



# FELIX

The Student Newspaper of Imperial College London



I bet £500 on Donald Trump to win

PAGE 6 COMMENT

How has the Rector's pay packet changed?

PAGE 10 FEATURES



## Imperial staff pensions invested in tobacco firms

- Cancer Research UK-funded posts contribute to pension that has £211 million in British American Tobacco
- Most Imperial academics contribute to this pension

**A**fter FELIX's scoop last week on Imperial's £2.4 million investment in the tobacco industry, the *Guardian* has revealed that a university pensions provider has £211 million invested in British American Tobacco.

The Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) is the pension fund for academic staff at Imperial, including PhD students.

There are multiple PhD positions funded by Cancer Research UK at Imperial, and by extension, some of that money is being invested by USS into the tobacco industry.

As we reported last week, tobacco firms are a pretty safe bet when it comes to large institutional investments, despite the fact that the government has been clamping down on the industry – most recently by introducing plain packaging in the supposedly the 'world's ugliest colour' as well as graphic images of the effects of smoking.

The USS' fund was worth about £49 billion last year, and the British American Tobacco investment is the company's fifth biggest holding,

Grace Rahman  
Editor-in-Chief

coming after a £344 million investment in Shell.

It's not just Imperial academics signed up to this kind of pension – upper levels of professional, operational and technical service workers at the college are also contributing.

This is not just the case for staff at Imperial – university workers across the country found out this week that their pensions' fifth biggest holding was in tobacco. Despite this news, Universities UK, which represents all of Britain's Presidents and Rectors said USS was "a responsible and engaged investor".

Cancer Research UK told the *Guardian* that it was now supporting Tobacco Free Portfolios – an Australian company founded by an oncologist that helps companies divest their funds from tobacco. Someone should probably give the Imperial endowment board their number.

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## Imperial starts joint venture with Nestlé

**I**mperial has signed a deal with the food and drink giant Nestlé to launch research into nutrition together.

The research will focus specifically on the gut's bacterial make-up, the microbiome, and digestive metabolites' influence on both physical and mental health.

Nestlé will invest £6.5 million in the clinical and pre-clinical studies over a five year period.

Imperial has been collaborating on research with the Swiss firm for the last decade, but this semi-formal Memorandum of Understanding commits the food and beverage multinational to provide funding for joint studies.

Nestlé's Chief Technology Officer called Imperial "a great fit for Nestlé", whilst Imperial President Alice Gast said the college will work with the world's largest food company to "address pressing societal challenges like diabetes and obesity".

Nestlé has been a target for boycotts since the 1970s over its practices surrounding advertising baby formula to women in developing countries. The corporation was accused of getting babies hooked on the expensive, and unnecessary formula and misleading mothers by dressing salespeople as nurses. This resulted in a decade long boycott and a change in marketing rules.

Recently, the company has been accused of ducking rules again, and reports from Save the Children as recently as 2013 have criticised the firm for its advertising.

In 2010 Greenpeace went after the company for its sources of palm oil – its supplier was accused of illegal deforestation...

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# FELIX EDITORIAL



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## A word from the Editor



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**Y**ou know when you're at a party and you're in a group of people that gets onto talking about what month you were all born in, and then you all start counting backwards nine months to see if it was Valentine's Day, or New Year, or the date of an infamous powercut in your home town? Then you all start announcing whether you were accidental babies or not (I was "meticulously" planned, as my mother loves to remind me – ew) and someone in the group will inevitably claim that they were some kind of miracle baby, that was statistically unlikely, mathematically impossible, and that the doctors said it could never happen? This newspaper, that you are holding, is that baby. Don't roll your eyes at this miracle-baby-now-adult-at-a-party, because the fact that it came into existence, slap bang in the middle of exam season and when our media

servers decided to cut out half-way through Wednesday rendering InDesign, the internet, and all of our templates untouchable, is an honest-to-God miracle of the purest and most beautiful kind.

This issue came into being on laptops, as opposed to multiple high-powered Macs in our little media basement. This was a stark reminder of how FELIX used to be put together back in the day – our very own offset litho printing machines in the office, hand-collation of the pages in the middle of the night, and literal cutting and pasting.

And yes, it's extra-lite this week, almost leaflet-like, in fact. But I know that during exam season, you don't have time to read swathes of FELIX, however nuanced, insightful or engaging. You want news, some snappy comment pieces, your horoscopes, and hella puzzles, and that's what this issue has for



you. I get you guys. It's taken me 25 issues, but I finally get you guys. So here, is our zine-like issue, made (literally) by hand, from me, to you, my children.

If I'm sounding a little more Biblical than usual, it's because I've just had a miracle baby.

## Letters

### In response to 'My #MessageToFeminists' Issue #1636

The central part of your article is the question "Why not embrace the criticism and use it to benefit and reform the movement?" to which my response is that feminism does acknowledge criticism, then subsequently either accepts and adapts or demonstrates why the criticism is flawed. For instance you claim the concept of privilege (that people with characteristics from traditionally dominant classes will tend to benefit from those characteristics directly or indirectly) is flawed but give no explanation. You also claim that intersectionality is flawed because it separates people in to different groups, to which I say that it's important to observe how

different power structures affect different groups of people. For instance the way a lesbian woman and a straight woman experience sexism may be similar in lots of ways and different in others, your argument is to ignore that different groups are treated differently which seems nonsensical.

The rest of your article touches on ideas like political correctness, censorship, loss of free speech etc. but they're only mentioned in passing and no case is made that any of these problems are common or are perpetuated by feminism. I'd love to write an article in response to your points but I can't decipher many between the buzzwords.

Please contact me if you'd like to chat about feminism over coffee some time, it'd be great to hear what

your opinions actually are and get to debate them with you. Same goes to anyone who found themselves agreeing with Arnold's article.

*Joe Roman  
(via email)*

**Some of y'all more familiar with FELIX's brand this year might have been confused by the inclusion of last week's "article" on "feminism". I hope you all took it to mean that we will literally publish anything, regardless of the writer's idiosyncratic views, because, you know, freeze peach and all that.**

**I'd like to direct anyone else riled, or indeed inspired, by Arnold's article to flick to page six and read Christopher Worsfold's charming response.**



You sir! Please think before you type. Photo Credit: Pixabay



# Imperial to offer women's only MBA scholarships

Female students could get £25,000 off their fees

Grace Rahman  
Editor-in-Chief

Imperial's Business School has teamed up with the Forté Foundation to introduce several women-only scholarships worth £25,000 for its Masters of Business Administration (MBA) programme.

However, this scholarship will only cover just over half of the whopping £45,000 fee Imperial charge for its full time course.

Women chosen to be "Forté Fellows" would also get access to the foundation's women in leadership conference, as well multiple opportunities to network with employers and other fellows around the world.

This scholarship collaboration between the Business School and the Forté Foundation is part of Imperial's new sponsorship arrangement with the non-profit.

All women applying to the MBA programme will be considered for the scholarship. Imperial say they're looking for candidates with commitment to Forté's mission of launching women into positions of leadership, as well

This scholarship will cover just over half of the whopping £45,000 fee Imperial charges



What does go on in that tube? Photo Credit: Imperial College London

as a strong academic record and a "demonstrable track record of leadership in in your field".

The female:male ratio on Imperial's full-time MBA programme is 45:55.

This new scholarship adds to the five currently available to business

school students, including the Imperial Women's Scholarship, which offers £15,000 to female students whose applications are particularly strong. Ex-Imperials students get a cheeky 20% off an MBA too, in what the college

liberally describes as an "Imperial loyalty bursary".

In 2015, the Business School had 1446 students enrolled on its courses, and its full-time MBA was ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in Europe by the Financial Times this year.

## Imperial professors warn against Brexit

Academics from the School of Public Health say voting Remain is the "logical" option

Grace Rahman  
Editor-in-Chief

Professors and readers in public health at Imperial have published a letter in this month's Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine on how staying in the EU would help safeguard the health of British people.

The letter, signed by 17 academics, points to the economic downturn predicted by the Treasury should we leave the EU, and the potential government spending slash as a result. The public health experts say that this would mean either huge cuts in the NHS budget or the imposition of American-style health insurance.

The letter also warned that our heavy reliance on healthcare professionals from Europe (we currently employ about 29,000 in the NHS) would mean Brexit could leave us short-staffed, and endanger future recruitment efforts to fill in gaps in the workforce.

The letter goes on to say that healthcare for Brits living in or travelling around Europe would be unclear were we to leave the EU, and warned again of the prospect of health insurance fees where there currently are none.

FELIX reported last week that Imperial receives 20% of its research funding from EU sources, and the letter backed this up, saying that the EU's current policy of free movement of people between member states allowed for the best

scientists come together to do better research, which in turn allows for British institutions to climb the various world university rankings. The letter also praised Erasmus, and warned that the government's university budgets would likely be slashed if we left the EU.

The editorial emphasised the collaboration between universities and how leaving the EU could endanger public health. Towards the end, the letter got a little more political, stating that the road of negotiation that would come post-Brexit would be long and arduous and could risk a renewed effort by Scottish nationalists to leave the UK.

Imperial staff have not been shy about putting their opinions on the EU out there. Two weeks ago,



Yes, this is our Brexit picture. Deal with it. Photo Credit: ICL

Alice Gast sent an email out to all students and staff reminding them of Imperial's work backing Remain. Last week, an email was sent out to students and staff in the materials department, on behalf of

the Students for Remain campaign group. However, the materials department said that they would send out a similar email on behalf of the opposition group if anyone from the campaign team got in touch.



# Imperial sells off last shares of life sciences start-up

## Alkion has been bought by a German chemical giant

Matt Johnston  
News Editor

Imperial Innovations Group, the company which oversees the spin-off companies from technology developed at Imperial, has sold its remaining shares in Alkion Biopharma to chemical giant, Evonik Industries.

Alkion Biopharm specialises in technologies relating to biochemistry, chiefly in producing and purifying materials from plant biomass in a sustainable manner. Alkion was created in 2011 by Professor Peter Nixon and Dr Franck Michoux, current and former members, respectively, of the Department of Life Sciences, in conjunction with Imperial



Let's commercialise some research! Photo Credit: Imperial Innovations

Innovations Group.

Imperial Innovations acts as Imperial College's technology transfer outlet, with an exclusive commercialisation rights deal on technology until 2020. The company also invests in ventures connected to

the University of Cambridge, the University of Oxford and University College London.

A spokesperson from Imperial Innovations said "Alkion has developed a unique set of technologies" and "the company

has positioned itself with a unique offering to several life sciences-based industries and we are pleased to note the acquisition by Evonik."

Evonik Industries have been splashing the cash over the past couple of months, purchasing a

division within Air Products and Chemicals inc. for a cool \$3.8 billion. The purchase of Alkion was for an undisclosed fee.

## Imperial has sold its remaining shares to Evonik Industries

# Imperial staff pensions invested in tobacco firms

## PhD posts funded by Cancer Research are adding to a pension pot that pays British American Tobacco

*continued from front page*

This is not the first pensions controversy to have hit the college in the last few months. In late March, staff were notified that from April onwards, their pay packets would be getting double hit of increased National Insurance and pension contribution. Those on the USS pension scheme (as opposed to the SAUL scheme) would be taking home between 0.5% to 1.5% less. The combination of USS pension and NI changes meant all staff took a 0.7% to 2.7% pay cut.

The college was also forced to contribute more to both pension funds, including a 2% increase in its payment into the USS scheme.



Iconic. Photo Credit: FELIX

## Imperial starts joint venture with Nestlé



Definitely an on-brand partner for Imperial. Photo Credit: Metro

*continued from front page*

...and peatland clearance. In 2012 the company was accused of "failing" on its own child labour codes by an independent labour auditor, which mapped the supply chain from the company's cocoa resources in the Ivory Coast.

The company also bought the rights to a new experimental cow's milk allergy test for babies. The €10 million purchase is part of a move by the company into medical sciences, which, along with the Imperial deal, could see Nestlé adding pharmaceuticals to its long list of food products.



## Sweat over something more important

The union has more pressing priorities than air conditioning

Jonathon Masters  
Writer

This quote struck me last week: “air conditioning must be the top priority for sabbaticals”. This is possibly one of the stupidest, most ignorant statements ever committed to this paper. Everybody knows that the library is hot from floors three upwards, and as a result a petition has been signed by over a thousand people in support of air conditioning, but the idea of spending £13.5 million on what is essentially an unnecessary luxury is ludicrous and the union is better off concentrating on actual pressing issues.

There is also a problem with the way in which we have tried to go about achieving this issue – at a university with such consistently low student satisfaction ratings, what makes any of us think that they would go out of their way to view a petition that can be signed by anybody on a website which, unlike the tobacco industry, Imperial College London has no links to.

One comment on the online version of last week’s article also addresses the fact that you can use your own self-volition to write a council paper and propose that the union take a stance and petition for this change rather than writing a snotty article to indirectly accuse the union of not doing enough to represent the Imperial student body. This mentality is one constantly exhibited by Imperial students: they are unhappy with the state of certain

This is possibly one of the stupidest, most ignorant statements ever committed to this paper

things around campus but are either too lazy or indifferent to actually exact any change or do anything at university that isn’t study or drink.

The principal problem with this mentality is that frankly it’s just selfish and ignorant: if the library is too hot, revise somewhere else – you can go to SAF, various engineering departments’ study rooms, cafe’s, your own room, or maybe, god forbid, you could do something other than study. It just seems so selfish, childish, and naive to claim that the priority of the organisation



It's not that big of a deal (p.s. please sign our petition). Photo Credit: FELIX

that is meant to represent the entirety of the Imperial student population should not focus on the crisis of housing, the increase in tuition fees, the abysmal waiting times for the imperial college health centre, the low student satisfaction that Imperial perpetually maintains, or the lack of funding for 5<sup>th</sup> and

6<sup>th</sup> year medical students. Instead, their priority should be on making yourself more comfortable when you do your work when there are plenty of alternatives that don’t cost £13.5 million.

Now, in the paraphrased words of Aubrey Graham, "I took a break from revision, now it’s back to that."

## Do you have something you want to get off your chest?

You've only got two issues left to write for us!

Send you pitch to [comment.felix@ic.ac.uk](mailto:comment.felix@ic.ac.uk) by Monday

# FELIX COMMENT



comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk

## Can we stop talking over women?

Men benefit from feminism, but need to know when to listen

Christopher Worsfold  
Writer

**W**e've all been there – you finish your exams and suddenly there's a deep hole, a lack of purpose in your life. What else was I to do but pick up FELIX and read Arnold Tan's "message to feminists".

In his article, Arnold gave his view on the feminist movement, articulating his own helpful suggestions. However well intentioned, for me it felt all too reminiscent of the *Onion* article, "Man finally put in charge of struggling feminist movement".

Arnold is by no means the first man to feel that the feminist movement could do with his input.

However much they read, men simply don't have the same lived experiences as women

If you, like me, spend too much time on Twitter, you'll have seen Piers Morgan recently giving his valuable insight into what feminism is doing wrong, tweeting "RIP feminism" accompanied by a picture of Emmeline Pankhurst next to a topless Kim Kardashian. I wonder what an early 20<sup>th</sup> century Piers (undoubtedly still writing in the *Daily Mail*) would have thought of Emily Davison, the woman who died throwing herself in front of the king's horse campaigning for votes for women. RIP feminism?

This got me thinking more widely about why men (I must confess myself included) feel the need to involve themselves with feminism. Because in all honesty, what insight



Terry Crews doesn't have time for your hypermasculinity bullcrap. Photo Credit: NBC

do we have to offer that another women could not? Are we really so special to believe 50% of the population need our help?

But 'help' men do. If you're familiar with odd bits of Twitter, or *Orange Is The New Black*, you might have heard of Matt McGorry. He's the guy that plays that 'nice' prison guard that sleeps with the inmates. Yeah, that guy, he's a #malefeminist. Whether he's posing with the current great feminist work he's reading, or arguing with Piers Morgan on Twitter, McGorry is fighting the good fight. Although for McGorry, that doesn't always include listening to women – he's well known for blocking women that criticise his brand of feminism. But, perhaps he knows best; after all, he has read quite a few books.

So should men self identify as feminist? More often than not, however good your intentions, you are likely to overstep your bounds and hinder rather than help. And this is because, however much you read, men simply don't have the same lived experiences as women; we don't know what it's like to go out knowing that at some point you will get groped, to be catcalled in the street walking home in your school uniform, to know that walking home at night alone is dangerous and that one woman is killed in the UK every three days by a current or former partner, and to always be told that you are exaggerating your experience of sexism and that you're being hysterical.

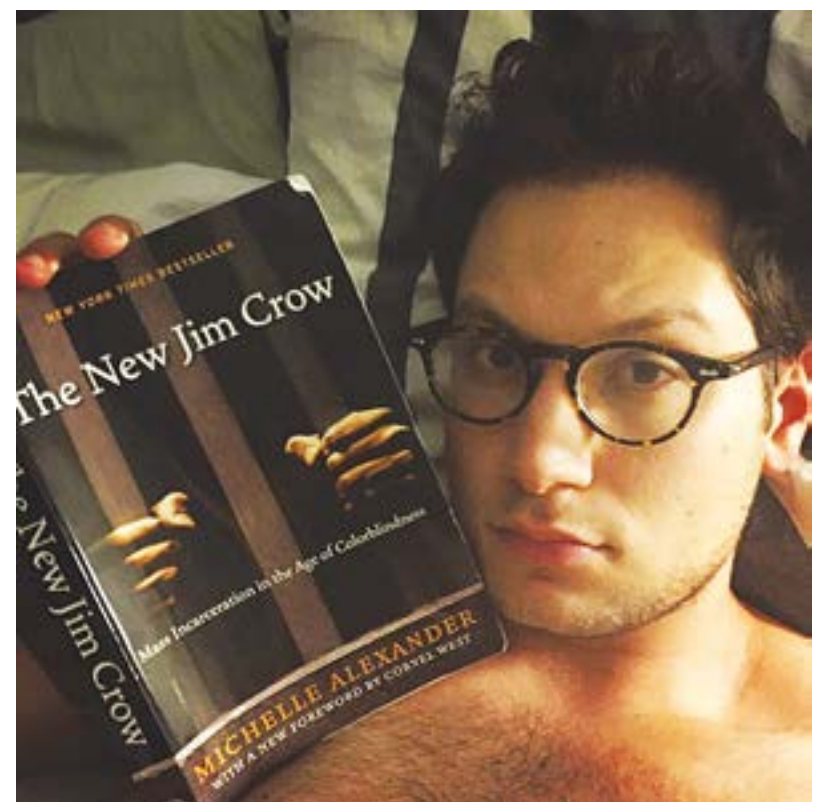
This leads to a problem though: what should we be doing?

The first thing is listening to women's experiences, because we simply don't know. Then it's using the position we have in society to enact change. Not by telling women what they should and shouldn't do, but by talking to other men, from our own experience. Because traditional masculinity can be toxic, it places unobtainable expectations on men, and these have a negative impact on everyone. Whether it's men not talking about their feelings because

it's "feminine" (or worse – "gay"), 'Lad culture', or the fact that men are more likely to commit suicide than women, toxic masculinity is destructive for both sexes, and it's all around us.

For me, Terry Crews, the former NFL player and guy in *Brooklyn 99*, puts it best in his book on masculinity. Crews says "My message to all men is that you have to kill pride, you've been taught that pride is a manly thing, that pride is a good thing. But the problem with pride is that it stops you from growth." Caring about women's issues isn't anti-male, women's rights are human rights and human rights are women's rights. But, if you're a man, before you decide to tell women what they should be doing, maybe consider what you should be doing first.

Traditional masculinity can be toxic



Matt McGorry – the wokest of baes. Photo Credit: Instagram/Matt McGorry

# FELIX COMMENT



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## London should leave the UK

This is the referendum we ought to be having



Alan Perfect Ruiz De Velasco  
Writer

**W**e have always been the greatest, most prosperous hub for trade in the whole of Western Europe. Countless enemies have dared to invade us, all with the most unsuccessful results. Since Roman times, we have always resisted, preferring death to yield – always united against tyranny and oppression. We have survived Great Fires, Nazi bombings, terrorist attacks. And we never faltered. We had never surrendered our independence.

Sadly, at some point, we ceased to pay attention, and independence is not the case anymore. We are not as self-sustaining as we used to be.

The great City of London is ruled by a large bunch of bureaucrats in Westminster, in which only 11% of members of parliament represent London constituencies. Long gone are the days of the great old City of London. Our self governance is a myth, a childish, historical funfact. All the laws that come from Westminster, which clearly favor the rest of England and the UK much more than they favor us,

### Long gone are the days of the great old City of London

are voted for by English, Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish MPs, which are obviously not in line with the interests of ordinary Londoners.

How did London surrender its independence to the rest of the UK? It all started as a trade deal, in which our political decisions were ours to make, but there was a general agreement to cut tariffs between London and the UK. This then slowly started turning into our current unsustainable situation.

We started to allow free movement of people between the City of London and the UK. We



Stop trying to get in on all the nice stuff we have. Photo Credit: driven.co.nz

somehow agreed to share some common principles. And England, suspicious of our independence, built Westminster close to the City to compete with us, filled it up with members of parliament from constituencies coming from the whole of the UK, and thus set the age of British dominance in London politics.

A great example of this problem is immigration: London has lost control of its borders. This imposed policy of open-door immigration with England has collapsed our city. We need to take back control of our borders. We want to decide who comes in, and whether we want immigrants from all over the UK to come to London to claim our council houses, collapse our transport system and steal our jobs. Why do we have to host, for example, so many northerners in London? Why can't we democratically decide how many should come in?

London needs to leave the UK. This should be crystal clear to anyone. A referendum should be celebrated as soon as physically possible. Some people argue that London is too small to be able to negotiate its own trade deals with the rest of the UK and the world. All those people should keep in

### The rest of the UK is an economic mess, and London should stay out of it

mind that London has had no problem setting these deals since the middle ages. Hell, even since Roman times we have been able to make our own terms with respect to the world. The Queen still has to ask for permission to come into the City of London. Our greatness is still there. We have been admired and respected by countless empires. In this fast moving, complex world, we are still relevant enough to negotiate our own trade deals with the rest of the world.

Why should London, the most prosperous region in the UK, have

to share this vast amount of wealth creation with the rest of the UK? How many millions of pounds are we sending to the UK every day? Why should we back infrastructure projects in the north of England? Why should we fund industrial production in Wales? Why shouldn't London keep its wealth and spend it in its own health service? The rest of the UK is an economic mess, and London should stay out of it completely – for its greater good.

We must take back our democracy. We must cease to be ruled by UK bureaucrats. We must finally take back control of our borders. A referendum must be held, and we should categorically, assertively and with the pride of an admirable, 2000 year old great city, must certainly vote Leave. The fight for freedom must go on until it is won, until our city is free, happy and worthy of all the Londoners who died defending it.

(PS, in my next article, I'll talk about Hammersmith introducing an Australian star-point system for immigration, so we can control our border with Fulham. Oh, and I also discuss the implications of Pluto voting to leave the Solar System and finally regaining its long-dreamed independence.)

# FELIX COMMENT



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## Who are we to vote on EU membership?

To be honest, we don't really know what we're talking about

Desmond Cheung  
Writer

As the date of the EU referendum approaches, we are being flooded with Remain vs Exit articles on all media. However, this is NOT going to be another advocating piece. In fact, I am wondering why one even gets to vote on such an issue at all.

Before you label me an authoritarian-totalitarian-fascist and rush to attack me in the comments section or dismiss this article altogether, let me explain why I think the idea of referendums contradict the fundamentals of a democratic process and effective governance.

First, let's all take a step back and ask ourselves: do we actually know enough? I am not trying to belittle your intelligence, but we are talking about conducting an analysis of the EU, which comprises 28 countries, forming the biggest economy in the world (nominally). This is serious. Consider a crude analogy: would you want an airbus to be designed by the population? Again, before you rush to the comment section and cleverly point out the numerous differences, the analogy serves to demonstrate that they both involve highly complicated and delicate evaluations, which lead to long term and lasting consequences. In fact, I would further argue that deciding whether a (your) nation should remain in a political union is far more difficult; there is no "analytical solution", hell, not even a numerical one through some Runge Kutta method. Even if you personally possess a cutting edge insight regarding the matter and accurately predict what the future holds, what percentage of the population can do that? Far too often, opinions are being swayed by three minute Youtube videos or a ten minute read of an article written by an obviously biased (The Economist ahem) source. These forms of media provide little to no genuine contribution to solving any problems. The bottom line is that people who spend YEARS studying economics can barely understand what is going on, so how can we have possibly have figured it out?

At this point, the reader might



Feels, man. Photo Credit: AP

rightly ask "If the general population is incapable of making difficult and well informed choices, what is the point of an election? After all, the population is selecting the person who will lead their country." Here, I argue that the election of a person is of a very different nature to a referendum on an issue. Sure,

### Would you want an airbus to be designed by the population?

candidates have campaign policies and parties are biased towards certain ideologies, but an election makes things personal. Ultimately, the choice is based on our evaluation of the person, which I believe the population is far more capable of than non-linear political-economic analysis. It does not matter what

academic knowledge you hold, nor whether you went to Harvard. Through daily interactions with our family, friends and enemies, our abilities to evaluate people have been developing from the day we were born. An election is a process in which the candidate undergoes public evaluation, the ultimate test of a candidate's character. Sure, we might make mistakes sometimes, such as trusting the cheating piece-of-shit partner we loved; but there is currently no better way for us to pick someone to lead.

Moving onto the more general problem I see here, I find the idea of entrusting difficult and complex issues to the public ridiculous, and it goes against everything I believe a democratic and effective governance should be. My idea of a functional system is one in which the population elects leaders with clear, strong and decisive standards. In return, the chosen ones should lead decisively (with checks and balances, of course). If Cameron believes that Remain is the way to go, he should have campaigned for Remain during the election; if the UK thinks he's nuts, he's out of 10 Downing Street. Do we want to descend into an unhealthy and unproductive spiral, where all parties go for saying "we will let you decide later"? What they are essentially saying is "Whatever you

decide, if you f\*ck up, don't blame us, we gave you the choice." Instead of shoving the decision back into the hands of the public, those governing should conduct the analysis with all the talent they can find, subject to the population's query and opinion, come to a decision and take responsibility for the outcome.

Do not, for a moment, think that I am (or let people say you are) being a coward for not wanting to make the choice. We should be afraid of what the outcome will be given the magnitude of the problem. We, 'the people', are powerful because we decide who will come to power, and not because we get to decide upon things that most of us can't even begin to comprehend. Certainly, I might be overly ideological, unrealistic and have overlooked some seriously obviously stuff. Coming back to the real world, where we are being presented with such a referendum, we are aware of the existence of complete lunatics and we are facing a choice, we should do our best to comprehend and vote for what we believe in at the moment – I just don't think this to be the way to go.

Looking across the pond, god knows how much I despise and hate Donald, but at least he is confident enough in his (possibly delusional) supporters to not hold a referendum on building the Mexican wall.



# FELIX COMMENT



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## Why I'm betting on £500 on Donald to win

Hillary's campaign isn't enough to save us from The Trump



Jack Foxabbott  
Writer

Last week I bet £500 at 2:1 that the next American president will be Donald Trump. And if Hillary Clinton doesn't sort out her campaign strategy fast, he will win a landslide victory.

When Trump initially announced his campaign, he was a joke candidate – how could he, a man who had previously claimed to be a Democrat, have a hope of getting the Republican nomination?

### To clarify, I think Trump is abhorrent

Once in the race, his objective was to obtain attention quickly, which he achieved with an array of insulting statements and 'bold' policies. Of Mexican immigrants, he said; "They're bringing drugs, crime. They're rapists." He pledged to build a wall along the southern border and to "make Mexico pay for it", and he called for a shutdown on Muslim immigration.

All of this is preposterous, there's no doubt. But that didn't matter. At this stage he wasn't trying to be electable, he was merely trying to get noticed- and noticed he got. In the following months he received over \$2billion worth of free media attention. When his ratings went up, he used this attention to let everybody know. And somehow it got better for Trump – people actually bought into his ideas. With every controversial statement he made, thousands praised him for speaking his mind, for challenging political correctness. The American right-wing was more stupid than anyone thought.

He had everything he needed: huge attention and huge popularity. It seemed only a matter of time until the nomination was secured. People tuned in to the debates purely to watch him – he became the man who stood up for the silent majority. He had convinced millions that they wanted America to be great

again, whatever that means.

His story couldn't be more different from that of career politician Clinton. At the start of the Democratic race, it was pretty much assumed that she would win.

Her leading opposition was hardcore leftie Bernie Sanders, a candidate who was initially dismissed as being unelectable on account of his socialist policies. His campaign is largely about getting big money out of politics, and emphasising the need for a non-establishment president. Along with Trump, he has made the presidential election all about fighting the status quo.

Clinton's reaction has been peculiar. Instead of emphasising the need for someone with experience and knowledge rather than an outsider, she decided to desperately insist that she's not part of the establishment. Her reason? She's a woman! She is trusted by neither the left nor the right. The left thinks she's controlled by the big banks and corporations who funded her campaign and career, the right thinks she's responsible for the Benghazi attacks and would never vote for her because of her liberal stances on issues like abortion.

She's been associated with scandal and corruption her whole political life, including her private email account currently under

investigation by the FBI, with 30,000 'accidentally' deleted emails presumed to have contained information about the Benghazi attacks. Trump is already referring to her as "Crooked Hillary", and will push this until November.

It's clear that she knows more about almost every issue that could come up. However, in the debates, he will crush her. Trump has shown that to win a debate you don't need to know anything about anything as long as you can talk.

He will move categorically to the left in order to pick up votes from the currently undecided. Already we have seen him abandon his destructive foreign policy, saying in April that "the power of weaponry is the single biggest problem in the world". This will be effective because his Republican fans on the whole don't care about policy – as long as he remains The Donald he'll have their undying support.

His early campaign was very insulting to Mexicans and Muslims who had little impact in the Republican primaries. In May he acknowledged that his numbers among Hispanics were a big problem, but said "I have two more people [Rubio and Cruz] to get rid of...once I start on Hillary you'll see those numbers change." This shows that he will dramatically change his rhetoric now that he's won the

Republican vote.

The way the two presumptive candidates are already running their respective presidential campaigns is very telling. Trump wants to Make America Great Again while Hillary wants to be the first female president. To the uninformed voter I know which one of those sounds more appealing. She will resort to project fear. Already on her website the first thing that pops up is "We can't risk a Donald Trump presidency". Her campaign will be entirely anti-Trump, and as dangerous as a Trump presidency would be, negative politics will never resonate as well as Trump's Make America Great Again philosophy has, especially given how bad a communicator Clinton is.

To clarify, I think Trump is abhorrent. He's the least prepared presidential candidate of all time and would be the worst thing to ever happen to America. If I could, I would vote against him. He is marmite, and I concede that not a tonne of Americans are fans of marmite. But Hillary is out-of-date marmite. Americans have shown that to them, policy just doesn't matter as much as personality, and unless Clinton makes radical changes to her campaign strategy, she'll make this a race between Trump and please-God-not-Trump. It'll be all about The Donald.



Look at that man's tiny hands. Photo Credit: Gage Skidmore



## How much does the Rector get paid?

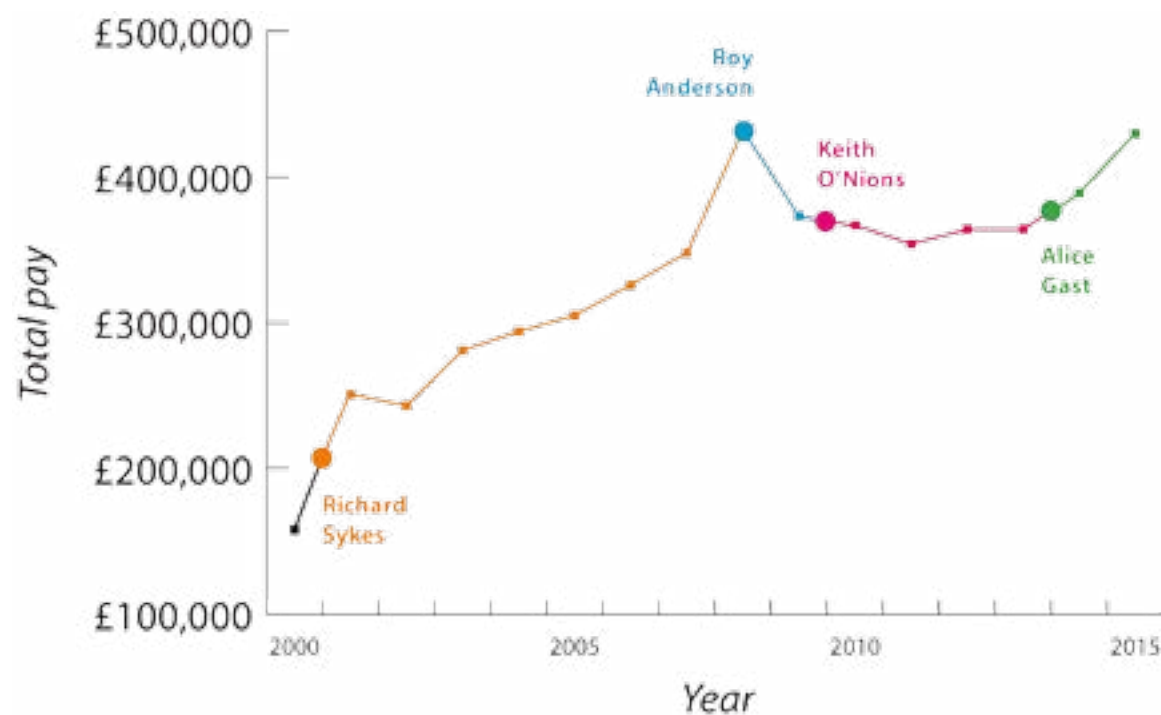
All this plus a parking space, presumably

Grace Rahman  
Editor-in-Chief

The college's Rector does a very important job. They go on Radio 4 for us, they sign open letters in newspapers, and if you're lucky and they're not having a round off, they shake your hand at graduation. The amount these members of staff get paid is always a point of contention.

This week, we took a look at how the President's pay has changed over the last fifteen years. In that time, we've seen fees for home students rise three times, five different Rectors and the building of a brand new campus. Undoubtedly, the Rector has the power to take the university in the direction they see fit. Roy Anderson controversially changed the university logo from a coat of arms to the corporate looking text we have today, and Richard Sykes tried to introduce a student dress code that would've banned hoodies and the hijab on campus (which FELIX adamantly fought, by the way). Over the years, Imperial has become more business-oriented – the introduction of the Business School, the college's rebrand and its multiple management restructures means that being Imperial's Rector-President hybrid (as the post now is) is a lot like being a company's CEO.

And is this reflected in the change in pay? Our graph above uses data from a Freedom of Information



**Keith O'Nions**

Affectionately known as 'Keef' to students, and the only Rector with his own parody Twitter account, Sir Keith stepped in as acting Rector after Anderson's resignation in 2009. Previously the chief science advisor to the MoD before setting up a security science institute at Imperial, he was the first to get the joint title of President and Rector after a major reshuffle in the upper echelons of college governance.

request and information freely available on the college's website.

Initially, we see a huge 60% increase in salary when Ronald Oxburgh passed the baton to Richard Sykes in 2001. The bump up in spending in 2008 when Anderson joined is partially explained by the fact that Imperial had both him and his predecessor contracted to work as Rector during July of that year.

As you might expect, each new Rector has received a modest pay rise on the previous man's wage. Keith O'Nions' was perhaps the most frugal few years as head. The fact that his presidency followed the 2008 financial crisis probably has something to do with it. Andrew Sykes' wage grew modestly every year, meaning he arrived earning £251,000 and left receiving £348,000.

Even now, President and Rector Alice Gast is paid nowhere near as much as Oxford's Chancellor, Andrew Hamilton, whose 2014/15 paypacket at £462,000 makes him the highest paid university leader in the country.

In February, the *Guardian* reported that chancellor salaries had gone up 14% over five years – in the same time Imperial's top job had increased its remuneration fee by 21%.

While the average salary for a university head sits at a modest

One Rector tried to introduce a student dress code that would've banned hoodies and the hijab



**Roy Anderson**

Sir Roy Anderson only took on the job for a brief period starting in 2008, before resigning at the end of 2009. In an interview with FELIX he said Imperial rising above Oxford in the rankings was "doable" and is the only rector of recent years to have done his undergraduate degree at the college.

He was another Rector in favour of top-up fees, but rather less aggressively than Sykes.



**Richard Sykes**

As well as trying to introduce a dress code for students, Sir Richard was a long-term advocate for increasing top-up fees. Back in the noughties, when home students were paying just £1100 per year, the government was considering raising fees. Whilst other Russell Group chairs suggested £3000 a year, Richard Sykes told the world that he thought a whopping annual fee of £10,500 was justified.

£272,000, Alice Gast currently enjoys a total fee of £432,000 which includes the college's contribution to her pension and £25,000 worth of 'Other' – presumably the rent on the townhouse that comes with the job on Queen's Gate. Imperial isn't an average institution, but can it justify such a decadent pay packet for those at the top when fees are set to rise? It probably can, yes.



**Alice Gast**

Imperial proudly boasted of appointing its female leader back in 2014, when Alice came over from Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. Of late, President Gast has been particularly vocal about the possibility of Brexit, having sent out emails and signing open letters that make no secret of her pro-EU stance.



Richard Sykes tried to introduce a dress code for students. This did not go down well. Photo Credit: FELIX



## Science, what's good?

Lef Apostolakis  
Science Editor

### 16 and not pregnant

**G**ood news for England; teen pregnancies have halved in the last 15 years. The newly published *Lancet* study aimed at investigating the effect of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy (TPS) implemented by the government in 1999, the purpose of which was to reduce social exclusion of young parents due to teen pregnancy. The decline was more evident in deprived areas and in areas where more strategy-related resources were deployed. Although there is a global trend of pregnancies occurring later in the life-cycle of women than they did in earlier times, due to education and career often taking priority, the trend has been more apparent in England since the TPS came into effect, suggesting the governmental policy had a strong effect on the targeted demographic.

Wellings et al. 2016 @ *The Lancet*

### Nap powered memories

If you've ever had to cram the night before an exam, this may not come as a surprise to you, but a new study has identified the crucial role of REM sleep in the process of memory consolidation. The team of researchers at the RIKEN Brain Science Institute, Japan, identified a particular brain circuit, the manipulation of which can prevent or enhance memory retention in mice, even during non-REM sleep. The researchers noticed that normal sleep helped mice remember the texture of surfaces. The brain circuit responsible for texture perception was then manipulated at different stages of sleep, through sleep deprivation, silencing of the pathway and even stimulation of artificial activity in the brain of the test subjects. Depending on the manipulation, mice either failed to remember familiar textures, or at times their memory became twice as strong as normal. So don't sacrifice your sleep kids. Especially the night before an exam.

Miyamoto et al. 2016 @ *Science*

### Why no one likes landfills

Many studies over the years have highlighted the importance of our surroundings for mental and physical well-being. Earlier this year, Professor Mark Nieuwenhuijsen from the Centre for Research in Environmental Epidemiology claimed that living near expanses of green could prolong lifespans. So it comes as no surprise that living near landfills might have the opposite effect. Researchers in Italy investigated whether air pollutants emitted from landfills could have adverse effects on human health. They monitored 242,409 people from the Lazio region from 1996 to 2008. They found a strong association between deaths caused by lung cancer and other respiratory diseases, and hydrogen sulphide, as people living near landfills were exposed to on average seven times the concentration of the pollutant in comparison to people living a safe distance from landfills (e.g. Rome).

Mataloni et al. 2016 @ *International Journal of Epidemiology*

### The end of co-adaptation

Many organisms on earth have co-adapted over millions of years and are now codependent. This codependence can be the cause of a mutual extinction though, if one organism becomes threatened. This is the scenario a tiny tentacled flatworm is facing, as it lives on the surface and often in the gills of a small freshwater crayfish from eastern Australia. The many species of mountain spiny crayfish have very small ranges and 75% of all species in the continent are endangered or critically endangered. Researchers from the UK and Australia looked into the risk of co-extinction through the use of computer simulations. They found that if all mountain spiny crayfish went extinct, 60% of all temnocephalan symbionts would follow the same road to oblivion, starting with the most evolutionarily distinct lineages. Such an event would mean the loss of up to 100 million years of evolutionary history.

McGregor et al. 2016 @ *Learning Disabilities Research & Practice*

### The booze identity

You'd think that if there's a clear indicator of alcoholism, it's the consumption of alcohol. However, a study from North Carolina State University showed that posting about alcohol on social media might actually yield more information about the poster's risk of alcoholism than their actual drinking habits. The researchers, who surveyed 364 actively drinking undergraduate students, found that the regular consumption of alcohol was connected with a certain "alcohol identity", meaning the behaviour was considered an integral part of who the students were. This identity was broadcast on social media networks to coordinate, advertise and facilitate drinking. The researchers hope that their findings will help identify individuals at risk of alcoholism and aid policymakers in intervening where strong alcohol identities may indicate high risk populations.

Thompson & Romo 2016 @ *Journal of Health Communication*

## Creamy heavenly probiotic goodness

**I** was perusing 'What to Eat' by the fabulous nutrition professor Marion Nestle, and was particularly intrigued by her short piece elucidating all the hoo-ha around yoghurt. Say the word 'yoghurt' just once and you're more likely than not to get a ho-hum reaction. Is it a health food? Breakfast? Dessert? And wait – is greek yoghurt actually from Greece? Well, let's start with the basics. Yoghurt is essentially fermented milk. That 180g tub you're holding right now has at least 100 million living *Lactobacillus* and *Streptococcus* bacteria per gram. That's 18 billion live bacteria going in your gut. You start off with a milk of some sort, be it skimmed, whole or low-fat, and that's pasteurised to kill any unwanted bacteria. Then the friendly bacteria

cultures *Lactobacillus bulgaricus* and *Streptococcus thermophilus* are added, together with 'hardier' cultures acidophilus and bifidus strains because the former two are more delicate, otherwise known as the weakling strains. Whatever the type, they all work hard to digest the milk nutrients, producing plenty of lactic acid in the process, the substance that gives yoghurt its characteristic tang. Many of these strains are capable of replacing harmful bacteria in the gut; therefore yogurt is typically categorised as the holy grail of gut health.

A large body of research has proven that *Acidophilus*, along with some other *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidus* strains, do actually survive the digestion process, which is not entirely surprising given the fact that most are already present

in the human gut anyway. These lovely creatures also consume lactose in dairy products, making yoghurt (or even your froyo – yes!) more tolerable to those who are lactose-intolerant. Furthermore, a group of scientists in 2004 wrote a particularly comprehensive review on how yoghurt cultures, be it those weaklings or the hardier boys, are capable of alleviating symptoms of constipation, inflammatory bowel disease and even colon cancer.

The problem lies in the mass-produced versions. I get a little cranky thinking about how much sugar is stuffed into brands marketed for toddlers and older children – more than half of your typical GO-GURT tube is pure sugar. Same goes for Stonyfield's YoBaby organic yoghurts. All the 'low-fat' labelling doesn't help, because it usually

means all that fat is just replaced with sugar. I'd think it would be a far better idea to teach children how to appreciate something other than 'sweet', and leave the sugary stuff for real dessert. It's fine to give into the sugar-injected yoghurt and granola pots once in a while, but

on your holier days, try leaving the dairy aisles with 'bio' yoghurt, or unflavoured sorts with plenty of live bacteria, and the fewest sweeteners and chemical additives. Shun your inner American.

ALEXANDRA LIM



Yoghurt, bitches. Photo Credit: Jules



## Mars under the magnifying glass

How new super resolution imaging technology can help mankind reach for the stars

Sophie Walsh  
Writer

I get angry waiting for Google Maps to load on my iPhone and I tell this to Jan-Peter Muller, Professor of Image Understanding and Remote Sensing at the Department of Space and Climate Physics at UCL. He looks as if he's experienced a similar thing. "If you think 3G or GPRS is bad, try processing an image of Mars".

It takes a 24 core, 96 GB ram machine three whole days to process a single image of Mars taken on a HiRISE camera, a camera so powerful it had to be downgraded by the US Military before being donated to science. Muller asserts that these are the highest resolution images ever seen by civilians from space. Using *The Martian* to invoke discussion on Mars is becoming rather clichéd a year on from its cinema release, however, if ever we had a chance to see Mark Watney waving to us from his hydroponic Martian garden, this would be it.

The revolutionary new technique published in *Planetary Space Science* by Muller and his co-author Yu Tao

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UCL students love their geographic information systems so much, they have mapping parties. Photo Credit: Harry Wood

in April is called super-resolution restoration (SRR). By stacking and matching up to eight telescopic images of the same area taken from different angles, resolution can be increased five times. So now each pixel represents 5cm compared to 25cm, meaning that in this particular case, we can tell why Beagle-2 failed from an orbit of 300km.

There is no doubt that being able to image in this way will aid our understanding and planning in space exploration. Muller himself is in favour of human exploration and colonisation of other planets.

"I am of the belief", Muller says, "that if we don't hurry up, then an asteroid will take us out and no one will ever know we existed".

So far, so Armageddon. But despite its "enormous implications" for solar system exploration, it is actually the implications for our own planet that excite Muller. High resolution imaging could herald developments in precision farming, urban planning, traffic control, virtual reality technology, citizen science and most pressingly, accurate assessment of environmental change.



Super resolution imaging technology gives us views of Mars that may not be breathtaking, but are most certainly very detailed. Photo Credit: Yu Tao and Jan-Peter Muller, UCL

"At this point, it's a technology demonstration," says Muller, "but the computing power is likely to get much better".

That does not mean he has eased off developments in space.

"Next is the moon!" he says, to alleviate the concerns of the "flat earth people out there who still think we never went (there)! And we need to find Philae!"

Maybe he can do that whilst he's waiting for those images of Mars to process.

If we don't  
hurry up,  
then an  
asteroid will  
take us out  
and no one  
will ever  
know we  
existed

## Science & the City

Very few of us are here at Imperial because we're interested in the inner machinations of the political beast. But as argued lately in FELIX, science and scientists need to wake up and start caring about science and policy. Besides being a way to sell ourselves better and increase funding from one of our largest donors (the government), gathering technical knowledge and transforming it into human wisdom requires prescience about how it will affect society. And one of the most powerful, overarching frameworks for societal influence is politics.

In some fields, like theoretical mathematics, the link between science and policy is difficult to tease apart, but in others, such as climate studies, it's quite obvious. Well known governments desperately need to start implementing policies to establish a future that's adaptable to rapidly changing climate conditions. Science is one of the only tools through which we can predict what that future may look like. However, policy-makers in the UK and many other western countries are largely not trained in science, its technical language, or the implications of it. As a result, despite the existence of in-house policy translators, scientists themselves need to be already tweaking their messages for policy-makers.

Professor Martin Siegert of Imperial recently co-authored a paper on the Totten Glacier of Antarctica, potentially predicting an additional three metres to on-going sea level rise. These types of stark scientific numbers can serve as powerful political forces, but need to be framed the right way to get the message across.

Siegert argues that it's important for the scientific community to "translate scientific research to decision-makers, wherever they are, as we have a loss of knowledge and expertise as we move from science to decisions".

While not all of us will be studying political sciences, we should always think just how our research can have policy impacts to benefit society, and be able to frame it accordingly. Ultimately, this may be some of the greatest meaning our work has.

NAOMI STEWART



## Sh!t Science

Reminiscent geeks confirm: Super Mario Bros is hard

MARIANNE GUENOT



Itsame! Mario! Photo Credit: Sergey Galyonkin

**A**t Sh!t Science, we like to show how all science is special, a little bouncing 1-UP that your character runs towards to let it continue through the game. This version of Sh!t Science is a little different. Because this week, I'm not going to be talking about research that sounds silly, or useless. This week, I'm talking about research that, to me, sounds so cool it makes my eyes water a little bit.

To 30-year-old me, the game Super Mario Bros was the source of the happiest and saddest times a ten-year-old could ever experience. Two dimensions, 8-bit music, and a moustachioed plumber who could only do one thing: hop, meant hours and hours of game play fun. But game play in those days was hardcore. You got a set number of lives, and when you lost them, you were out. End of game. Mental Breakdown. You would always hear about that kid, the friend of a friend

of a friend, who actually finished the game. The story of the kid who defeated Bowser would spread like an urban legend. But for you, it was: start all over again and die at the exact same place. Again.

That unassailable sense of defeat has haunted me throughout the rest of my life, a tiny niggling reminder that no matter how hard I tried at that game, I always failed. But now the children of the 80s

have grown up and are using mathematical proof to show that we weren't all that stupid. In a paper that will be presented at the FUN16 conference, the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Fun with Algorithms, a group of mathematicians from MIT, the University of Ottawa, and Bard College at Simon's Rock, will present their latest mathematical analysis breakthrough which proves, once and for all, that Super Mario Bros. is super super hard. They show that the problem of solving a level in Super Mario Brothers is as hard as the hardest problems in the "complexity class", meaning that it's even more complex than the travelling-salesman problem, or the problem of factoring large numbers, or any of the other hard problems belonging to the better-known complexity class: NP.

That  
sense of  
defeat has  
haunted  
me

Natasha Khaleeq  
Writer

## This week's science picture

**O**ceanic toxin levels have increased due to harmful algal blooms (HABs) which plague shellfish and in turn affect the humans that consume them. Recently NOAA and partners deployed an underwater robot that measures toxicity. The robot, known as the Environmental Sample Processor (ESP), was made at the University of Washington, and will monitor cell and toxin concentrations of the HABs caused by Pseudo-nitzschia on the north-west coast. ESP can detect the toxin domoic acid which gives scientists a better assessment of the HABs' toxicity levels. The data collected by the ESP will be sent to scientists, coastal managers and public health officials in near-real time so they can support decisions related to potential shellfish harvesting closures. This decision-making is critical for the coastal communities that will experience financial hardships due to the closure.



The Environmental Sample Processor being deployed in open water. Photo Credit: NOAA National Ocean service



# This week on *Games of Thrones*

It's season six, episode six!

Harry Wilkinson  
Writer

**T**his week's episode came with a lot of throwbacks to characters of previous seasons. Hope you've got a good memory.

We open with a return to Meera dragging Bran away from the White Walkers (moment of silence for Hodor) while Bran has frantic visions, contrasting the Ice of the White Walkers with the Fire of the Mad King screaming "Burn them all". This gets derailed when some bloke rides up on a horse looking like one of the Nazgul from *Lord of the Rings* (or my Skyrim character) and takes out the Wights with a fire mace. Pretty badass stuff in all honesty. Later in the episode we return to them and it is revealed that the mysterious rider is in fact Benjen! Remember? From five years ago? I told you you'd need a good memory. There's a short explanation of how this happened. He was about to turn into a zombie before the Children of the Forest stabbed him in the heart, because it went so well in the past.

Bit of a change of pace now as we turn to Sam and Gilly heading to his family home. Sam gives her the cover story then drops the fact that his dad would probably murder her given the choice. She seems

Not very eventful, but a great breath of fresh air after last week's heartbreak



Long time no see! How are Ned and Cat? Photo Credit: HBO

surprisingly cool with that, then you remember what her dad was like and you understand why. The meeting with the sister and mum goes pretty well, lovely people, it's only at the family dinner when things start to turn south. Randyll Tarly really is a scary, scary man and you can see the effect he still has on Sam, beating him down to the point where he can't defend Gilly. Eventually, Mama Tarly fires back and leaves the table. Sam goes to Gilly's room to say goodbye before deciding against it and taking her, the baby and his father's Valyrian Steel sword with him. I can't see how he's gonna spin this to fit in with his Night's Watch vows.

We finally have some development with Arya's story this week as she gets to know her target, who is by all accounts a great actor, and lovely lady. You can tell the writers had great fun writing the backstage scenes between the actors, hopefully all the sass and competitiveness (as well as the hiring of hitmen) isn't quite accurate to the actors on the show. The climax comes when Arya decides not to kill the actress and warn her about the understudy who hired her. Confirming that Arya will not become a Faceless Man. She retrieves Needle from where she stashed it and hides in a cave

in the dark, waiting for the Waif to come and kill her. Now THAT is how you quit a job!

Heading back to King's Landing and we see the Tyrell troops heading to rescue Margaery after a truly rousing speech from Mace (brought a tear to my eye). A short standoff between Jaime and the High Sparrow Sanders ensues before it is revealed that Tommen has become a BernieBro and that the huge gathered crowd will not, in fact, get to see Natalie Dormer's boobs. Shockingly, this doesn't lead

to a riot, instead leading to huge cheers from the audience as Jaime and Mace must stand down. Jaime is then fired from his job as Lord Commander of the Kingsguard and told he is being sent to help the Freys (Remember? From Season three?) retake Riverrun. We are then treated to a short scene of Walder Frey having a go at his son and sexually harassing his... wife? Daughter? It's hard to tell with this show.

We finish with a Daenerys scene, not anything substantial in a story

sense, just bringing up the fact that she needs 1000 ships to transport her army (conveniently the same number that Euron said he was bringing over) and hopping back onto Drogon and giving another badass speech, I imagine Daario's getting pretty sick of them by now. I suppose the point of this scene is to show both that Drogon has gotten bloody massive and that Dany finally has some control over him, but honestly it felt pretty redundant.

The title of this episode, 'Blood of my Blood', links into many of the stories going on here, with many of the younger characters ditching their family ties for the relationships they chose for themselves: Sam leaves his family for Gilly, Tommen leaves his family for Margaery and the both of them leave their families for the Church. This contrasts, of course, with Arya leaving the Faceless Men, becoming a Stark again when she gets Needle back and Bran reuniting with his Uncle. All in all, not very eventful, but a great breath of fresh air after last week's heartbreak.

Pretty badass stuff in all honesty



Watch out! The needle is back! Photo Credit: HBO



# The Complex and Real parts of *Love*

## Netflix's new rom-com series does not disappoint

Saad Ahmed  
TV Editor

Created by Judd Apatow, Paul Rust, and Lesley Arfin, *Love* is simply great. I really enjoyed watching it; mostly for the fact that it's different from all the usual rom-coms. It doesn't have wishy-washy clichés but rather it dives into the complexities and realism of relationships.

Typically, one would expect the two main leads to get to know and fall for each other. They're supposed to be the quintessential couple that the audience roots for. However, this is not that kind of show. In fact in this show, I was rooting for the two main characters not to find each other and become a couple. Mickey and Gus are terrible, not just for each other, but also as people. They have faults in completely different and very real ways.

Gillian Jacobs portrays the character Mickey, the manager of a radio station, who appears to be almost an extension of her character from *Community*. She's loud but astute, and prone to impulsivity based on little information. However, she's not the 'crazy-girl' archetype as we see; although we do see how deep-rooted some of her issues really are. Her story prominently features her radio-show boss, her quirky Australian roommate and her ex.

On the other side we have Paul Rust as Gus, someone who seems the typical 'nice-guy' but turns out to not be all that nice. He's an on



Fast food is the way to a person's heart. Photo Credit: Netflix

set-tutor and wannabe writer on the set of a supernatural series called 'Witchita'. He struggles with trying to be taken more seriously as well as dealing with precocious but unhappy child actors. Later on, an attractive actor on set warms to him in a way Mickey is hesitant to, which leads to troubles down the line.

Stepping away from the main stars, the ensemble cast are also great. Sure, they give generic advice now and then but they all feel like real people who have their own thing going. In particular, Mickey's roommate Bertie, played by Claudia O'Doherty is charming. She could have been nothing more than a smiling joke but she's able to really shine in her role. A particularly memorable episode is when Bertie and Gus go on a date and are manipulated by Mickey to compete to be the worst date ever.

A very nice touch in this series (also present in the equally great *Master of None*) is the nature of the episodes in general. Sure there is an on-going story and a serialised element, but all the episodes are, to a degree, standalone and self-contained. It's a nice change of pace from all the other shows we spend our time binge-watching. Each episode resolves around some occasion or incident like a party, a hang-out, or even just waiting for a text message. In fact, you realise

the two leads don't actually spend a lot of time together on the show. We mostly follow their separate lives and problems; the two of them trying to decide whether to actually go for a relationship forms the glue of the show.

When the show actually sends Gus and Mickey on a date, we've grown fairly used to seeing them apart. It makes us see the differences between the two, as well as their issues and how it ultimately leads to the interactions between the two.

Things go right, but things also go wrong and this is a refreshing change from all the typical romantic stories we've seen or are accustomed to. It's not that the characters aren't seeking love, there's just an abundance of selfishness and self-loathing to overcome on the journey.

An interesting aspect that's shown in the series is the current generation's fixation on text messages, or just messages in general. We see how big a part they play in relationships, for better or

for worse, and the problems people face when they become too overly reliant on, or analytical of texts.

Outside of the whole, 'will they won't they' story, there are some nice moments in-between. Mickey and a friend take drugs and go on a wild adventure on a subway. Similarly, Gus meets up with his friends regularly to make up theme songs for movies which don't have them. There's general comments about *Spaceballs*, and *Pretty Woman* among other movies and things. The world feels filled-in and natural with lots of little nuggets of enjoyment here and there.

At the end of the day, *Love* is very much its own thing and plays with a lot of things that have little to do with the title. It's not that love is something which can't be sought, but rather that there are a lot of obstacles and issues that need to be dealt with in the process. No character is who you think they are on first viewing and all the performances are top-notch.

This might not be the kind of show for people who don't like awkward situations. For everyone else, this show is rewarding due to its rejection of standard tropes, its bluntness, as well as the fact that it's simply funny.

*Love* is available on Netflix



Had a break-up? Time to party! Photo Credit: Netflix

It dives  
into the  
complexities  
and  
realism of  
relationships

# FRIDAY 3 JUNE



## COCKTAIL CLUB

Buy two cocktails for £7.60

Every Friday from 20 May, starts 17:30



## COMING UP!

Venue	Regular Events	Time	Day
Metric & FiveSixEight	iPop	20:00 - 02:00	Friday 3 June
FiveSixEight	Super Quiz	20:00 - 22:00	Every Tuesday
Metric	Cocktail Night	18:00 - 23:00	Every Tuesday
Metric & FiveSixEight	CSP Wednesday	19:00 - 01:00	Every Wednesday
Metric & FiveSixEight	Club Night	20:00 - 02:00	Every Friday
h-bar	Pub Quiz	19:00 - 21:00	2nd & 4th Thursday
h-bar	PGI Friday	16:00 onwards	Every Friday
Reynolds	Quiz Night	19:00 - 23:00	Every Monday
Reynolds	Board Games & Film Night	18:00 - 23:00	Every Tuesday
Reynolds	Pool Club	18:00 - 23:00	Every Wednesday
Reynolds	Pizza Club	18:00 - 23:00	Every Thursday
Reynolds	Cocktail Club	17:30 - 01:00	Every Friday
The Foundry	Quiz Night	19:30 - 22:00	1st & 3rd Thursday





# Scratching an Itch

*Into* and *One Night Stand*, two short narrative experiments, tell interactive stories in profound new ways

Cale Tilford  
Music and Games Editor

**I**nto, or, I Turned My Autobiography Into a Fictional Second-Person Surreal Coming-Out-Of-Age Dramedy and Now My Life Is Happier is not like many experiences you've interacted with before. In three short, distinct scenes it captures one person's coming of age. Across these the screen focuses equally on two hands, two heads, and two bodies. These are two different people but together they tell the story of one.

Few games are told from a second-person perspective and even less from the perspective of what seems like two people. When we view games in the third-person the player's role is as an omniscient god. Our own experience of seeing helps us understand what is happening when we play from a first-person point of view. But playing from the perspective of two people causes problems; this is something we, as humans, cannot relate to or even comprehend. At first this would seem like an experience impossible in real life, however, this shared perspective could easily be compared to the conflicting voices and thoughts in our head.

This is visual storytelling at it's best and gaming at its most philosophical

The popular meme of the shoulder angel, and devil, is the closest we have to this in mainstream media although it is never presented from an in-body point of view. Whether developer animal phase consciously attempted to do this, they have certainly achieved something unusual. They have opened up our imagination to new narrative perspectives, which will no doubt be explored by independent developers in the future.

As the 'short interactive' fades to credits, two blurred naked figures stand opposite in the shower. As they touch, the two coalesce into one. The journey to adulthood can be seen as the coming together of multiple personalities and identities. This is visual storytelling



I'm seeing double. Photo Credit: animal phase

at its best and gaming at its most philosophical.

The one night stand has a special place in popular culture. Dazed and confused, the protagonist wakes up in an unknown place beside an unknown sexual partner. This situation can play out in a number of ways.

More often than not, in film and television, the quick getaway is the most popular resolution. In

rarer cases, details are exchanged and friendship or further romance follows. *One Night Stand* offers six alternative endings, six ways to resolve a super awkward situation. Multiple endings, as the result of decisions made by the player, are nothing new and developer Kinmoku doesn't pretend she's doing anything revolutionary. Most games that offer this sort of branching narrative are long and don't particularly benefit from repeated playthroughs. However, when a game is around a quarter of an hour in length the player is far more willing to experiment and replay the experience. Whether *One Night Stand* ever results in a truly positive ending is subjective but the different stories told on the journey to these resolutions are rewarding.

Borrowing from point and click games, it is also incredibly successful in creating a sense of mystery and capturing the experience of waking up with a complete lack of information about your surroundings. As you try and piece together the previous night, *One Night Stand* also asks questions about what sort of person you are. Do you brag to your friends after successfully pulling? Do you invade someone's privacy to work out their name (which you've forgotten)?

There is a real sense of fear that your alcohol induced amnesia will be discovered (unless you openly admit to it). In inspecting the environment you learn a lot about the mysterious woman you shared a bed with but

One Night Stand offers six alternative endings, six ways to resolve a super awkward situation

not a lot about yourself. So while the narrative is branching, there's never really any personal development on your part. This is what makes *One Night Stand* refreshing; it's not really about you.



Who are you and why am I naked? Photo Credit: kinmoku

# Union Page

## Make a difference at Imperial - stand in Your Officer Elections



Your Officer Elections is your chance to make a difference at Imperial, by standing for a variety of roles including Deputy President (Finance & Services).

Nominations opened this week May and close Thursday 9 June. From there you can campaign to students, who will be able to vote from Monday 13 June until Friday 17 June. The results will then be announced online!

### We're electing the following roles:

- ▲ Deputy President (Finance & Services)
- ▲ Black & Minority Ethnic Students Officer
- ▲ Gender Equality Officer
- ▲ ICSMSU: Communications Officer
- ▲ Graduate Students' Union (GSU) committee
- ▲ Disabilities Officer
- ▲ ICSMSU: Academic Officer for Clinical Years
- ▲ Dep Reps

Both Undergraduate and Postgraduates can stand for these positions (GSU positions can be filled by Postgraduate students only). Find out about key dates for your diary online: [imperialcollegeunion.org/elections](http://imperialcollegeunion.org/elections) and nominate yourself now!

## Volunteer at the Summer Language Socials

This Summer Imperial College Union are teaming up with the Centre for Academic English (CfAE) to support social events for their pre-session English learners.

Join students from around the world in a range of social events and activities and get everyone talking together. Students on the pre-session course will be looking to improve their conversational English and you can play a key role in their learning outside the classroom.



The most important part of your role is to make students feel part of an Imperial community and grow in confidence when communicating in English. Be the first to join a brand new team of volunteers and get involved this summer!

To find out more visit: [imperialcollegeunion.org/summersocials](http://imperialcollegeunion.org/summersocials)

## Departure Weekend - get involved!

Can you spare a few hours to lend a hand?

We are joining up with Imperial Estates Department to collect all non-perishable food that is left behind in Halls and donate it to Emmaus, a charity that works to end homelessness in the UK. Students have been asked to bag any clothes or goods they don't want to take with them which will be given to the British Heart Foundation and sold in stores across London.

With just a few hours to clear all Halls, we are looking for a team of enthusiastic volunteers who are willing to get stuck in to help collect as much food and goods as possible for these worthwhile causes. Last year saw students collect 1.7 tonnes of unwanted food and 144kg of cutlery and over five tonnes of goods for British Heart Foundation – can we beat this record?!

Join us on Saturday 25 June, 10:00 – 12:00 and see what difference you can make!

For more information and to sign up visit: [imperialcollegeunion.org/mass-volunteering](http://imperialcollegeunion.org/mass-volunteering)



## Documentary corner: *Paris is burning*

Shade. What does it mean? Where did it come from? For those of us confused by the lexicon of reading, kiki-ing, and shade, it would be a good idea to take a look back to the 1980s, and Jennie Livingston's landmark 1990 documentary *Paris is Burning*, which focused on the ball culture of NYC, and the individuals making their mark in it. Ball culture emerged from the LGBTQ subculture in America, and revolved around competitions, in which people would 'walk' in order to win trophies. Different categories would see individuals try and emulate a particular type of individual, such as the 'executive realness' category, which involved dressing up as fantasy 80s businesswomen, shoulder-pads and all.



Oh, the shade of it all! Photo Credit: Academy Entertainment

The stylish film opened up the world of balls to the world, showing us the beating heart that lay at the centre of the glamour and glitz: people would be adopted into 'families', which would unite under a 'house mother', serving as a make-shift support network for marginalised members of society. Not only were the individuals

featured in the film ostracised for being queer, but they were often separated from the rest of the mainstream gay community, in virtue of their skin colour and gender identity. *Paris is Burning* charts the lives of a number of queer and trans people of colour, such as Pepper LaBeija, mother of the

House of LaBeija, whose legendary command continued for thirty years. While their stories are brave and extraordinary, they are rarely uplifting: Angie Xtravaganza, who ran away to New York at the age of 13, and died of AIDS shortly after the film was released, only 28 years of age; or Venus Xtravaganza, a

trans-woman and sex worker, whose murder forms a major turning point in *Paris is Burning*. These people did not lead charmed lives, but their work, their sacrifice, their immense love for those cast out of society helped pave the way for the modern intersectional queer justice movement.

The impact of *Paris is Burning* is everywhere; from memes on Twitter about spilling the tea, to pretty much every single line quoted on *RuPaul's Drag Race*, the impact of the ball scene has shaped the modern cultural landscape. Not all agreed with Livingston's portrayal however, and feminist writer bell hooks slammed her for reducing the performance of black bodies to a mere spectacle for white consumers. But to approach the work in such a way seems to belie the openness with which those featured shared their lives, and the powerful message that can be taken away at the heart of the film. Livingston herself said: "It's about survival. It's about people who have a lot of prejudices against them and who have learned to survive with wit, dignity and energy. It's a little story about how we all survive".

So what exactly is shade, then? Well, in the legendary words of Dorian Corey: "shade is I don't tell you you're ugly but I don't have to tell you because you know you're ugly ... and that's shade".

FRED FYLES

# ANOTHER CASTLE

Imperial's gaming magazine returns later this term

games.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Bored of revising? Write for us!



# FELIX PUZZLES



fsudoku@imperial.ac.uk

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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## Word search

Find 15 characters/terms from *Harry Potter*.

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U	Y	R	S	T	D	L	V	D	R	O	A	D	A
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E	D	B	A	M	S	I	R	L	E	A	O	S	L
L	P	I	R	E	E	D	S	N	N	L	T	F	E
F	O	A	R	E	G	A	C	O	H	R	N	L	Y
F	T	R	A	G	P	L	R	L	A	B	S	G	O
U	T	I	I	T	A	W	S	K	O	U	E	R	N
H	E	S	H	W	A	H	R	E	B	F	N	A	F
Y	R	R	A	H	R	A	L	L	O	R	R	N	O
R	R	O	L	R	D	T	A	D	P	V	D	G	L
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A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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1 12 26 12 19 25 20 1 1 17 25 22 26 12 14 20 13 13 16 1 12 26 12 19  
 25 20 1 1 17 10 12 6 14 20 13 21 20 23 1

## FUCWIT

### Solo Efforts

1 <sup>st</sup>	Cherry Kwok	358
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Nicholas Sim	316
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ayojedi	121
4 <sup>th</sup>	Greg Poyser	107
5 <sup>th</sup>	King Lam Kwan	39
6 <sup>th</sup>	Sunny Amrat	30
7 <sup>th</sup>	Willie Rush	20
8 <sup>th</sup>	Jan Xu	17
9 <sup>th</sup>	David Fengchu Zhang	14
10 <sup>th</sup>	Grace Chin	13.5
11 <sup>th</sup>	Sach Patel	13
12 <sup>th</sup>	Harry Secrett	10
13 <sup>th</sup>	Christina Trigle	8
14 <sup>th</sup>	Joshua Wan	8
15 <sup>th</sup>	Qiaoqiao Fu	6
16 <sup>th</sup>	Jeremy Ong	3
17 <sup>th</sup>	Megha Agrawal	2

### Groups

1 <sup>st</sup>	CP Fanclub	145
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pufuletz	118
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Gap Yahhhh	58.5
4 <sup>th</sup>	The Gravitons	15
5 <sup>th</sup>	Parmesan	9.5

### Points Available

Nonogram	4
Cryptogram	2
Sudoku	2
Kakuro	4
Word search	4

## Solutions

Send in your solutions to [fsudoku@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:fsudoku@imperial.ac.uk) before midday on Wednesday!



# Your Officer Elections

**Want to make a difference  
at Imperial?**

You can stand for  
Deputy President (Finance & Services).

The Union's Deputy President (Finance & Services) (or DPFS for short) is one of our full-time Officer Trustee roles, and touches on so much of what the Union does working across the Student Experience & Services directorate. From working with our Student Development and Student Activities teams to looking over the Union's finances, this role offers an increasing variety of exciting projects.

There are a range of exciting roles available to stand for!  
For more information, visit our Elections website.

**Nominations are open until  
Thursday 9 June.**

[imperialcollegeunion.org/elections](https://imperialcollegeunion.org/elections)

# FELIX HANGMAN



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## NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS



"EVERYBODY OKAY WITH THE DOG FILTER?"



WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE A CALLING FROM ABOVE

## HOROSCOPES



ARIES

This week, you're Queen's Tower. BONG BONG BONG BONG, you cry, as everyone tries to revise in the library. Everyone looks up at you, mumbling their disdain. You just want to be loved, and not have Big Band inside you once a year.



TAURUS

This week, you're the air conditioning units the library so desperately needs. However, a student so adamant that the union should be concentrating on other things takes a baseball bat to you, whilst exclaiming: "AFFORDABLE ACCOMMODATION IS MORE IMPORTANT".



GEMINI

This week, you're mansplaining feminism to a woke woman of colour. "Well actually, I think you'll find that #notallmen hate women", you say, as you accidentally smash the glass ceiling above her head with your colossal ability to miss the fucking point.



CANCER

This week you're Donald Trump and after your ringing endorsement from Dale Winton last week, you get one this week from a North Korean propaganda website. Deeply secretive and with a questionable human rights record, Dale was the host of Supermarket Sweep.



LEO

This week you decide to VOTE LEAVE in order to deport your Swiss housemate who always steals your milk. Unfortunately Switzerland aren't part of the EU anyway. Bummer.



VIRGO

This week, you try and scale the front of Beit, to hang an EU flag off the disused flagpole. Unfortunately, you hang the flag upside down, and 600 Germans assemble in the quad thinking the European Economic Area is in distress. It is.



LIBRA

This week, you're the ICSM, and decide to start monitoring all the free iPads you gave out to students. To your surprise, you don't find gigabytes of porn, but instead discover hundreds of hours of Angry Birds progress, the deletion of which starts a new junior doctors strike.



SCORPIO

This week, despite investing millions of pounds in the tobacco industry, you force the poor old students' union to stop selling cigs at the union shop, despite that the fact that they are our one vice in this soul-crushing, hideous campus of overheated libraries and exams with the answers printed on the back.



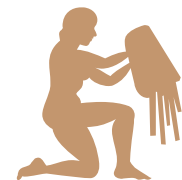
SAGITTARIUS

This week you've finally had enough of the bell ringing at Queens Tower and snap. They really need to set up camp(anology) elsewhere during revision.



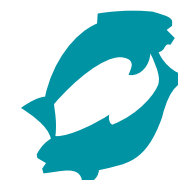
CAPRICORN

This week, you're the cigarette on Queen's Lawn that replaced Queen's Tower last week in honour of Imperial's undying dedication to supporting the tobacco industry. Your smokey ashes warm the cool caverns in the space where endowment board members should have hearts.



AQUARIUS

This week, you're your mom. You should call her. Go on.



PISCES

This week, you use copies FELIX to light a small fire in your living room to keep warm. Unfortunately, due to its leaflet-like thinness this particular week, and therefore increased amount of sass per page<sup>2</sup>, the fire begins shooting hot takes across the room into people's eyes, ears and the general zeitgeist.



## Let me eat cake

FELIX visits WA café, a Japanese pâtisserie in Ealing Broadway

Christy Lam  
Writer

**M**arie Antoinette once said, “Let them eat cake.” If I were a peasant back in the days of the French Revolution, I’d happily take her words as a genuine attempt to offer me cake, ditch my hunger for the stale baguettes and munch on the amazing French creations for the rest of my life, maybe a vanilla millefeuille, a Saint Honoré or a basket of madeleines.

Back to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Having a natural sweet tooth, my love for cake in particular has transformed through the last 20 years of my life to an almost uncontrollable psychological problem – the one and only symptom being that I cannot stop thinking about it. I’d be planning my next trip to Columbia Road market to pick up one of Lily Vanilli’s amazing tarte au citron on my tube journey to college. I’d be analysing the layers of contrasting flavours and textures of a chocolate gateau during lectures. And at the end of the day, putting all the remaining cake-fueled brain power to use in writing articles such as the one you are reading right now.

On a particularly bad day, possibly triggered by the high levels of stress, cortisol and hypoglycemia, I’d



Clockwise from top left: Mont Blanc, Matcha roll cake, white sesame cheesecake, Matcha latte and strawberry shortcake, Raspberry and pistachio tart, and the choux trios. Photo Credit: Christy Lam

look at anyone blankly in the eye muttering: “I want cake.” Luckily for me the Library Café happens to supply a good enough raspberry and white chocolate muffin to keep me sane.

On a good day, normally on a weekend when I am actually bothered to get out of my oversized, worn out sweater and make myself look slightly more presentable, I’d head off to WA café, my favourite

place for all things cake, located just a short walk from Ealing Broadway tube station. Living in between Holland Park and Shepherd’s Bush means I’m conveniently five stops away on the Central line as opposed to the eleven stops on the District line from South Kensington.

WA café, owned by a Japanese pâtissier by the name Mayumi Nakahara, is a small independent café boasting a range of pastries produced on-site by their skilled pâtissiers every day. Their pastries are strongly influenced by the French, yet mixes this unique style, great attention to detail and the cuteness exclusive to the Japanese people into their creations, making them quintessentially Japanese.

After all the cakes I have ever allowed into my mouth in London, from the local Patisserie Valerie to that posh, pink French patisserie down Exhibition Road, WA café’s are by far the best I can get without a trip across the channel.

Walking in through the clean glass automatic doors you are greeted by their pristine creations of the day all lined up in neat rows in the glass display alongside other freshly baked buns, croissants and biscuits. The Japanese waitresses politely nod and smile at your entrance, waiting behind the counter quietly

as you devour the view in front of your eyes with your back bent, while eavesdropping on the local Japanese lady next to you ordering in perfect Japanese.

Their range of ten hardly ever changes except for a few seasonal additions, such as their cherry blossom mousse cake during the spring or the grapefruit pistachio tart in the summer. Despite this, I always spend an embarrassing amount of time walking backwards and forwards in front of the counter just to make up my mind on what to get. Don’t call me indecisive and greedy – you too would be blinded by the colour, the immaculate detail and the beautiful smells drifting from their ovens behind.

On my fourth visit, I decided to treat myself to a proper eat-in experience at their wooden tables by the large window. While waiting for my tea and cake, I immersed myself into the peace, tranquility and cosiness in the atmosphere, generated by the bright and simple interior. Their name, WA, in Japanese, means peace and harmony. Their choice of crockery is the perfect reflection of the Japanese people’s style, attention to detail and respect for food. In their culture, each bowl and dish on the table should complement the

food and contribute to the overall enjoyment of the dining experience. Cakes are served on small, white, rustic-looking ceramic plates and tea in thick-bodied bowls on a black saucer.

Being in a Japanese café guarantees a warming cup of matcha latte, the green tea version of your usual coffee. Just something I always order wherever possible as it reminds me of home. The strawberry shortcake, the iconic representative of a Japanese transformation of a Western classic, is a heavenly ménage à trois between the layers of sweet whipped cream, light sponge and slices of the juiciest strawberries.

My other three visits involved an extended trial of their creations. Their signature choux trios is a row of three mini chou joined together, sandwiching whipped cream featuring three oriental flavours: black sesame, matcha and azuki (red bean) custard. The choux à la crème is again an amazing, crusty choux pastry filled with vanilla custard. I was more than delighted to find them still fresh and crunchy after being in the fridge and taken home – normally you’d expect shop-bought choux to have absorbed all that moisture in the air and had shrunken to a sad, chewy blob.

The raspberry and pistachio tart is a frangipane tart with a fragrant, buttery crust with a lightly whipped custard cream and embellished with fresh raspberries and was another one that succeeded in retaining that crunch. Their matcha rolled cake, a delicate sponge with lightly whipped matcha cream and azuki paste, uses top-quality matcha powder from Kyoto, Japan to give that unique scent and prominent bittersweet flavour in every mouthful. A more classic choice would be the Mont Blanc, a whole candied chestnut enrobed with sweet whipped cream and covered with chestnut cream, all balanced on a crumbly almond frangipane tart. And finally, the white sesame cheesecake with a full-flavoured white sesame cream cheese and a crumbly black sesame biscuit base.

All this writing made me crave their cakes again. Will I be back for more? Most definitely.



Hey, you deserve this. Photo Credit: WA Cafe