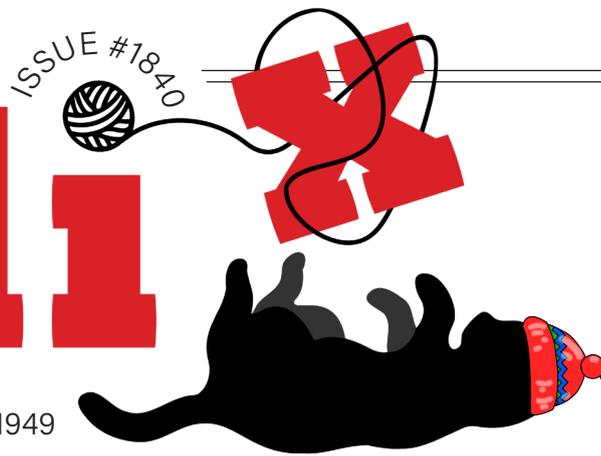


First published in 1949, *Felix* is released weekly during term time and is distributed around Imperial's London campuses. All students, staff, and alumni are welcome to contribute to the paper.

# Felix

KEEP THE CAT FREE | SINCE 1949



# Illness, fire, and fury

(No, these aren't the biblical Plagues of Egypt, just the impacts of heating problems at Imperial)

College blamed contractors as Sir Ernst Chain Building dropped below 10°C. Researchers fell ill and bought portable heaters, leading to a lab fire. Heating problems persist.



The entrance to the Sir Ernst Chain Building. Imperial College London

**Editor-in-Chief**  
**JAMIE JOHN**

Life Sciences researchers have lambasted Imperial for breaching UK Government guidelines and its own protocol on workplace temperatures.

For over three months, they have consistently endured indoor temperatures below 13°C, forcing them to wear winter jackets under their lab coats, and rendering their experimental results unusable.

Senior College staff have responded by blaming external contractors and [→ READ MORE ON 4](#)

## NEWS

### 'Clinical uniform' for medics

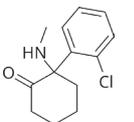


ICSM has unveiled a new outfit for medics on placement.

[→ READ MORE ON 5](#)

## SCIENCE

### Ketamine: Britain's unlikely party drug phenomenon



[→ READ MORE ON 9](#)

## BOOKS

### HG Wells at Imperial

Read for a chance to write in HG Wells' old magazine, relaunching this year!

[→ READ MORE ON 20](#)

## PUZZLES

### GROUPING GRID

moat	monkey	chappie	craze
scramble	grain	riot	cram
Nando's	devil	din	boil
poach	hubbub	bar	fry

Stan serves up a special for Puzzlers this week.

[→ READ MORE ON 24](#)

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At *Felix*, we believe that it is always in the interest of the students to be in the know. Transparency in the workings of the College and the work of your student representatives is key. Therefore I, the *Felix* Editor, on behalf of the team promise that:

**We will, to the best of our ability, tell you the whole truth and nothing but the truth.**

**We will keep your confidence and will only publish something you say to us if you have explicitly said that we can.**

**We will work to expose unfairness and discrimination in all forms that it takes at the College.**

**We will treat fairly any article sent to us, regardless of point of view, and do our best to work with you to prepare it for publication.**

Signed by:  
**JAMIE JOHN**  
Editor-in-Chief

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Located in Beit Quad,  
Prince Consort Road  
London, SW7 2BB

Printed by Iliffe Media  
Winship Road,  
Milton, Cambridge  
CB24 6PP

Registered Newspaper  
ISSN 1040-0711

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## NEWS

# Quarter-final University Challenge win for Imperial

The team stood up to its first real test this week.

Editor-in-Chief  
JAMIE JOHN

Imperial recorded its third successive victory on University Challenge this week. In the first real test of their mettle, Haddad, Jones, Lee and Debnath beat Sheffield 195-160. They will proceed to the semi-finals of the competition if they win their next match.

The team came into the game having breezed past Oxford University's Balliol and Lincoln colleges, trouncing both by a margin of over 100 points. They confounded those teams with their speed, beating them to the buzzer and correctly answering the bonus questions that followed.

Imperial started strongly against Sheffield this week, but with the score at 50-15, their opponents found a way back into the match. Sheffield's Matthew Nail pounced on two incorrect answers by Imperial, rewarding his team with two consecutive bonus rounds that they used to claw the game back to 50-45.

Answering a third starter question correctly, Nail gave his team another bonus round, and Imperial found themselves behind for the first time this year.

Former Indian space-agency engineer Sourajit Debnath kickstarted the College's rally, correctly answering a question on fluid flow, Immanuel Kant, and topological spaces.

Sheffield remained hot on the Imperial's heels for the remainder of the game, but never quite managed a comeback, and the game ended with them 35 points behind.

Asked to rate their chances of making it into the semi-finals, Imperial's team sounded cautiously optimistic.

"Every team could slip up at any moment," Justin Lee told the College's media team. "But we have hope."

"I'd say we stand a good chance," said team captain Suraiya Haddad. "We've certainly been inspired by previous successes, so let's see."

## Test yourself

Same drill as last time, for those of you who read our article in Issue 1838. Imperial's team got all of the following questions (and more!) correct on their way to beating Sheffield. How well can you do?

1. What eight-letter word has all the following meanings?: In engineering, a machine element used to split or merge fluid flow; in the philosophy of Immanuel Kant, the unorganised content of the phenomenal world; and in mathematics, a topological space that is locally Euclidean.

2. Landing in 1600 on the Dutch ship *Liefde*, the ship's pilot William Adams became the first English person to set foot in which country? His involvement in local politics and rivalry with the Portugues inspired a historical novel by James Clavell.

3. Described as 'fecundo capitao' or 'eloquent captain', which historical figure is the principle narrator of the Portugues epic poem, *Os Lusíadas* or *The Luciads*, published in Lisbon in

1572?

4. Which young warrior hero of the Kalevala gives his name to a suite of four tone poems by Jean Sibelius, three of which are based on his legendary adventures? The other is *The Swan of Tuonela*, often performed separately.

Clockwise below: Suraiya Haddad, Sourajit Debnath, Justin Lee, and Adam Jones. BBC



Answers: 1. Manifold, 2. Japan, 3. Vasco da Gama, 4. Lemminkäinen

‘technical difficulties’, and telling a distressed building user to take ‘regular breaks’ away from their workplace to ‘warm up’.

With no solution on the horizon, researchers purchased portable fan heaters to use at work, leading to a small fire in a laboratory.

Members of the College’s Estates team had assured them that heating would be restored in mid-November, but the issues have persisted into the new year.

“We suffered through this and have had to go to extreme lengths just to be comfortable enough to do our work,” said Life Sciences student Daniella Pretorius, who says her open letter on the problems has garnered the signatures of nearly a quarter of PhD students in her department.

She called for the College to hold an inquiry, adding, “We deserve for someone to be held responsible, and assurance that this will never happen again.”

To reach net-zero by 2040, Imperial is upgrading the heating network on its South Kensington campus by replacing its steam-based infrastructure.

The work was originally planned to be completed by November 2023, but has been beset by delays and is now expected to finish by Easter 2024.

A temporary heating system – in place while the existing network is updated – has failed to meet a surge in demand, and last week led to complaints from students across the South Kensington campus.

But in the Sir Ernst Chain Building, home to the Department of Life Sciences, the problems began in October, when researchers noticed their building’s heating supply was not functioning.

They took to wearing several layers of clothing and winter jackets inside labs, and found that their experimental work was being affected.

As indoor temperatures fell, chemicals began to precipitate out of solutions, and ‘room temperature’ experiments took place at less than 13°C – a serious problem for those working with living organisms like mosquitoes and flies.

Researchers of all ages started to fall ill working in the cold laboratories, and on at least one day in November, the temperature inside the building fell below that measured outdoors.

Imperial’s building temperature protocol prescribes that ‘heating will be delivered within 2°C of 20°C’. The Health and Safety Executive, a government regulator, suggests a minimum workplace temperature of 16°C.

Occupants complained to the College on 7<sup>th</sup> November and were initially told that heating would be restored on 9<sup>th</sup>.

In the meantime, a member of the College’s Health & Safety team recommended that ‘a warm refuge’ be provided by placing heaters in a common room, and that occupants of cold spaces take ‘regular breaks’ there to recover.

The College delivered spare heaters to the building, but not in sufficient numbers to keep people warm, so researchers continued to purchase portable heaters at their own expense.

On 8<sup>th</sup> November, a senior member of the Estates team apologised to the building occupants, assuring them that ‘we have learnt the lessons from this fiasco’.

‘Simplifying this message, you will have heat on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023,’ they added, pushing back the date on which heating would be restored.

On the same day, Imperial’s Director of Estates Operations responded to an email addressed to President Hugh Brady and Provost Ian Walmsley, explaining the reasons for the delays.

He described the decarbonisation project as a ‘highly complex undertaking’ re-

quiring ‘a number of contractors’, and said that one contractor had been ‘overly optimistic’ on completion dates.

Records obtained by Felix reveal that Imperial was so dissatisfied with the work of the contractors that it ‘insisted on a change to [their] senior management’.

‘Technical difficulties with a key component’ had also contributed to the problems,

but had since been resolved, meaning heating could be returned to the building.

Heating was restored on 13<sup>th</sup> November as promised, but by the following week, it had failed again, and researchers returned to using portable heaters.

Then in early December, a portable fan heater caused a fire in a laboratory.

The fire was small and quickly doused with a fire extinguisher, but the Faculty of Natural Sciences Safety

Team sent out an email to Life Sciences researchers, banning portable fan heaters and instead requiring the use of oil-filled radiators.

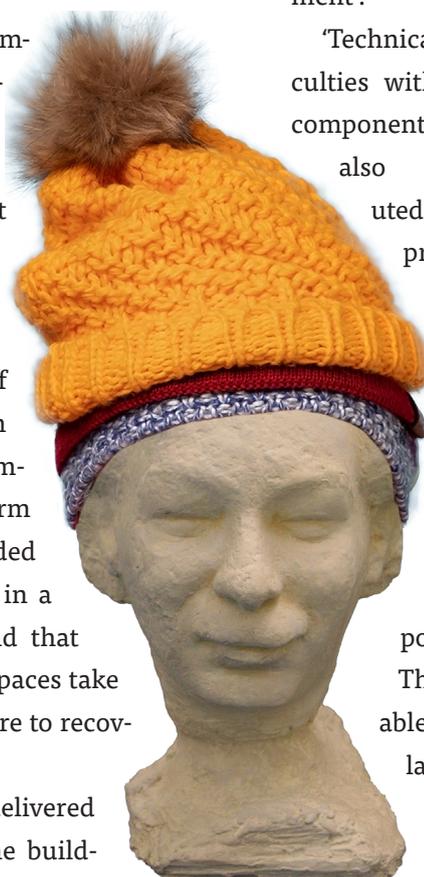
This has frustrated building occupants, who feel that not enough has been done to provide substitutes for the heaters they have already purchased.

As outdoor temperatures plummeted last week, a growing number of PhD students added their names to an open letter penned by Pretorius. The letter, which currently has 33 signatures, will be sent to the President and Provost.

It outlines how ‘multiple heating system failures’ continue to harm the students’ health and ‘compromise’ their



A researcher working with a coat under their lab coat.



Poor old Ernst :( Imperial College London



A temperature reading of 12.1°C, taken in a Sir Ernst Chain research office on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

‘research integrity’.

‘Staff and students either sacrificed their experiments or their health and well-being; the majority of us had little choice but to accept the latter,’ it says.

It criticises ‘inadequate planning’, ‘poor communication’, and ‘a disturbing disregard for the welfare of our community’.

The weather has improved over the past week, but heating issues remain a concern for researchers.

“I think people are just at a loss at what to do,” said Pretorius. “You would come in every day – it was literally below 15°C.”

“It’s the research that we’re doing that is bringing Imperial its name, credentials, money and status. But we feel like an afterthought in this entire thing.”

An Imperial spokesperson apologised for the heating issues in the Sir Ernst Chain Building, saying: ‘We are trying to resolve [them] as quickly as possible.’

To address the campus-wide problems with the temporary heating system in the short term, Imperial said it has ‘been running our heating system round the clock and distributing plug-in heaters to affected areas. The Estates team has been in regular communication with key staff in the building to enable them to keep building users up to date.’

# 'Clinical uniform' unveiled for Imperial medics on placement

**Editor-in-Chief**  
**JAMIE JOHN**

**T**he School of Medicine has unveiled a new free-of-charge uniform for medical students and has 'strongly encouraged' them to wear the outfits on clinical placements.

The uniforms are being rolled out this year to all students in Phase 1c, Phase 3a and Year 6 – who are engaged in clinical work – but *Felix* understands that in future, first-year students will be provided with the attire upon entry to medical school.

The School will cover the cost of two sets of uniforms per person, and is sending vouchers to all those eligible this year, so that they can order the uniforms online.

The outfits are navy coloured, and will



The new 'clinical uniform' Imperial College School of Medicine

be emblazoned with Imperial College School of Medicine's phoenix crest.

They are intended to be a free and convenient alternative to the semi-

formal garb typically worn by students on medical placements, but are not compulsory.

It is hoped the uniforms will make

it easier to identify medical students on hospital wards and allow for 'easier integration into the team,' explained a person familiar with the plans. 'Currently it can be quite daunting, particularly for younger students, to introduce themselves and integrate into NHS wards.'

The new clinical uniforms will not replace the sanitary scrubs worn by hospital workers and students in medical settings such as operating theatres.

Professor Amir Sam, Head of Imperial College School of Medicine, said that the announcement came 'in response to feedback and suggestions from you', writing in an email last Friday to Phase 1c, Phase 3a and Year 6 students.

'We are keen to ensure your identity as medical students is supported, both on a personal and professional level.'

# Faculty of Medicine Interim Dean makes appointment permanent

**Editor-in-Chief**  
**JAMIE JOHN**

**P**rofessor Deborah Ashby has been appointed Dean of the Faculty of Medicine for five years, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

She has served as Interim Dean since 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023, following the retirement of her predecessor, Professor Jonathan Weber.

Ashby is a statistician who served as Director of Imperial's School of Public Health until her appointment as Interim Dean.

'She led the department to be a major global player in the

COVID-19 pandemic response,' said Provost Ian Walmsley.

In 2009, she was awarded the OBE for services to medicine, and from 2019 to 2020, was President of the Royal Statistical Society.

'I've really enjoyed myself during my time as Interim Dean,' she said upon her appointment. 'So, when the option came to take on the role on a substantive basis of five years, I leapt at the opportunity.'

Ashby praised Imperial's expertise across faculties and its 'hugely well-connected community', calling for collaboration 'across disciplines'.

'Teaching is of course vital to who we are,' she added, saying, 'It's key that we foster the best culture and environment to support [students]'.



Professor Deborah Ashby will serve as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine for five years, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024. Imperial College London

# Princess Royal visits Imperial to open £120m biomed facility

**Editor-in-Chief**  
**JAMIE JOHN**

**P**rincess Anne, sister of King Charles III, visited Imperial this week to open a new MRC Laboratory of Medical Sciences (LMS) building on the College's Hammersmith Campus.

The £120m building will host the LMS's biomedical facilities and house 400 scientists working on genetics, heart and metabolic diseases, and sex-based differences in disease.

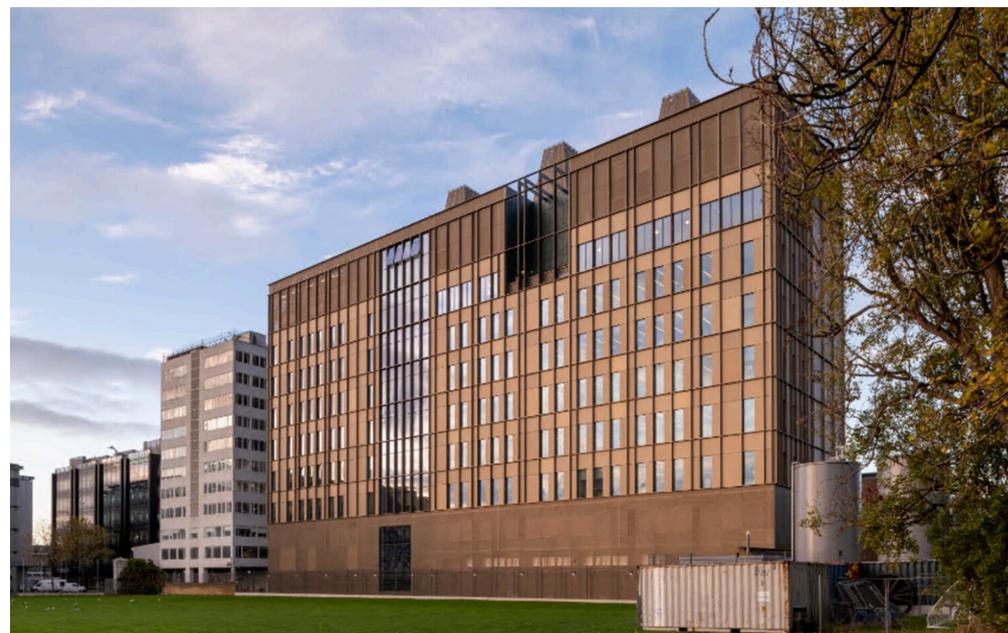
It is located opposite the Hammersmith Hospital, and has been funded by the UKRI

Medical Research Council with 'significant investment' from Imperial.

Spanning eight storeys and clad in anodised aluminium, the building will host microscopy, proteomics, imaging and bioinformatics research facilities.

A central staircase connects laboratories and open-plan office spaces to a top-floor café with an outdoor terrace.

"Today's event builds upon a unique legacy, as The Princess Royal also opened the lab's first building in 1995," said MRC Executive Chair Patrick Chinnery, praising Her Royal Highness for "championing women in STEM."



The MRC Laboratory of Medical Sciences (LMS) building on Imperial's Hammersmith Campus. Imperial College London



Princess Anne tours the new building. Imperial College London

# Imperial and Cambridge launch standardised entry exam

**Most prospective IC undergrads will sit a standardised admissions test.**

**Editor-in-Chief**  
**JAMIE JOHN**

**M**ost prospective Imperial undergraduates will be required to sit one of two standardised exams from 2025 onwards.

The multiple-choice tests aim to

standardise assessment for 'highly competitive undergraduate courses', and will be taken by students applying for STEM degrees at Imperial, Cambridge, and a number of other UK universities.

The Engineering and Science Admissions Test (ESAT) will be used for Physics and most Engineering programmes at Imperial, while the Test of Mathematics for University

Admission (TMUA) will assess applicants to the College's Computing and 'Economics, Finance and Data Science' degrees.

UK- and Republic of Ireland-based applicants will be charged £75 for the tests, and overseas applicants will have to pay £130. A small number of students, such as those eligible for free school meals, can apply for a fee waiver.

Applicants for Imperial's undergraduate Bioengineering, Chemistry, Earth Science and Engineering, Life Sciences, Materials, and Medical Biosciences courses will not be required to take an admissions assessment.

Admissions test	Course(s)
ESAT	Aeronautics; Chemical Engineering; Civil and Environmental Engineering; Design Engineering; Electrical and Electronic Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; Physics
TMUA	Economics, Finance and Data Science; Computing; Joint Mathematics and Computing
MAT	Mathematics
UCAT	Medicine (undergraduate entry)
None	Bioengineering; Chemistry; Earth Science and Engineering; Life Sciences; Materials; and Medical Biosciences

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## SCIENCE

# SLIM lands on the Moon: Japan sets the record for our most precise lunar landing yet

Japan becomes the fifth country to land on the Moon, joining the ranks of the US, India, Russia and China.

Science Editor

TAYLOR POMFRET

On the 19<sup>th</sup> January, Japan's Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM) spacecraft touched down at the Sea of Nectar, south of the Theophilus crater. The spacecraft landed within 100m of its original target zone, pioneering a new image-based automatic navigation system for its landing. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) proposed the mission back in 2017.



Model of SLIM (half-scale) in landing configuration, exhibited at Sagami City Museum, Japan. Wikimedia Commons

## High-precision landing

The main aim of JAXA's mission was to demonstrate a high-precision lunar landing. As the lander approached the Moon, it was guided by its recognition of lunar craters, applying technology from facial-recognition systems, and was capable of determining its location from observation data collected by the SELENE lunar orbiter mission.

This allowed SLIM to pinpoint its current position and correct its trajectory to reach its landing position. SLIM completed landed within 100m of its target location. In comparison, Apollo 11's Eagle lunar lander only managed an elliptic landing accuracy of 20km in down-range and 5km in crossrange.

JAXA's deputy director general, Yoshifumi Inatani, claims such precise landings will enhance the quality of future space exploration.

## Ongoing power outage

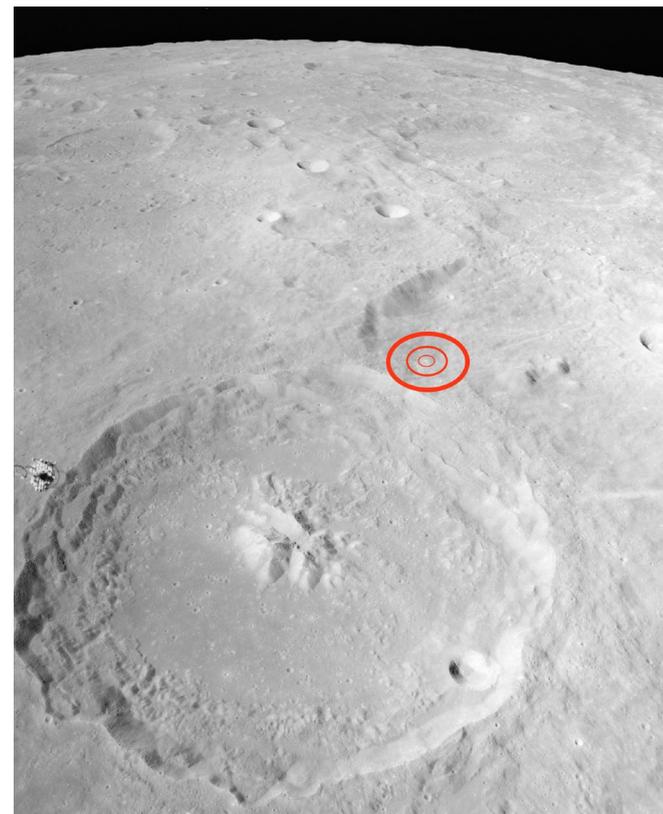
While SLIM landed on the Moon with incredible precision, JAXA's lander is in serious jeopardy. Upon landing, SLIM suffered a technical issue with its solar panels, which resulted in them being oriented westward at the start of the lunar day.

The lander is capable of running on an internal battery power source for a short period of time: this was shut off just three hours after landing to prevent its overdischarge. Operators at JAXA hope the lander will be operational in a few days once the spacecraft's panels receive the sunlight needed to generate its electricity.

Observers of the mission have suggested SLIM may have potentially rolled during touchdown. The target site is elevated at a 15-degree angle slope. Operators have said that not enough data is available at present to establish the probe's orientation.

## SLIM's science objectives - looking for olivine on the surface

If SLIM powers up, operators at JAXA have coordinated it to use its onboard camera, the spacecraft's only scientific payload, to investigate the geology of the Moon. One of SLIM's goals with its camera is to look for a mineral called olivine in the Moon's mantle. Back in 2010, JAXA's lunar orbiter SELENE mapped out a total of 34 olivine-rich sites on the Moon using spectroscopy data.



SLIM landing site, the Shioli Moon crater, pictured by Apollo 16. The large foreground crater is Theophilus, and the crater behind it in which Shioli resides is Cyrillus. NASA

Olivine exists deep within the Moon's mantle, but huge meteoroid impacts have exposed it to the lunar surface.

"If we can detect the olivine's components and compare it with its counterpart on Earth, it may offer new evidence to support the theory that the Moon was part of Earth long time ago," says JAXA program manager Shinichiro Sakai.

Regardless of the challenges that SLIM currently faces, the mission has undeniably been a success. Its groundbreaking landing showcases the effectiveness of its innovative new image-based automatic navigation system.

If the spacecraft eventually overcomes its current hurdles and powers up as intended, its onboard camera will play a crucial role in furthering our understanding of the Moon's geology. SLIM also carried two mini-rovers, LEV-1 and LEV-2, which were deployed as planned and will continue to operate on the lunar surface.

## SCIENCE

# Ketamine: Britain's unlikely party drug phenomenon

Is ketamine, Britain's unlikely party scene staple, a game-changer for mental health treatment?

Science Writer

MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

**K**etamine is surprisingly good at helping treat mental illnesses. It's also Britain's most popular party drug. Its use as a treatment for depression is well-known (and demonstrated by systematic reviews and meta-analyses – Zarate Jr. *et al.*, 2012, Serafini *et al.*, 2014). But its positive effects on other mental illnesses such as generalised anxiety disorders, obsessive compulsive disorders, and substance abuse is now being realised (Walsh *et al.*, 2021).

First synthesised in the United States in 1962 as a milder alternative to phenylcyclohexylpiperidine (PCP/ Angel Dust), ketamine has mild psychedelic and dissociative anaesthetic properties that have led to its medical use as an anaesthetic for humans and animals (where it earned the moniker 'horse tranquiliser') as well as a recreational drug.

Ingested in a high enough dose, ketamine leads to what feels like an out-of-body experience, known as a 'k-hole'.

## K-ing the depression away

The brain is comprised of hubs (regions that are highly connected) as well as individual connections between brain tissue. Hubs include regions such as the frontal and prefrontal cortex, the thalamus, putamen and the hippocampus.

Major depressive disorder (MDD) causes lesions on local tissue, hubs, and the connections between hubs. A particularly important group of hubs is the Anterior Cingulate Circuitry (ACC).

Studies have shown a direct correlation between the ACC's size and activity, and the ability to feel pleasure – making the ACC particularly important in studying the effects of major depressive disorder.

Similarly, the prefrontal and frontal lobe, the orbitofrontal cortex (OFC), and other hubs demonstrate MDD intensity based on brain activity detected there.

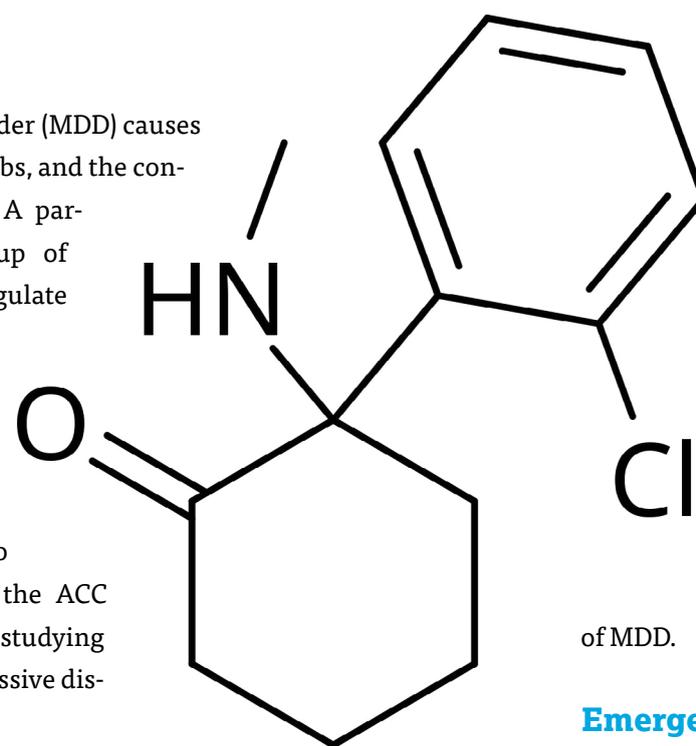


**A little time in the K-hole may end up with a lot of time in the Slammer.**

Ketamine is particularly effective in increasing the neurotransmitter glutamate in several hubs, especially the ACC. Ketamine induced surges of glutamate production, which can mitigate symptoms of depression in the short term. Indirectly, ketamine has been shown to reduce anhedonia in the dorsal ACC and the OFC by increasing brain activity within those regions of the brain.

Studies on depressives and those with schizophrenia undergoing ketamine treatment demonstrated some level of greater enthusiasm after a high. (Note that some of these studies had participants who were taking lithium and other medication for their disorders previously.)

Overall, the hubs with the greatest links to MDD were



Structural formula of ketamine. Ketamine was first synthesised in 1962 and emerged as a popular recreational drug in the 1990s. Wikimedia Commons

shown to positively react to ketamine treatment.

Although the literature has not focused on depressives, and looked only at a small sample of healthy males, there is a growing body of work that suggests that, in the short term at least, ketamine may be useful in mitigating symptoms of MDD.

## Emergence in UK party culture

First emerging in the UK in the 1990s at the peak of party culture, ketamine has become the UK's most popular party drug, and is a fixture within the clubbing scene – or so I'm told.

Its popularity amongst 16–24-year-olds may be unsurprising to those who can relate to the desire to escape the drudgery of modern Britain (and of course Imperial).

Personally, I see it as the ultimate manifestation of alienation in the Marxist sense of the word: completely shutting off the rat race and banality of consumerism into something where you are no longer yourself for a little while

However, ketamine is a Class-B drug in the UK, and possession may land you up to five years in prison, so I am obliged to tell you that a little time in the K-hole may end up with a lot of time in the Slammer.

## ENVIRONMENT

# What to look forward to at Imperial this term

**Environment Editor**  
**SIMRAN PATEL**

Having been at Imperial for two-and-a-third years, 2024 feels to me like a monumental year for Imperial's sustainability movement. We are about halfway through the Sustainability Strategy, and Officer Trustees and campaign groups are working harder than I have ever seen to make positive change on campus. Here are some of the many green initiatives to look forward to this term.

### Green Careers Fair (6<sup>th</sup> February, 17:00 – 19:00, Queen's Tower Rooms)

The student-run Green Careers Fair was so successful last year that Engineers Without Borders Imperial, Climate Entrepreneurs Club, and Environmental Society are hosting another one – this time partnering with Chemical Engineering Society and Imperial+. Companies attending this year's careers fair work on biotechnology, energy, consultancy, plastics, and more. Investment and asset management company Low Carbon, microplastic capture company Matter, and plant science charity Royal Horticultural Society are expected to return from last year. Since the fair is mostly startups, it will require a different networking strategy to the average careers fair – for example, job descriptions may not be as rigid.

The Green Careers Fair is sponsored by Sustainable Imperial, who is responsible for implementing the College's Sustainability Strategy.



Sustainable Imperial

Scan the QR code below to find out which companies are attending the Green Careers Fair!



### Sustainability Week is now Sustainability Fortnight (19<sup>th</sup> February - 1<sup>st</sup> March)

Having attended nearly every event of Sustainability Week last year (read about it in *Felix* issue 1822), I was elated to find out the program has been doubled in duration this year. Sustainability Fortnight will focus on four themes – Climate Action & Justice, Sustainable Campus, Consumption, and Impacts on Climate. Some of the in-person events on offer are climate cafes, a clothes swap, and various interactive workshops by Imperial+. There will also be online and hybrid talks from staff across Imperial. During Sustainability Fortnight, Imperial will also launch its participation in the Green Impact program run by Students

Organising for Sustainability UK.

I also look forward to this year's Sustainability Fair where Imperial's sustainability societies will convey their plans for the rest of the academic year. One of these societies, Environmental Society, will be hosting its own events to coincide with Sustainability Fortnight. These include the annual beeswax workshop in collaboration with the Biology and Biochemistry societies and a paper upcycling workshop in collaboration with Origami Society.

Scan the QR code below to find the event lineup for Sustainability Fortnight 2024!



### London Student Sustainability Conference 2024 (21<sup>st</sup> February)

Coinciding with Sustainability Fortnight, Imperial will be hosting the annual London Student Sustainability Conference for the first time. The conference

will highlight student projects working towards the Sustainable Development Goals from 10 London universities. Although some sessions will be delivered hybrid, I would advise going in-person to network with some of the brightest, most enthusiastic green minds in the city. Since posters will be presented by STEM and humanities students alike, students will leave the conference with a new perspective on the climate.

Scan the QR code below to register your attendance at this year's London Student Sustainability Conference!



Imperial College Union

## Beef with beef, but devotion to deer?

Taste Imperial has vowed to eliminate beef from campus by 2025-26, and its first step will be replacing beef with wild culled venison at the Queen's Tower Rooms and the SCR Restaurant.

Venison is meat coming from deer, and it has less calories, less cholesterol, more omega 3, and more iron than other meat. According to The Telegraph, the number of deer in the UK has increased from around 450,000 to



**Officer Trustees and campaign groups are working harder than I have ever seen to make positive change on campus.**

around 2,000,000 in the last 50 years. This is for two reasons – more deer are surviving winter due to climate change, and humans exterminated their natural predators. According to Reforestation Scotland, overgrazing by this proliferating deer population is the biggest threat to reforestation efforts. Since deer are being culled to prevent overpopulation anyway, advocates like the Forestry Society and the British Deer Society claim venison is a sustainable alternative to beef. Imperial calculated that venison emits 27% of the carbon emissions of beef. However, according to Our World in Data tofu emits 3%, and beans emit 2%, of the carbon emissions of beef. Vegan activists, most notably from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, wonder why venison is being pushed instead of a plant-based diet.

To find out more about Imperial's vegan food, keep an eye out for the next issue!

## Environmental Society campaign meetings

Imperial's Environmental Society chooses two or three campaigns to promote every academic year. Campaign meetings are held every month on a Monday, often followed by a social event. In November, this year's campaigns group decided to campaign for three things:

- Ecosia to become the default search engine on campus (covered in *Felix* issue 1821)
- More labs to sign up to the Laboratory Efficiency Assessment Framework and similar green frameworks
- 'Take-a-Waste', a campaign to reduce disposable waste in catering outlets and bars

Meetings restarted this Monday – where campaigners planned how to engage students, staff, and senior management with each campaign. Environmental Society are always looking for fresh faces in their campaign meetings, so keep an eye on their Instagram @icl\_environmental\_society for when the next meeting is.

## Environment & Sustainability Forums

Your Deputy President (Finance & Services), Stephanie Yeung, hosts forums addressing a different topic about sustainability at Imperial every month. Past forums have discussed Veganuary and sustainable careers over helpings of Imperial's signature curly fries. Upcoming forums are expected to discuss Education and Sustainability, Climate Change and Mental Health, and Biodiversity – with room for student input. The forums are also an opportunity for Imperial College Union to update students on its sustainability objectives. This term, these objectives include developing a Union sustainability strategy – for which consultations are expected to be announced soon.



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The first volume of journal *Nature Cities* was published on 11<sup>th</sup> January, exploring the nuances of urban design and planning, and observing the environmental and socio-economic elements that factor into how cities develop. This comes at a time when effective sustainable urban development is not merely useful, but absolutely essential for the stability and success of future generations.

The earliest cities – defined simply as settlements of greater size, population, or importance than towns and villages – were built by ancient civilisations such as the Mesopotamians and Egyptians around 5,000–6,000 years ago. It is even thought that Turkey’s Çatalhöyük, in modern-day Turkey, developed more than 9,000 years ago, as a coalescence of many smaller villages, forming an urbanised community. These cities typically formed around the vital resource of water – usually wide, flowing rivers – as ancient Egypt’s Memphis did around the river Nile.

The cities of today are cultural and financial hubs: symbols of a country’s social values and its economic standing. They are complex systems supporting a dense, rich tapestry of civilisation, at varying levels of efficiency. The World Bank estimates that more than 50% of the world’s population currently live in cities, and this number is expected to rise, following trends in migration for work, the rising costs of living in suburbs, and refugee movement through displacement by conflict and extreme natural disasters. To keep up with this increase in population density and improve resilience to the effects and threats of climate change, urban planning must be clever and innovative.

### Clean energy and condensed farms

There is no question that denser city layouts have made it easier for city planners to develop infrastructure that services millions of people.

Making a complete transition to clean, renewable energy continues to be one of the biggest challenges for cities. This is compounded by losses from inefficient energy grids and lobbying by oil- and gas-based energy

producers. The feasibility of switching entirely to clean energy is also dependent on whether the surrounding landscape can facilitate the generation of sufficient power from renewable sources; for example, the consistently strong winds at the UK’s coastlines allow a huge amount of energy to be generated by wind turbines, a benefit specific to its particular landscape. Reports by British Power and the International Hydropower Association have reported that Paraguay, and its capital city Asunción, have been running almost entirely on hydroelectric power since late 2022. The country’s Itaipu, Yacretá, and Acaray dams even generate enough power that some of it can be exported to neighbouring nations such as Brazil.

Given that farming and agriculture usually require large areas of land to function, provision of food for the vast numbers of people living in cities is challenging to say the least, and is usually left to the supermarkets, which provide the bulk of food for urban households. Urban farming – in gardens, public allotments, or vertical farms (also known as controlled environment agriculture) – has been gaining popularity in recent years. Vertical farms are gaining attention particularly in the Middle East, where, just last year, the world’s largest vertical farm – Bustanica – was opened in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Thus far, the project has been successful, aiming to localise food production and reduce food waste, and it reportedly uses 95% less water than conventional farming. In general, however, urban farming methods are not yet as cost effective as conventional agriculture is, nor are they necessarily more eco-friendly – due to the energy intensity of maintaining controlled growing environments – making it hard for them to be adopted on a wide scale in urban settings.

### Old buildings, new streets

Increasing numbers of residents in cities has meant increased demand for affordable housing, which is scarce in most urban regions, with pricing being subject to many extraneous factors. It often seems that new building projects are preferred over the redevelopment

of existing vacant buildings, but perhaps the solution to the lack of affordable housing lies in incentivising the latter. This could potentially be achieved by subsidising private owners for revitalisation projects, as well as improving awareness that these projects would be less carbon-intensive and could create a stronger community presence. Additionally, it might be that more stringent policies are needed to cap prices on the housing market.

Pedestrianisation projects – reinventing parts of cities to be less car-centric and more pedestrian-oriented – are a particular love of mine. Milan, in Italy, is known for its shopping districts and is a pioneer of pedestrianisation, which has resulted in lower air-pollution levels, economic benefits for local businesses, and an improved sense of community. In late 2023, Giuseppe Sala, the city’s mayor, even proposed a ban on private vehicles entering the city centre in an effort to reduce levels of emissions. Stockholm, in Sweden, is planning to tackle its emissions with a similar ban on petrol and diesel cars in its centre. Both of these are slated to come into effect in late 2024 or early 2025.

### Safety in numbers

Being built around rivers or near seas and often being dependent on those bodies of water, many cities are at risk of flooding, owing to sea-level rise. This necessitates adaptation measures such as artificial flood defences and the relocation of building developments to higher ground. London’s Thames Barrier is a prime example of this; a movable flood barrier managed by the UK government and the UK Environment Agency that can be closed when there is a risk of flooding to central London.

Barcelona, Spain, is a coastal city that has implement-



WITH ZANNA

# Cities: to sustain living



ed successful flood management, having invested in the development of 15 rainwater retention basins over the past 20 years, including the revitalisation of soil and green spaces in urban areas to better absorb rainwater. At the coast itself, the city is investigating the possibility of adding sand to beaches and extending existing breakwaters to slow the loss of land to the sea, as well as installation of EONcrete blocks and ecostructure panels, which will serve to reinforce coastal structures while encouraging the return of biodiverse aquatic wildlife.

Island and coastal cities are particularly vulnerable to natural disasters such as tsunamis, tropical storms, and earthquakes. Manila in the Philippines is a prime example of this, as it is frequently hit by severe tropical storms – an average of 20 each year. The country has been named the ‘most disaster-prone’ in the world by the World Risk Index, but installation of both computer-based and community-oriented monitoring systems for forecasting incoming storms in Manila has allowed citizens to be more prepared for potential damage caused by these events.

These kinds of infrastructure development and nature-based solutions – revitalising natural ecosystems to aid in solving socio-environmental issues – need to be more widely adopted if cities are to be protected from future im-

pacts of climate change.

### Heat islands and urban jungles

As the planet warms up, the ‘urban heat-island effect’ – the absorption and re-emission of heat off the steel, concrete, and tarmac surfaces of roads and buildings – renders cities more susceptible to scorching temperatures. Many US cities feel this effect keenly, with New

York City being one of the worst urban heat islands; its average temperature regularly being measured as up to 10°C higher than the surrounding rural areas. Over the past decade, NYC has begun to implement adaptation measures such as ‘cool roofs’ – painting rooftops white to reflect sunlight – and urban forestry, by planting more trees throughout the city to create a cooling effect. However, the heat-island effect often disproportionately affects poorer citizens and ethnic minorities, which can exacerbate already-difficult living situations. In this case, social-policy interventions are also required, such as ensuring equitable distribution of those adaptation measures and sufficient public facilities for escaping the heat.

Unfortunately, heavy urban development generally means a huge reduction in local green spaces and biodiversity, meaning that city-dwellers tend to have fewer experiences in nature. City parks, while providing some respite from the concrete of urban jungles, don’t offer quite the same experience that visiting natural environments such as woodlands outside of city limits do. Access can be restricted to a particular demographic or time of day, biodiversity tends to be low, and maintenance costs are often quite high.

Situated in a tropical region, Singapore has long been considered one of the greenest cities in the world – even being nicknamed ‘the garden city’ – with flora being an integral part of most of its urban-design projects. The city’s ‘Green Mark Scheme’ (GMS) certification encourages building developers to consciously incorporate sustainable practices into their construction, and actively design green spaces into their architecture. Many of Singapore’s taller skyscrapers feature green platforms and biophilic designs, which not only improve the structures’ appearance but also provides additional health and well-being benefits to citizens. Environmental consciousness is also taught in the school system, shaping people’s mindsets from a young age. This helps to facilitate the integration of vegetation and wilderness throughout urban-development projects by establishing it as a fundamental value among the general populous.

### The cost of a good city

I couldn’t write about cities without mentioning Hong Kong, where I grew up. Though in many ways Hong Kong is an extremely well-developed city – having one of the cheapest and most reliable public transport networks in the world and excellent public facilities – it also has one of the widest wealth disparities and is one of the most expensive cities to live in. The cost of living – how much money is spent on essential goods – is a growing problem in most major cities and can only really be solved by policies that directly tackle the costs of these goods – water, food, energy, housing, and transportation. These involve trade-offs between a huge variety of stakeholders, and so each city will have vastly different approaches to tackling this crisis.

With the multi-dimensional and multi-cultural nature of urban areas comes multi-faceted problems, that require delicate and innovative solutions. These solutions must not only tackle the issues at hand but do so with consideration for socio-economic trade-offs. Citizens must also be made aware of the necessity and long-term benefits of the government spending taxpayer money on projects such as flood management and renewable-energy infrastructure, as this will foster trust in these projects and encourage further sustainable development initiatives.

At their peak, cities can be pinnacles of sustainable living, providing for the needs of millions of citizens simultaneously. They can be centres of artistic and scientific creativity, bursting at the seams with the energy of the people that inhabit them and facilitating interactions that transcend sociocultural boundaries. In the most optimistic outcome, cities will run entirely on clean, renewable power and gradually allow greenery and wilderness to creep back in, creating space for humanity to sustain a good quality of life while also connected with the rest of the natural world. If we can look beyond what is already offered in our complex urban ecosystems and envision these utopian futures, there is almost no limit to what could be achieved.



A BUCKLAND

# the key ainable ng?

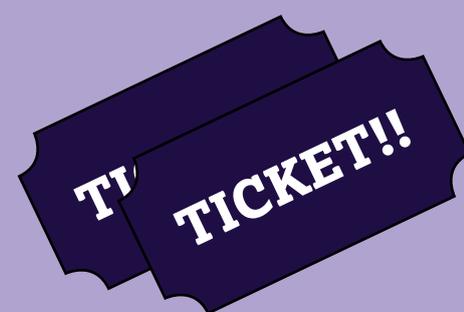


## SOCIETIES

# How to publicise your society's events with Felix!

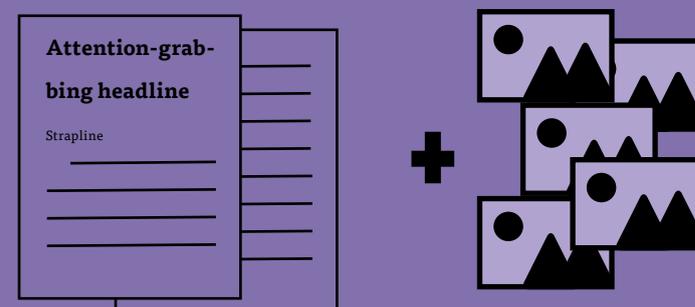
## 1 Host your event

Dance night, sports match, trip, competition, sale, presentation, fire-side talk, special guest lecture, the list goes on!



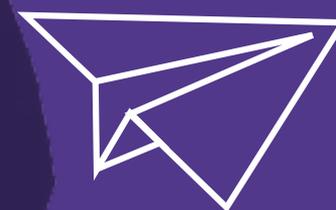
## 2 Write about it

or ask the *Felix Societies* team to attend and cover the event. Submissions should be roughly 400-600 words with pictures.



## 3 Send it to *Felix*!

at [felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:felix@imperial.ac.uk)



## 4 Published!

Issues come out every Friday. The deadline for submissions is every Sunday night.



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## *i've seen a way* Mandy, Indiana

Joe Riordan

If you'd have asked me on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 what my favourite album of the year would be, it's unlikely that I would have even considered an electronic/noise rock album and even more shocking, a French one. A year on – and disregarding the intro that makes me think of *Stranger Things* – Mandy, Indiana's *i've seen a way* is the one album that I haven't got bored of listening to since it was released in May. The experience that *i've seen a way* provides is one of pure catharsis. In 'Iron Maiden', bass swells to a crashing finale, 'Drag [Crashed]' cuts through you with buzzsaw synths, and the French lyrics of 'Pinking Shears', although incomprehensible to me, pair perfectly to the marching, sometimes screeching, percussion. The album feels like a cleansing; by the time the final track 'Sensitivity Training' comes around you will feel calmer despite the energetic electronic beats, refreshed despite the cutting synths, peaceful despite the French cavalcade in which you have just been immersed.



### Joe's Special Mentions

*Snake Sideways* by Do Nothing

*Honey* by Samia

*We're Starting to Look Like*

*Each Other* by hey, nothing



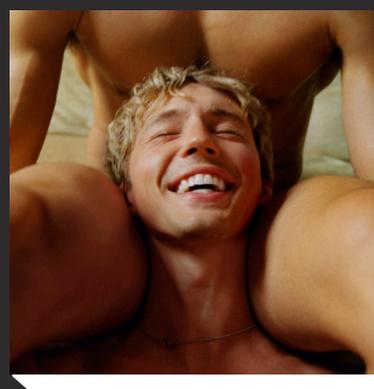
# Albums of the Year 2023

We asked our writers  
to pick their favourite  
albums released in  
2023.

## *the record* boygenius

Mia Brown

Although not necessarily my AOTY, *the record* was certainly one of my most listened to albums of 2023. This debut album from the boys collectively; Lucy Dacus, Julien Baker, and Phoebe Bridgers, wholly captivates the deep love felt within friendships and that feeling of being so truly understood by the friends closest to you: "It feels good to be known so well, I can't hide from you like I hide from myself" – 'True Blue'. We need more love songs dedicated towards friends. It's a mixture of co-written and individually written songs, and although it can be easy to pick out stylistically the tracks written independently, it remains a completely cohesive and successful indie folk-rock album. 'Not Strong Enough' and closing track 'Letter To An Old Poet' are my highlights from this record.



## *Something to Give Each Other* Troye Sivan

Francesca Manyoni

The experience of listening to Troye Sivan's *Something To Give Each Other* is very much akin to witnessing the ebb and flow of exchanges between lovers. With its perfect concoction of highs and lows - its celebratory ambience even while exploring themes of heartbreak - it is easy to refer to as "the happiest sad album ever". Highlights include 'Rush', the upbeat and semi-viral lead single, and 'One Of Your Girls', the more sombre successor. All the singles have stunning, creative music videos accompanying the stories told by the music. Deep cuts like 'Silly' and 'Honey' round out the album's jovial yet introspective feel. Sivan shows incredible growth from his prior projects; *Something To Give Each Other* remains youthful and maintains wide appeal even as it sheds the adolescence with which his earlier work is tinged. He further elevates the skill with which he is able to unpack themes of obsession, loneliness, and struggles with one's sexuality. A solid and repeatedly enjoyable body of work, *Something To Give Each Other* is my Album of the Year.

# So Much (For) Stardust

## Fall Out Boy

Zanna Buckland

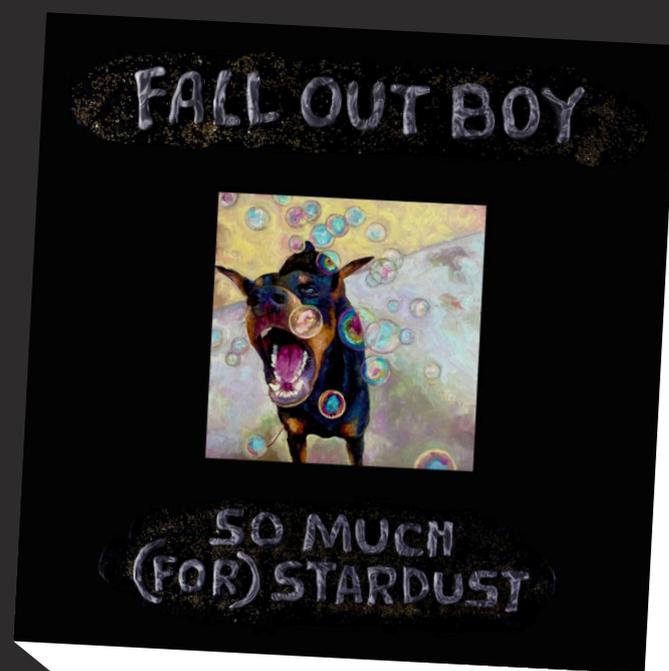
Fall Out Boy (FOB) did it again with their eighth studio album *So Much (For) Stardust*, a commentary on life during lockdown and the state of the world as it is now. The album offers up anthem after anthem, each song storing as much energy in it as any track from their first album, which was released just over 20 years ago in 2003.

Nine out of the 14 tracks on the album made it to my top 50 of 2023 on Spotify, and they renewed my love for the heavy, gut-wrenching, soulful songs that are the epitome of the 2000's punk rock genre. Though tracks like 'Dance, Dance' and 'Centuries' have solidified the band in mainstream pop, *So Much (For) Stardust* does well in returning to the purest essence of FOB.

Listening to *Stardust* is an almost cinematic experience; the first track opening with an orchestral arrangement, which is a feature they have used to elevate their music time and time again.

The third song on the album, 'Hold Me Like A Grudge', is one of the best rock numbers I've ever heard, with exceptionally clean drums, bass, and guitar, and incredible lyrics to boot. Each song feels fresh and keeps you on your toes.

Fall Out Boy are a well-oiled machine, and I was fortunate enough to get to see them live at the O2 in November, on their tour of the album. It was incredible to see them perform with so much power and range despite, or perhaps due to, having been at it for two decades. The band chose to intersperse the tracks of *Stardust* with mostly songs off their earliest albums, taking a trip down memory lane. This sparked in me a newfound appreciation for their entire discography, outside of the tracks I fell in love with as a teenager, and I've been listening to the whole range of their music ever since.



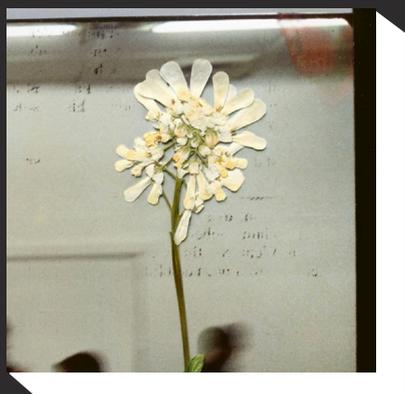
Materialising angst in the form of a defiant battle cry against the universe is what FOB does best; their lyrics speak not just to the 15-year-olds struggling to navigate the rough terrain of high school but also to the adults feeling overwhelmed by the sheer insanity of today's social and political landscapes. I would recommend having a listen to their 2018 EP *Lake Effect Kid* – a poetic love letter to their home city of Chicago – which I listened to a lot following the release of *Stardust*. And I will forever have a soft spot for their last album *MANIA*, also released in 2018, which is one of their most soul-baring works of art.

# Stereo Mind Game

## Daughter

Daniel Hesk

After six years of near-silence, Daughter returns with a lavish, soulful record. The London band augments their usual setup with a far more expansive production, Elena Tonra's gorgeous singing is joined for the first time by other, stranger voices. As ever though, the lyrics are where Daughter really shine. Eerie, almost alien imagery fills this album, especially on 'Neptune', 'Party', and 'Cross The Sea'. An emptiness saturates this record, whether it's the void of an ocean at midnight or of a blank phone screen at 3am. Rough Trade named this one of their top albums of the year, and I have to agree. There's no one else writing records quite like this.



# Hagata

## TEKE::TEKE

John Matheson

*Hagata* is an insane fusion of Japanese folk and rock complete with traditional Japanese flute and trombone. Making time for both ambient and energetic tracks this album is all over the place in the best possible way. The same can be said for the vocalist who ranges between being whispery and sleep inducing, and striking her throat to undulate the pitch. I saw them live last year and they didn't pull any punches with the flautist changing flutes around five times over the performance. I just wish they had some younger fans because I want to join a mosh pit for 'Garakuta' before I die.

## BOOKS

# A call for the Arts, or how Imperial once housed The Time Machine

A brief history, and a call to *The Phoenix*

Books Historian  
GEORGE MOREAU

**Y**ou go to a STEM university?" If there's a particular problem with going to a university known for its rigorous dedication to the pursuit of scientific knowledge, it would probably be that: its predominant focus on rigorously pursuing scientific knowledge and insight.

The stereotypes surrounding this predate themselves. Accusations of Imperial College being some sort of homogenised republic, its hallways echoing with conversations about theoretical concepts, and a general lack of sense of reality. There are kernels of truth in these pre-

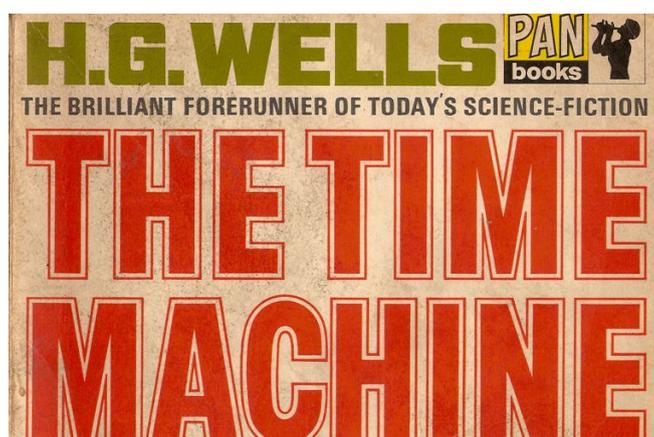
conceptions. But, if there is one that rings particularly false, it would be that, beneath its austere atmosphere – exposed-concrete buildings, scaffolded monument, and rusting ambiguously shaped statue – lies a wasteland for the arts. Or, at best, they are relinquished to unimportance: filler for *real* conversations, about the sciences.

An abundance of artistic and creative societies thankfully subvert this notion. However, as often is the case, it's not just the now we're talking about, but an identity formed over years. Fortunately, as history would illustrate, not everyone at Imperial has fit into the mould of a 'scholar of the Sciences'.

One such person was H. G. Wells, a student of biology between 1884 and 1887, at a time when Imperial was still the Royal College of Sciences. Wells founded the *Science School Journal*, which was created as a place to unite and share the range of thought and art that was present in the college at the time. (This journal would go on to become *The Phoenix*, evolving into the student-led newspaper known as *Felix* that you read right now.) It was in this journal that Wells published the short story 'The Chronic Argonaut', the first iteration of his revolutionary novel, *The Time Machine*, a landmark of science fiction. Though Wells failed his final year exams and ultimately never obtained his degree in biology, he later went on to be named an Honorary Fellow of the college.

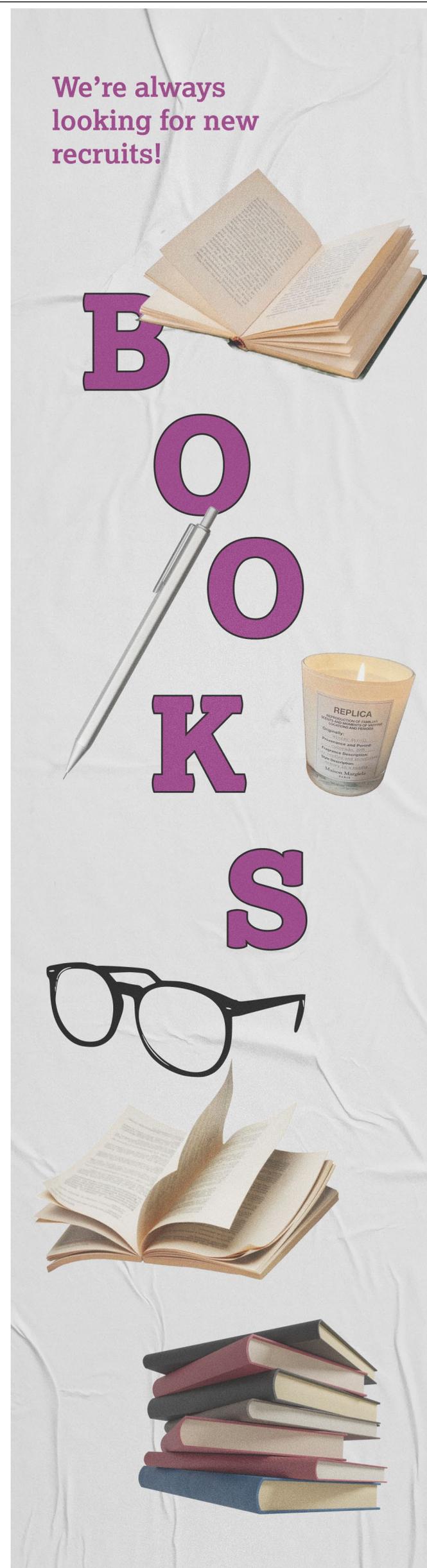
Today, *Felix* remains an outgrowth of this, sustaining a relationship between the arts and the sciences for students. A place for students with a passion for writing and journalism across different fields to come together and present their work to a large readership.

However, the argument is still to be made that Imperial has a need to let the arts to run deeper through its core identity. As a man with great visions of the future, Wells foresaw this. It is the need to display how the arts and the sciences reflect and spur each other on. This common harmony, between creativity and innovation, is required to truly and fully examine the human condition. More importantly, there should be a community for that, in order to develop both. Wells had dedicated himself to creating the *Science Schools Journal* in order to fulfil these convictions. It is down to us to resurrect the idea of a school magazine of the Arts, or as it was called, *The Phoenix*.



The Time Machine. John Keogh

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## FOOD&TRAVEL

# Palate Showdown: Seven Dials vs. Volonté

From fast food glorified as dinner to health bowls, London provides the next micro-trends.

Food & Travel Editor  
**CHARLOTTE PROBSTEL**

In the vibrant culinary landscape of London, where every corner boasts a unique food market experience, the story of independent cooks operating their own stalls, fuelled by passion and commitment, adds an authentic and endearing touch. While these stories have some charm to them, it is essential to acknowledge their impact on pricing within the food market ecosystem. Even students, who frequent Imperial's Farmers' Market every Tuesday, find themselves facing steep prices for a simple lunch, without the comfort of meal deals or budget-friendly club cards.

### Seven Dials

Seven Dials Market, nestled in the heart of Covent Garden, recently captured my attention. With its indoor setting and a consistent lineup of 20 stalls, this market offers a diverse range of dishes including pizza, bao buns, rice bowls, curries, and cheese plates. Eager to explore, my friend and I sampled the tofu buns from Yun Bun (£5.50 each) and the kimchi pancakes (£5 each) from the Korean stall Rice On. As we waited for our orders, we marvelled at the bustling atmosphere on the lower floor, where young friends, couples, and small families engaged in a communal dining experience. Our taste adventure unfolded with the tofu buns, featuring a light, fluffy bun enveloping a rectangular piece of fried tofu. Apart from the mayonnaise, the buns were hopeless, with a lack of flavour. On top of this, the kimchi pancake, an interpretation of fried kimchi, fell short with its bland filling encased in an excessively oily exterior.



Whipped omelette with a side of homemade beans and a black coffee Charlotte Probstel

Despite the culinary discontent, the lively environment, reminiscent of a cozy jazz bar, added to the overall experience, and we left glad that we had given it a try.

### Volonté

The following day, I rendezvoused with a friend for lunch at Volonté, the health-focused café located on Brompton Road, just a short walk from South Kensington station. Having discovered it through Too Good To Go, I was then pleasantly surprised by the delightful meal awaiting me. The coffee, though priced at £3.75 for an americano, exuded warmth and hospitality. The whipped omelette, beans, and mushrooms, priced at £12.50, could have benefited from a dash more spice, but the crunchy bread complemented the beans sauce well.

Volonté, deemed a 'hot chicks' café by some, presents a unique atmosphere with its health-conscious offerings, including homemade granola bars, coconut power balls, and protein smoothies. A COVID-era creation, the café also houses an 'Energy Studio' on its lower floor, embracing and promoting a healthy lifestyle.

### Conclusion

In comparing Seven Dials and Volonté, the latter stood out for the higher quality and the meticulous preparation of its offerings. Both establishments, opened within the last few years, boasted comfortable and theme-appropriate designs, yet neither seemed to beckon for a return visit. As Ariana Grande aptly puts it, "Thank you, next."

Until our next culinary exploration,  
Charlotte



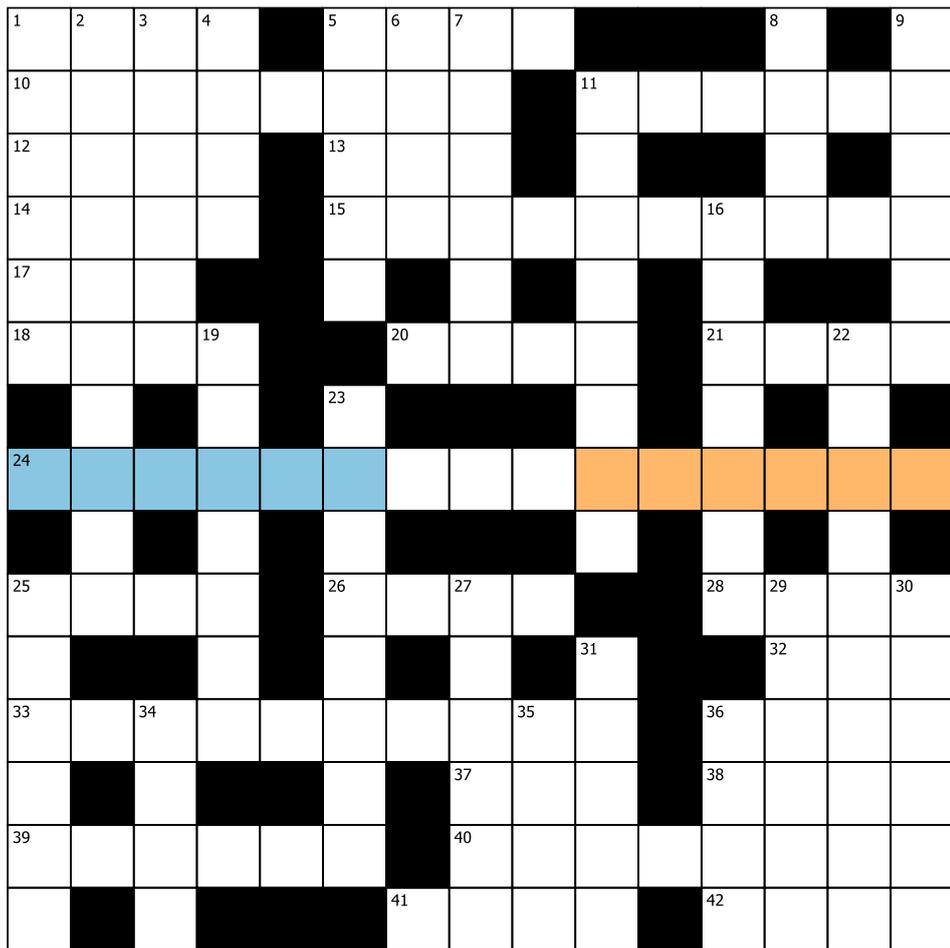
We're always looking for new recruits!

# PUZZLES

Puzzles Editor  
**STANLEY SCOTT**

## CROSSWORD

### Out of the Frying Pan



### Across

- 1. A great distance away. [4]
- 5. *Ant & Dec* and *Morecambe & Wise*, e.g. [4]
- 10. State of being grim. [8]
- 11. Of oxen or cows. [6]
- 12. Long time. [4]
- 13. Part of the sleep cycle. [3]
- 14. A steadfast member of a friendship group may be described as this. [4]
- 15. *Felix*, e.g. [10]
- 17. Questions at the door. [3]
- 18. Arabic/Hebrew boy's name. [4]
- 20. Catcall, of sorts. [4]
- 21. Mexican tortilla dish. [4]
- 24. All its ingredients do this! [6 3 6]
- 25. Ubiquitous internet term originally coined by Richard Dawkins. [4]
- 26. Spanakopita ingredient. [4]
- 28. Absorbs. [4]
- 32. Power \_\_\_ : what you might do before a party. [3]

- 33. Nonsense. [10]
- 36. Word on many a doomsday-prophet's placard. [4]
- 37. Jacobean or Georgian, e.g. [3]
- 38. Part of drummer's count-in. [1-3]
- 39. Tie example. [3-3]
- 40. One who locks others up. [8]
- 41. \_\_\_ Whedon: creator of *Firefly* and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. [4]
- 42. Rupture, as a cell. [4]

### Down

- 11. \_\_\_ r in the shower. [4 4]
- 16. Relaxing \_\_\_ rs. [3 4]
- 19. They \_\_\_ on a whiteboard. [7]
- 22. \_\_\_ rs at the party. [10]
- 23. \_\_\_ er, when it's rocked. [3 5]
- 25. Monsieur le President. [6]
- 27. Central Spanish city. [6]
- 29. Quality of curry base, e.g. [6]
- 30. Globe. [6]
- 31. Disagreements. [5]
- 34. Tinted. [4]
- 35. Metal sources. [4]
- 36. There's many a one in the proverbial coffin. [4]
- 1. Word found at the top of a music score. [6]
- 2. Woodland \_\_\_ er. [5 5]
- 3. Excite. [6]
- 4. Descartes of philosophy. [4]
- 5. Football match between local rivals. [5]
- 6. Who interfaces with *Windows*. [4]
- 7. Diffuse across a concentration gradient through a membrane. [6]
- 8. Magnitude. [4]
- 9. As close to as possible. [4 2]

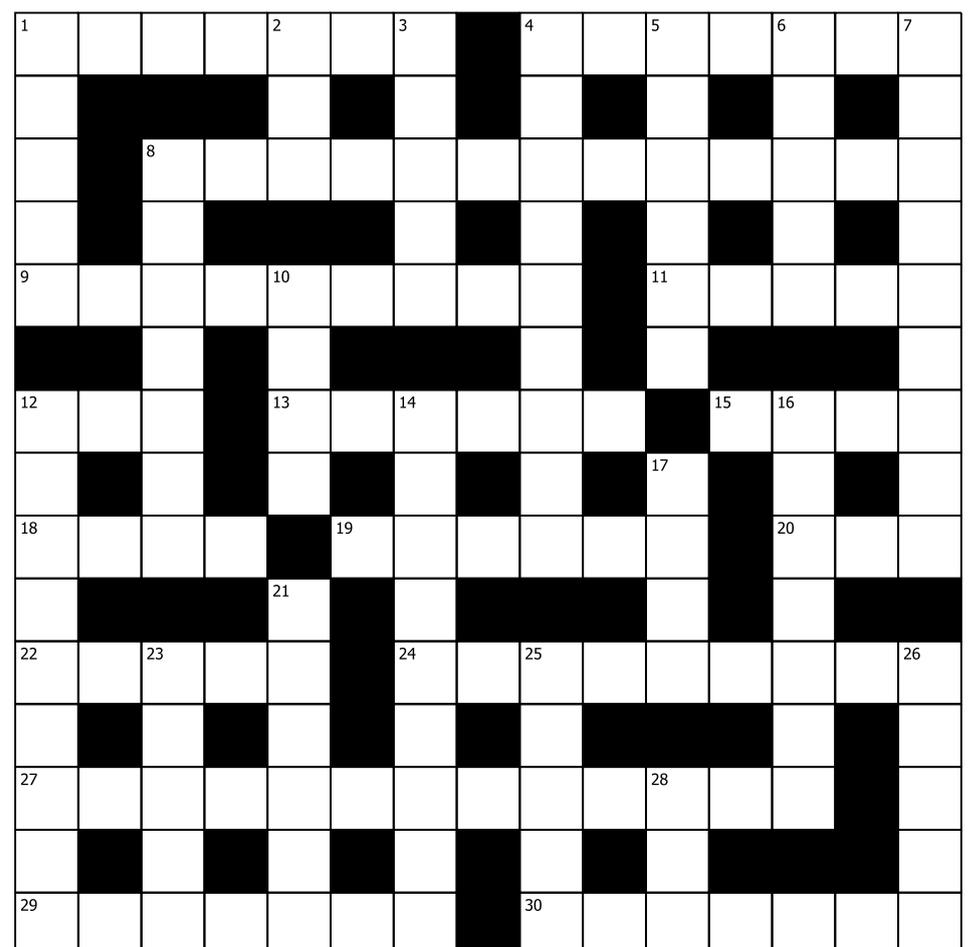
### Cryptic across

- 1. Argue about the effects of the nuclear disaster. [4 3]
- 4. "No difficulty in the grain", said the European. [7]
- 8. In brackets: caregiver with moral puzzle. [13]
- 9. Move a castle and horses, for they can jump a lot! [9]
- 11. In France, she took the last train with the woman. [5]
- 12. She's more involved, at first. [3]
- 13. Anthony's partner made part of the family. [6]
- 15. Large belly hanging out, showing wealth. [4]
- 18. Gathers twigs. [4]
- 19. Damp outside the cave of the rat. [6]
- 20. Dead-end inside burrow. [3]
- 22. "I am God", mostly put back in the teachings of the Church. [5]
- 24. A wonderful six points to keep in check. [9]
- 27. Able to drop a zesty quote – or a saucy one, perhaps? [7 6]
- 29. Played game with German and lost. [7]
- 30. Animal a holy person will slaughter. [7]

### Cryptic down

- 1. Stain which sounds strong when there are many of it? [5]
- 2. I hear it's time for us. [3]
- 3. A drink and a dance. [5]
- 4. Index with strange units of resistance on measuring instrument. [4 5]
- 5. Protestant revolution at the heart of the woman. [6]
- 6. Perform brilliantly with spreadsheets. [5]
- 7. Duke excitedly talking on. [9]
- 8. Jewel of the North taken by the contrarian. [7]
- 10. Intelligence returning to Latin opera. [4]
- 12. Cat on a plate you get in the capital. [9]
- 14. Get confused when the chapel is seen. [5-4]
- 16. *Rage Against the Machine* fan? [7]
- 17. Panic when illness starts to form rash. [4]
- 21. Crystal broken up on ugly topping of cake. [6]
- 23. Hoarse goat? [5]
- 25. Stalk prey quietly with the king beast. [5]
- 26. Plume now exploded, as done by the volcano. [5]
- 28. Tin drum? [3]

## CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



# SUDOKU

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

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

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

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

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

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

Medium

Hard

Extra hard

## GROUPING GRID

### How-to:

For fans of *Only Connect!* These sixteen clues can be placed into four groups of four, each with a connecting feature. Write these groups and their connections below!

moat	monkey	chappie	craze
scramble	grain	riot	cram
Nando's	devil	din	boil
poach	hubbub	bar	fry

Connections

1.

2.

3.

4.

### Puzzle Editor's Note

It's been a rocky start to this editor's journey, as last week there were not one but two errors, the most egregious of which was my omission of the regular 13-down clue! The word should have been NUDGE, but congratulations to all who solved the puzzle despite this mishap. Curiously, this missing NUDGE means both IRATE and IRKED were valid answers for 18-across, so well done if you got either. The other (and far less grave) mistake was a mis-spelling of the word tailor as Taylor, which likely made the solving process less Swift... The puzzles this week are, I think, rather delicious, so don't let my past negligence put you off giving them a go! Happy crossing, completing, and connecting!

- Stanley

### Last week's solutions

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

What's the Point?

Cryptic