vitamin D, you trip on the steps at the entrance to the library, fall and hit your head, and die. Bad times. But on the plus side, you get given an extra week to finish your project report...

### Sagittarius

This week, you get the term dates wrong and book your family holidays a week early. You get no sympathy for your mistake and are left behind, finishing your project report in the library. You get a card from your parents, apparently they're "fucking like rabbits." Cheers Dad...

### **Aquarius**

This week, a headless chicken bursts into your bedroom and screams in a thick Scottish brogue: "GOOD GOD MAN, IT'S MURDER OUT THERE!" Well that's what you interpret from the disturbing bubbling emanating from its neck. You sigh and go back to sleep.

### Taurus

This week, you finish your exams and celebrate by getting well and truly sloshed in the Union. You wake up the next morning, pretty hungover but feeling quite good about the world. However, when you lift the covers you notice that you're missing a leg...

### Cancer

This week, you're in the Union chatting to a really beautiful girl when she says, "Can I show you something?" and detaches her fake leg. You're kind of shocked but also totally impressed. You point behind her, shout "Hey it's Colin Firth!" and run off with her leg...

### Virgo

This week, you're standing at the bus stop when a guy suddenly appears with a fake leg. He offers to sell it to you for the extremely reasonable price of one bus journey. When you politely decline he takes offence and loudly calls you, "a bigoted, racist, hate-filled moondoogle,"

### Scorpio

This week, you're nearing the end of your shift driving night buses around London when a guy with a fake leg tries to get on without paying. When you stop him he gets angry and starts to attack the bus with the leg. You phone the police and have him arrested...

### Capricorn

This week, you put a young fake legwielding student in the cells to cool off for the night. While alone with one of your police co-workers you say, "hey, how about me and you, you know?" She looks you in the eye and calmly says, "I'm sorry. You're too fucking ugly."

### Pisces

This week, the police put you in the cells and take away the fake leg you were carrying. You're sad. You want a new fake leg. You begin to chew off your own leg. When candy explodes from your arteries instead of blood, you realise that you've been taking too many pills again ...

#### 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** 



## Crossword

Down 1. He who resides beneath the Watford Gap (8,5) 2. Learned (8) 3. Popular freshwater fish (5)4. Fabled clumsy eggman (6) 5/16. Author of "À la recherche du temps perdu" (6,6) 6. Krueger's hunting ground (3,6) 7. Bicycle made for two (6) 13. The "Scottish play" (7) 15. Fruit which preceded the Fall? (5) 16. See 5 20. Irritable - Friend of Mole and Toad? (5) 21. Glance through quickly -Remove floating scum (4) 24. Clumsy brute (3)



### Nonogram – The End of Study...?





# **Slitherlink** 3

You know the deal by now guys. Make one continuous loop. Each numbered box indicates the number of edges surrounding it.

Outi

### **Going Underground**

Which London tube station sums to?





#### FELIX FRIDAY 17 JUNE 2011

# CLASSIFICATION For a second of the second of

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## ACCOMMODATION LAPTOPS

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Large double room in Fulham. Near Charing Cross hospital. £650pcm (including council tax and all bills).

Sharing with three young professionals (one female, two males).

Email nikosp@ic.ac.uk

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Summer intern looking for room from end of June for three months. Contact Davide via davide.moai11@ic.ac.uk

#### Macbook Air for sale

Macbook Air 11.6" with 3 Year Apple Care. 1.4 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo. 2 GB DDR3 Ram.

128 Solid State Drive. Asking price: £650. Item is boxed like new and includes receipt. Please contact Alec via alecgeorgala@gmail.com 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

Adventurous hell-raiser looking for grounded older guy to reinforce inhibitions and temper urge to remove clothes at the slightest suggestion. If interested, look stern and disapproving in Metric.

#### Women seeking Women

Shy sappho looking for gorgeous gay to hold hands with in public. Enjoys walks in Hyde Park and giggling shyly on receiving compliments. If interested, look away quickly when I catch your eye.

#### **Men Seeking Men**

Big bulging biceps looking for equally tonk muthafucka for nude wrestling, sex in the gym, and protein shake drinking competitions. If interested, squat extra low in the gym...

#### Men seeking Women

Decrepit old fool looking for even older woman for afternoons sitting on the porch, going to sleep early, and disturbingly erotic lovemaking. If interested, send a letter of complaint to the BBC.

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

post on their online marketplace!

Post online!



## JET-PACKED INTO COLLEGE THIS MORNING? THOUGHT NOT.

SCIENCE IS THE DISCIPLINE OF MAKING AND BREAKING PROMISES

THE SCIENCE MAGAZINE OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE

## NEXT ISSUE OUT FRIDAY 24TH JUNE

FIND I, SCIENCE AT ALL NORMAL FELIX DISTRIBUTION POINTS

A FELIX PUBLICATION

## SPORT

#### Felix Sports League sponsored by ERNST & YOUNG Quality In Everything We Do

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Index					
1	Fencing W1	9	9	0	0	1210	607	603	5.00					
2	Fencing M1	10	10	0	0	1229		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 9	ICSM Netball W1 Lacrosse M1	12 11	10 9	0	2 2	493 154	312 85	181 69	3.50 3.36					
9 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 21	ICSM Football M1	9 20	5 10	1 3	3 7	28 54	18 48	10 6	1.67 1.40					
21 22	ICSM Hockey W1 ICSM Rugby M3	20 10	6	3 0	4	54 252	40 266	-14	1.40					
22	Football M1	13	7	1	5	34	200	14	1.31					
23	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			-6	0.90					
33	ICSM Hockey M1	10	5	0	5	25	20	5	0.50					
34 35	Netball W2 Badminton M2	12 10	6 4	0	6 5	445 43	483 37	-38 6	0.50 0.20					
36	ICSM Hockey M2	11	4	3	5	43 19	29	-10	0.20					
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		1170		-0.40					
44	Fencing M3	10	4	0	6		1201		-0.40					
45	Football M3	11	3	2	6	22	30	-8	-0.45					
46 47	ICSM Badminton W1 ICSM Badminton M1	9 10	2 3	2 1	5 6	32 24	46 56	-14 -32	-0.67 -0.70					
47 48	Squash M3	9	3	1	6	24 17	26	-32 -9	-0.70					
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 59	Hockey M4	11 6	2	0	9 5	15 16	32 32	-17	-2.36 -2.50					
59 60	ICSM Badminton M2 Squash M2	6 12	1	0	5 10	16	32 44	-16 -28	-2.50					
61	Rugby M4	8	2	0	7	59	325	-266	-2.88					
62	Football M2	12	1	0	11	14	36	-200	-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	poir	nts fo	5 points for a win   2 points for a draw   -4 points for a loss										

## **ARCS** Awards







England Rugby 7s Head Coach Ben Ryan

...Continued from Back Page graduated before studying for a Masters at Cambridge where he won two Varsity matches against Oxford. Following his talk Ryan was kind enough to answer some of the questions posed by the audience giving insightful and informative answers. During a brief intermis-

sion, a martial arts display by 'Shorinjo Kempo' was performed with the demonstrators showing 'hard' and 'soft' self-defence moves. Eight awards were presented throughout the evening; Hellen Maufour, Imperial Medicals Netball coach won the Coach of the Year Award. Marie de Parseval from Imperial Judo club won Ambassador of the Year whilst Alice Mitchell won Athlete of the Year. Sports Writer of the Year was won by David Wilson, with Iain Reid collecting the Sports Photograph of the Year award. The Ethos award was presented to Fast Fins and Student Team of the Year was won by Table Tennis Men's 1s while the Student Club of the Year gong was awarded to Fencing.

An enjoyable night was had by all with the aforementioned alcohol continually served once the awards had been presented. Special thanks go to Sport Imperial for hosting the event, as well as the number of sponsors and special guests who contributed to make the night such a success.

#### Cryptic Crossword 1,493



#### Across

- 1 Evolutionists hardliners caw
- incoherently (7,6) 10 Hunters cry over misjudged hay toll
- (5,2) 11 Sangfroid is almost godless, and
- thus rejected to such an extent (7) 12 Wise men saw magician in half (4)
- 13 100, 1. 5. 1. 50
- 14 Flabby zeppelin without a cabin (4) 17 Can teenagers surround a cafeteria?
- 18 Bendiness revealed by the last icicle (7)
- 19 Street kids store psychic energy in pots (7)
- 22 Most of the Equatorial climate is quite relevant (7)
- 24 Noose shown again and again (4)25 Call a change to never-ending
- compensation (5) 26 Going without food ahead of time
- (4) 20 Immentionent 1
- 29 Impertinent soul eats supper somehow, followed by cake (7)
- 30 Tooth measures almost an inch, and is orange inside (7)
- 31 Confused contenders dismiss trash while in a trance in a higher state (13)

#### Down

- 2 Hen pecks around a log, producing fluorine (7)3 Charles and Bradbury shed light (4)
- 4 Sympathy towards Eastern movement (7)
  - 5 Come to a conclusion about one killing a God (7)
  - 6 Harlots lose a great deal, developing inflamed skin (4)
- 7 Cause suffering as I inflect 'e' as 'i' (7)
- 8 Minuscule coat tailor-made for the basic unit of matter (6,7)
- 9 Motor-car split in pieces by cyclone (8,5)
- 15 Demon lived on his head (5)
- 16 The French mole got you in the tape
- (5)20 Transvestite loses dress, becoming more angry (7)
- 21 Half a parasite of Mediterranean origin (7)
- 22 Ode to tennis ruined by stress (7)
- 23 The standard of Grade 99 (7)
- 27 Sell chess piece (4)
- 28 The English Sacre-Coeur and its plot of land (4)

#### '22 Pub Crawl in aid of Macmillan

On Friday 17th of June (today) the '22 club will be undertaking a charity pub crawl around the South Kensington area collecting money for Macmillan. If that was not incentive enough, the RSCU have kindly supplied a keg. The night will begin at 18.30 in the Union bar where you will join up with a team of '22s and travel to an area around the South Kensington campus going to various pubs and bars aiming to collect as much money as is possible. Upon conclusion of the pub crawl, all the teams will return to the Union Bar. The night always provides plenty of enjoyment so, if for nothing else please come along and relieve some exam stress by collecting some money for a worthwhile cause. **Wilson '11** 

# SPORT

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

### 2nd annual ARCS awards celebrate sports at Imperial **David Wilson** reports

ast Friday, Sport Imperial hosted the second annual Imperial ARCS (Appreciate, Recognise and Celebrate Sport) award ceremony championing those who have contributed to sport at Imperial College over the past year. The event was attented by over 140 guests including nominees for awards, supporting team members, coaches, teaching staff from Imperial, various officials, sponsors and partner organisations.

Guests were treated to a selection of snacks on arrival as well as a generous spread of alcoholic beverages which made sure that some of the contingent was suitably well lubricated before the evening's events got underway. After an introduction by head of Sport Imperial, Neil Mosley, the guests were treated to a reception by the England Rugby Union 7's Head Coach, Ben Ryan, who had come dressed in an England Rugby Union polo to vanquish any thoughts that he may not have been the real McCoy. Ryan presented a thoroughly descriptive, informative and above all interesting story of his life and how he came into



possessing his current position within the England Rugby Union setup. Few people would have been previously aware of Ryan as the 7's form of Rugby Union is only just gaining prominence, yet he has been in his current job since 2007. Ryan informed the audience how, after representing England at schoolboy level he went to Loughborough University to study a Sports science degree. Incredibly, Ryan recounted how 130 students turned up to the 'Fresher Rugby Trials', at Imperial we are still working to get such a turn out. Thirty of that number played at centre, where Ryan plied his trade. Of those thirty, ten had schoolboy international honours, an unbelievable statistic. Ryan recounted how he failed his first year focusing too intently on playing rugby and the associated social life rather than being a conscientious student. Although he failed to disclose what team he played for at Loughborough, we shall give him the benefit of the doubt and believe that he played for the 1s. Following his first year, Ryan knuckled down to work and eventually *...Continued on Page 27* 

