



FOUNDED IN 1949

FELIX

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

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FREE

Tricia Greenwood resigns

Will Residence cope?



With less than two weeks to go to the start of term, the resignation of Residence Officer Tricia Greenwood has posed doubts as to whether the overworked and understaffed Residence Office can cope with the immense volume of work associated with the new term.

It was precisely on the grounds of staffing that Miss Greenwood had resigned in August. For months she had tried in vain to increase the clerical workforce in the office from three to four. She points out that in the last few months she had needed to help out her staff so much that she found herself staying in College until 7pm most weekdays, as well as coming into her office on Saturdays. This, she admits, was just about keeping things afloat. *'Nevertheless I felt I was banging my head against a brick wall over the issue of more staff, so I decided to leave'* says Tricia.

Despite her confidence in her former colleagues Miss

Greenwood doubts whether they will be able to cope this time around. *'The whole thing just could collapse'*.

Not surprisingly Tricia felt that the superiors in College Administration did not fully understand the special problems faced by her office in providing an essential service.

FELIX broached the subject of understaffing with Miss Greenwood's immediate superior, Domestic Secretary Captain Lindley, but he preferred not to comment on the situation except to say: *'I've every confidence in the staff there (Residence Office) and we've every intention of coping. I realise the difficulties but we've every intention of coping'*.

Houses ready on time

QUICK ACTION by College and Union officials has ensured the alleviation of preliminary fears that three student houses would not be open at the start of the session.

The houses concerned are 51 Evelyn Gardens (part of Mining House), 69 Evelyn Gardens (part of Willis Jackson House) and 14 Queensberry Place (Rayleigh House); all three had only recently been acquired by College and are currently undergoing major building work to bring them up to the standard of other student houses.

The College had initially intended that renovation work should not spill into the new term. However a delay in commencing the work caused

the estimated finishing date to drift well into term-time.

Buildings Secretary, Don Clarke, who was overseeing the work for IC, was on holiday at the time. In his absence Domestic Secretary Captain Lindley and Union President Nick Brayshaw realised the delay and took evasive action.

On Mr Clark's return all three eagerly set about renegotiating the building contract. This has now been done and renovation work should cease by September 27th. This allows just enough time to get carpets back into 51 and 69. Only minor work, such as the painting of kitchens is envisaged being prolonged into term-time.

Vandals

Last Sunday at around 4pm a cupboard in the Snooker room (top floor of the Union) was broken into and vandalism done. The cupboard itself is a write off, as is the rest used to prise open the cupboard. The ICU Deputy President would like to hear from anyone in the Union Building at the time.

NUPE

The College branch of NUPE (National Union of Public Employees) held a meeting last Thursday to elect its new officers. The successful contestants were: RON BURNETT (Secretary), FRED BURRIDGE (Chairman), RON PARKER (Minutes Secretary), JACK NUTBEAM (Auditor) and JOHN McHALE (Auditor).

Union blaze

Minor damage was sustained to the Union Concert Hall last Tuesday (7th September) when a fire broke out on the stage floor. Prompt action by two individuals enabled the fire to be put out within fifteen minutes, before it could take hold. An area of four square feet of floor was later replaced.

At the time of the fire, the stage floor was undergoing sanding. The sander used for the job had been unplugged, although the machine had been well used throughout the afternoon. The cables wound around the machine's dustbag were rather hot, and eventually these caused the dustbag to ignite. The dustbag in turn set fire to the cables and the stage floor.

Smoke had engulfed the stage when Andy Stevenson of Pandora Theatre arrived on the scene. He emptied two fire extinguishers on the fire before

calling for the assistance of DP Derrick Everett. Five minutes later, at about 5pm, the fire had been completely extinguished.

The stage floor has now been resanded and resealed.

inside

SPECIAL
POST GRADUATE
ISSUE

ICU Exec	- Pg 2
Editorial	- Pg 3
Reading festival report	- Pg 4/5
Reviews	- Pg 6
Cricket	- Pg 7
X-Word	- Pg 8

felix

As you may be aware by now, the prices in the college refectories were increased by 10% on the 1st of September. If you have found that your favorite (or indeed any) meal has increased in price by more than 10% then please let me know.

Although we are aware of the official prices in the refectories it is difficult to know whether these are actually the prices being charged, without your help.

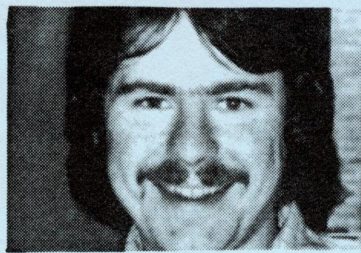
Also, any comments you may have as to the quality, quantity or temperature of the food would be invaluable because if you are paying an extra 10% for your meal you ought to be able to expect a corresponding increase in the standard of food offered.

International Club

Imperial College Union is currently investigating the possibility of forming an "International Club" within IC. Its purpose would be to co-ordinate the activities of the numerous national societies within the Union and it would also provide a forum for promoting multi-national social events and culture displays.

I would stress that this is only a tentative suggestion and comments as to its potential viability would be appreciated.

Also, we are greatly in need of volunteers to man an information desk for Overseas Students in the Sheffield Building entrance hall. The more



PRES CUTTINGS

by IC Union President
Nick Brayshaw

volunteers we get, the less time each person would be required but if you were able to offer a couple of hours a week to tell incoming Overseas Students general (local) information it would be greatly appreciated.

Interested - please phone me in the Union (int. 3915) or Mr WS Robertson, Sheffield Building (int. 3951) as soon as possible.

Ladies Lavatories

Following the most regrettable events which have occurred in the Union Ladies

Loo over the past year, the buildings section have been active in trying to make the area safe for those girls who use these facilities. The measures being taken include leaving the staircase lights on all the time (by means of locks on the switches), putting frosted glass on the doors, and installing a number of bell-pushes connected to prominent positions in the Union and college. I cannot over emphasize the gravity of the situation and hope that all members of the college will treat these installations with the respect they deserve.

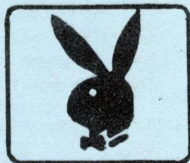
Photographic Booth

We are currently involved in negotiations with a supplier of photographic booths with a view to installing one of their machines in the Union Building. The current state of affairs is that a machine will be installed soon, and will be placed in the main entrance to the Union Building (by the entrance to the Refec.). All being well, the machine will produce four glorious black-and-white photographs for a nominal sum, which will be suitable for college registration cards, NUS cards, British Rail cards, passports etc. The installation of this machine is conditional upon:-

- (i) Sufficient trade being generated to viable proposition.
- (ii) No serious damage or vandalism occurring to the machine. You have been warned!

Nick Brayshaw

PRACTICAL RABBIT



by IC Union Hon. Sec.
Chalky White

Afore I begin, welcome to the new look IC Union. All the old cobwebs have been blown out and we are currently installing our own! Nick's busy initiating policy, Derrick's busy decorating and I'm busy, so don't disturb me....unless of course you want even the tiniest little thing, when I shall be only to happy to help out.

Who am I? Oh yes....me....well I'm your Union's Secretary for next year, initially accorded the tag *John White*, now invariably I answer to *Chalky*.

In my opinion, this Post Graduate issue of FELIX demands a certain kind of flavour, not to put too fine a point on it *RELEVANCE*. Therefore, we hit the road with a few topics which I hope will be relevant to *YOU*, the Post Graduate.

Insurance

Here are some general points which have recently been clarified by Endsleigh Insurance and Mr Fred Annas, the College Accountant.

To quote Endsleigh:

"...full time post graduate students are covered by the Group Personal Accident Insurance Policy 24 hours a day during term time and whilst taking part in College or Union activities during vacations...."

There used to be some misapprehension about a PG's insurance situation while

demonstrating to undergraduates. This was specifically around an area involving the cover of the policy taking into account that the PG's were being paid to demonstrate.

To clear up this situation I quote Endsleigh yet again:

"....this cover (the Group Personal Accident Insurance Policy) would include demonstrating performed for the benefit of undergraduate students. The fact that the post graduate students are paid for providing these demonstrations has no bearing on this insurance."

Further to this, Mr Annas informs me that "a PG, if sued by another student when carrying out his duties as a demonstrator for injuries received through negligence, is protected under the College's Liability Policy."

My thanks go to Mr Fred Annas for providing all this information.

Parking

During the Summer Vacation, what little of it there is left, the parking of cars by students within the College grounds is under the wing of Mr Ted Fisher, Traffic Controller, Imperial Institute Road. If you wish to park in the College grounds go and see Mr Fisher (hut at the entrance of Imperial Institute Road). He will take down the necessary details of your vehicle and, provided space is available, give you the ok.

When term starts the Parking Permit Scheme will be in operation as usual. Application forms for Parking Permits are now available from the Union Office. (note - these forms are for UG and PG students only). They must be returned to the Union Office by **THURSDAY 7th OCTOBER**. The IC Union Parking Committee will meet that weekend and a list of successful applicants will be published in the following Friday's FELIX. I would take this opportunity to warn you not to expect to get a permit simply because you have applied and *YOU* believe that your reasons are sufficiently strong to warrant the issue of a permit. **IC UNION RECEIVES OVER 800 APPLICATIONS FOR 200**

PERMITS EVERY YEAR! The selection committee has firm guidelines as to its selection policy and these will be adhered to. Please note that within the College grounds, once the scheme has commenced, **THE PARKING OF VEHICLES NOT DISPLAYING PARKING PERMITS IS PROHIBITED.**

Provision is also made for the parking of motorcycles and scooters in special areas distributed throughout the College grounds. It is not necessary for motorcycles or scooters to display permit labels of any kind but the registration numbers of all machines must be notified to the Security Office (165, Sheffield Building) at least 48 hours before a machine is first brought into the College grounds.

Flat-hunting

If you are looking for a flat or will be before the start of term, I have prepared a "rough guide" to the 'game'. Included in this literary masterpiece is: general advice, lists of accommodation agencies and estate agents relatively near at hand, a British Council list of agencies, a UL Accommodation Bureau list of agencies and also photocopies of the sections "Accommodation Agencies" and "Estate Agents" from the Yellow Pages (central).

If you would like a copy, there are some in the Union Office.

The **FLATSHARE** scheme starts on Sat 18th September, so if you're looking for a flat or want to fill a vacancy in your flat the Union Office is where it's all at. The scheme runs till the 25th September. Hours of business? 10am to 5pm.

To finish off this PG - orientated article I would just ask you to support your Post Graduate Affairs Officer, Rick Parker. With Rick at the helm the Post Graduates' lot can be put into perspective for all to see but, and it's a big 'but', he needs your support and direction in order to be representative of your views.

Bye for now, see you around and take care.

Chalky



Felix

Newspaper of Imperial College Union

Editor - Clive Dewey

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Many thanks to Gill, Ian, Paul, Dave, Jen, Tom, Eric Rick and Mike without whom this issue would not have come out.

FELIX Office, Imperial College Union,
Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB
Tel 01-589 5111 ext 1048/1042/3 Int 2881

Welcome to the first edition of FELIX under my editorship. As is normal for this time of year the editor is just about managing to find some clarity amongst the jumble of tasks labelled his jobs. I hope I will be in fitter shape come the beginning of term, literally as well as metaphorically since I'm just recovering from a dose of flu (which probably goes for you too no doubt!).

Apathy is a word conned quite often to describe IC students. I've used it many times myself, yet I had thought that IC Post Graduates would have submitted more copy for this issue than has been the case. That in itself is a shame since PG issues of FELIX will only continue if the editor feels they are wanted. The response so far seems to indicate they are not.

Tricia Greenwood

College Administration can not afford to lose people of the calibre of Tricia Greenwood. In sixteen months she had come to terms with the problems confronting students where many of her superiors had failed. She was prepared to tackle the unique problems presented by students in a friendly yet efficient manner.

This earned her office high student respect and co-operation. Barring Registry there is not another College administrative department that qualifies for the same praise. Yet the frustrating

nature of the IC Administration finally claimed her as its next victim.

Certainly if College residence prices are forced up much more, by bodies above Residence Office, then the College will need all the student goodwill it can get to avoid empty hall places. The attitude of College Administration at large to students hardly fosters this student co-operation.

Captain Lindley says he understands the problems of Residence Office. Does he really? I'm told three weeks ago he didn't even know the details of 'overallocation', even though the lack of overallocation saw vacant hall places at the beginning of last session.

What I find embarrassing about the whole affair is that after Miss Greenwood had resigned she was asked to go to Personnel department. Here she was asked for a description of what her job involved so that an advertisement for her replacement could be drafted. Apparently Mr Mellors was embarrassed at having to ask her this, and admitted the same.

Surely Captain Lindley, the girl's immediate boss, could have given an accurate job description, thus saving Personnel's face.

If Captain Lindley does understand the problems that Residence office face, then why did Tricia Greenwood resign, when she was generally acknowledged to be doing a good job?

Furthermore if the Captain doesn't fully comprehend Residence office problems, what of the future of the latter? Captain Lindley was on the selecting committee for the new Residence Officer.

Captain Lindley prefers to hide behind a wall of silence. That he is quite entitled to do provided the service to students does not suffer. I hope for the students' sake that Residence can indeed cope, and that Tricia's successor is not fettered with the administrative strait-jacket worn so unwillingly by Miss Greenwood.

SMALL ADS

Last remaining AMSTRAD 2000 MK IV Stereo amplifier. MOT, taxed and tested. Nice smooth runner - will give you hours of enjoyment!! Sale price £15 (or no offers) Foreign currency accepted. Contact Nick Brayshaw ICU Office int 3915 4320 (evening)

Tickets are currently available for a recording of a new BBC Radio debating programme. The programme is to be chaired by Dick Taverne and the first discussion is 'Provided he keeps to the law, a politician's life is his own affair.' The debate will be recorded in the Concert Hall of Broadcasting House on Wednesday 29th September at 7pm. Tickets from the Union Office.

The FELIX staff would like to wish Linda Roussel, College Publications department a happy 24th birthday, which she celebrated yesterday.

Once upon a time there was a happy place called ICU which was ruled over by the wise King, Nicholas I, and his henchmen Chalky and Mole. The former, a propagator of white lies was under the impression that the power behind the throne was his; but in fact it was the wise old Mole who pulled the strings and faithful Jen was always on hand, of course, to change their nappies.

Enough of this flippancy; you all thought this was going to be a little fairy story, didn't you? Well look here, this is a serious article by someone doing a serious job - seriously. So what, you may say; what is ICU to me, or me to ICU? Most postgraduates seem to think that the answer to both questions is 'nought'. Many students spend years at IC without going into the Union Building let alone the office. There's nothing we can do about that - we can only provide the facilities and settle your grievances.

So what is my job, as Deputy President? Essentially, to maintain and extend those facilities. At present, I'm doing quite a few odd jobs in the Union - carpeting, putting in new curtains, buying furniture, having floors sanded, and so on. The stage is to be rewired in the near future, which is a pretty major job. You may have noticed a couple of new, orange noticeboards in the Union Lower Lounge, and a few more are on the way. The new pool



ORANGE

'MOLE

table will be installed in the lounge any day now and we're also getting a photo booth put in the entrance hall. The JCR has been decorated and we're thinking about new carpets. All I can say is - use the facilities, and look after them! If you have any complaints or suggestions, put them in writing and send them to me.

My biggest headache at present is the organisation of Freshers' Fair. At last count I'd allocated one hundred and ten stalls (110) and at present I'm producing maps showing the location of each stall, to be given out on the day (October 5th). Could all society Committees make sure that they are organised for the fair; ideally stalls should be set up by one o'clock. Don't forget that everyone is welcome - come along and join something.

Derrick Everett

FELIX
sends belated
birthday
greetings
to the Rector
who was 52
on Monday

Reading hadn't promised to be great, in fact on paper this year's line-up wasn't a patch on last year's appearances by *Yes*, *Robin Trower* and *Wishbone Ash*. Nevertheless few fans came away disappointed from this year's event. The highspots of the festival came on Saturday and Sunday nights when blues guitarist *Rory Gallagher* and tropical sounding *Osibisa* respectively headlined the bill.

Saturday's honours were also shared by *Camel* and *Manfred Man's Earth Band*. Manfred's band were on first at 5pm, just after a stirring set by *John Hiseman's Colosseum II*, and a performance I'd rather forget from the *Sadista Sisters*. Despite suffering the first heavy shower of the day, the Earth Band managed to pull together a tight, varied performance of basic rock mingled with slight experimentation, featuring numbers from the '*Nighingales & Bombers*' LP and '*A Word In Your Ear*', their latest album released two weeks ago. Two numbers that were particularly haunting and captivating were '*Father Of Day, Father Of Night*' and, would you believe, one of Manfred's own compositions '*Mighty Quinn*'.

I was expecting great cosmic happenings from *Phil Manzanera & His Band*, particularly since the latter included the much acclaimed Brian Eno and ex-Curved Air keyboard man Francis Monkman. In reality I found their nett offering rather drab and uninspiring, as did the crowd. At first the band's rythm section held a strong lethargic beat, completely inhibiting Eno. They changed tempo later on and got a creditable version of '*Babe's On Fire*' and the Kink's '*You really got me*'.

Compere John Peel wasn't happy either, Liverpool had lost, his only consolation being that Everton had suffered the same fate. Still *Camel* made up for everyone's disappointments, showing Eno just how experimental rock should be played. The group have only recently come to the fore with an excellent concept album '*Snow Goose*' inspired by Paul Gallico's famous short story. Rich guitar harmonies and Pete Barden's keyboards dominate the group's music, which lies somewhere between rock and jazz. Back projection, smoke and lighting enhanced their rendition of the album.

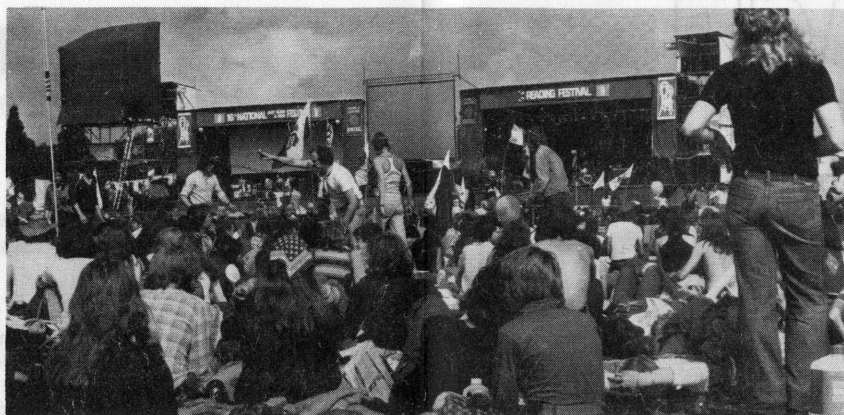
After a half-hour encore '*Lady Fantasy*' from

Sunday saw British Bands *Osibisa* and *Sutherland Brothers and Quiver* taking most of the spoils; the high-energy rock and roll of *Black Oak Arkansas* earning them many fans, although another American *Ted Nugent* proved a curious phenomenon. Forever passionately thanking the audience, he seemed to be on a different planet to the crowd, who were only to glad to get rid of him.

The other two high-energy bands of the day, *AC/DC* and *Sassafras* were another story. The latter were troubled by a heavy shower that saw half the Press enclosure stampeed out in two minutes flat. Nevertheless, their brash, abrasive Welsh-rock, produced a charming innate response from the crowd, who'd been longing to get on their feet, ever since the accomplished performance of *The Enid* just after midday. The band is headed by aristocratic Robert Godfrey, complete with velvet DJ, bow tie and cream trousers, whose wit and humour went down exceedingly well with the audience. *The Enid's* music was good to boot, a rather unexpected treat so early in the line-up.

The Australian band *AC/DC* weren't quite up to the calibre of *Sassafras*, but they were great to watch. Particularly entertaining was the stage antics of guitarist Angus Young, who at 16 is an excellent comic. Their almost punkish form of heavy rock is very similar to that of the *Heavy Metal Kids*. On this outing they over did the dramatics, but are a band to watch out for in the future.

A year ago *Sutherland Brothers and Quiver* were at the point of breaking up. Fortunately, due mainly to manager Nick Blackburn, they persevered and are today one of Britain's all-round rock hopes. SB&Q have almost a universal appeal as their event chart single '*Arms of Mary*' showed. The band took a few numbers to find their stride but never looked back after '*Dirty City*'. Tim Renwich was in great form, literally shaking venom out of his guitar on '*Dirty City*', '*Love on the Moon*', and a new number '*Dark Powers*'. '*Secrets*' is another bouncy new number on their next LP, and even though the group claimed they didn't know the song, it came over tremendously well. The band finished, with boogie numbers '*Dream World*' and '*Bluesy World*'. SB&Q well earned the applause that followed.



Top marks for organisation

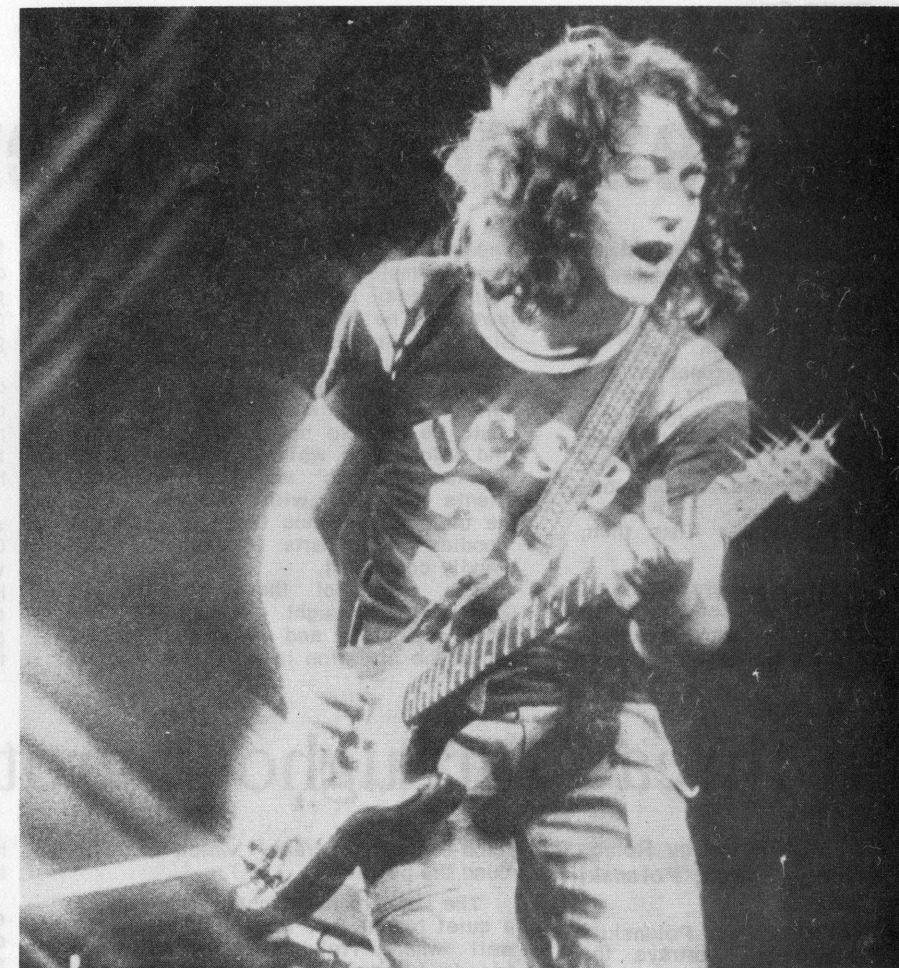
For the last sixteen years the Marquee organisation has put on a National, Jazz and Rock festival. They were first held in Richmond, but the last five years have seen the festival at Reading, right next to the River Thames.

Not many of you will have heard of the Reading festival and I'd guess that's because it's well organised, very little trouble occurs, and it therefore doesn't make newspaper headlines.

Yet in 1975 crowds averaging 35,000 attended this three-day extravaganza and this year the totals exceeded an average 25,000. The reason for this year's drop lies chiefly with last year's festival which stretched facilities to near breaking point. This year the Marquee Group pledged to Reading Borough Council that crowds would be limited to 30,000. To achieve this they booked less enterprising bands. They needn't have bothered; Reading was in line for many a bank holiday shower, which, besides keeping people away, stifled any fears about the tinder-like campsite.

With the weekend over local residents, Police and festival organisers all agree that the 16th National Jazz, Blues and Rock festival has been almost trouble-free. The only 'major' incident occurred on the first night, Friday, when a couple of fans and a local reporter were slightly hurt by flying beer cans. The trouble came after a reshuffle in the line-up of the groups caused two reggae groups to follow each other. Rock fans became restless during the second West Indian act, *Mighty Diamonds*, and shouted abuse at rival reggae fans. Empty beer cans were later thrown between the two factions, who were separated by the Press enclosure. This lasted about fifteen minutes.

Although less fans attended this year's festival, there were more arrests. Figures released by the Police were as follows (with last years figures in brackets): Total arrests 155 (115), drug arrests 121 (69), public order offences 2 (15), drunkenness 6 (7). Despite the increase in arrests a Police spokesman



Rory Gallagher in action

Despite the Weather Reading Rocked on

A report by Clive Dewey on the recent National Jazz, Blues and Rock festival at Reading

Camel it looked like *Rory Gallagher* was in for a tough time. Far from it. You'd never have believed that he'd played a gruelling concert in Stuttgart that afternoon; Rory was menacing from the start, his mesmeric guitar, blazing a trail of magic throughout the 90 minute set. It's a wonder the guy doesn't get heart failure, the way he relentlessly ploughs on, hardly pausing for breath between songs as he utters a garbled "thank you very much".

The band started off with "*I Take What I Want*" a gutsy up-tempo track that sets the stage for what's to follow. By the third number Rory's belching vaporised breath, almost dragon-like; on the outsized TV screen you can even see the sweat pouring off his arms. Rory hasn't changed much. He's still wearing that sweat soaked red and white chequed shirt and playing his battered guitar, slung hip-wise, almost phallic like.

All the old favorites were there, "*Tattoo Lady*", the acoustic "*Too Much Alcohol*", and many more besides. The band previewed the new Gallagher Album "*Calling Card*" due out at the end of the month. Rory finished up with a 12 minute rendition of the ever-popular "*Bullfrog Blues*" and stomped back to an energetic encore with "*Messing With The Kid*". Who could wish for more?

I found *Ted Nugent* rather uninspiring, in fact I gained more enjoyment from joining in the crowd's perennial chorus of 'John Peel is a c***' (this well known phrase was inspired by the DJ himself, particularly when the sound engineers played havoc with his records).

By the end of *Nugent* an overdose of rock and roll was in order. *Black Oak Arkansas* provided it. They're absolute professionals who produced a crisp, tight set that no-one can fault. Head singer Jim Dandy is a no nonsense showman and guided the band along like an express train, with hardly a minute to spare, his blond mare trailing behind him as he stutts around the stage.

In spite of the rain they had one hell of a party and sent everyone away in high spirits as well. It was perhaps just as well they did since the weather had the last laugh; five minutes after *Osibisa* had left the stage it poured down with rain, as though it hadn't rained for months! Exuberant fans seemed to take it in their stride and by morning clothes and tents had begun to dry. Fans trudged their way through muddy paths that had been green grass the night before, and wended their way home, secure in the knowledge that they had witnessed another well-organised successful rock festival.

commended the vast majority of fans on being very well behaved. In his view the festival had gone off very well.

Numerous problems have bugged many a festival in bygone days, many of which can be classified under 'shortage of reasonably cheap food', and sanitation. Reading overcomes the latter by ordering large numbers of 'mobile loos' each with its own hot and cold water supply. Conditions here might not be perfect, but at least these prove satisfactory. Another innovation of the Reading festival is the daily clearing of the camp arena, enabling disposal of the large quantity of beer cans. Glass is not allowed into the arena. Both measures keep casualty figures for cuts down to a minimum, indeed the hospital tent was barely troubled during the whole festival.

The festival arena is plastered with many posters listing the agreed prices for foodstuffs. Local traders in the arena charge no more than these prices, in fact the Salvation Army tent were charging 2-5p less per item! A rough sample of these prices in Tea 10p, coffee 13p, Hot Dogs 25p, Hamburger 30p, Chicken and Chips 55p. Booze prices are similarly limited.

The festival opens just after noon and goes on to midnight. Later performances are strongly discouraged, since every year the Marquee lodges £5,000 with the Borough Council. For every minute after midnight that the event goes on, the Marquee loses £100. Last year they lost 3,400, this year they lost nothing.

So there you have it folks, what is probably the best organised festival of its kind, certainly in Britain, and probably in Europe. I dare say you won't hear much of future Reading festivals, unless you're a music fan, because they continually win top marks for organisation.



Sutherland Brothers and Quiver grace the stage

THE REVIEWS PAGE

FILMS

Don't expect another Psycho

FAMILY PLOT — directed by Alfred Hitchcock. (Empire, Leicester Square & ABC Fulham Road)

This Hitchcock thriller earns an 'A' Certificate from the British Board of Film Censors so do not expect another 'Psycho'; if it were not for the few uncharacteristic swear words and unfulfilled passing references to 'hopping into bed', I am sure Lord Harlech's Board would have granted a unanimous 'U'.

One of Alfred's lighter films then, but none the worse for that.

The four leading players pair off neatly into two 'tricky' couples—Karen Black and Bruce Dern play a rather characterless couple of big-time kidnapers

whose ransom demand is always a large gemstone, rather apt since Mr Dern's legal line is as a fashionable jeweller. The other couple are a medium, Blanch Tyler (Barbara Harris) and her cab-driver friend (William Devine). Their trickery is simply small-time-Blanche's spiritual powers are not all that they could be and so her friend is sent to find information which she can use in her next 'trance' and thus keep her clients supplied with messages from the other side. Since these two are the 'goodies' their parts are not quite so blandly conceived.

The paths of these couples are unknowingly brought together in pure Hitchcock style and much fun is had out of the situation in which the smaller

fish swim more and more out of their depth. There are the usual Hitchcock set pieces which include a witty kidnapping of a Bishop in full view of his congregation.

William Devine, who plays the cab-driver turned inept detective, has several delightful moments, knocking out his pipe on all manner of objects and seeming to find endless pencils and paper for his notes.

The pace is a little slow and the screenplay, from a novel by Victor Canning, becomes rather transparent when stretched over two hours, but Hitchcock always presents an interesting picture and Barbara Harris and her partner are good enough to carry the film's thinner moments.

Eric Stovell

Thin thread throughout grotesque film

THE TENANT --- directed by Roman Polanski; starring Roman Polanski and Shelley Winters.

The first half of Roman Polanski's new film, *The Tenant*, portrays the gradual onset of a persecution complex in a shy young Frenchman. After about an hour, however, you begin to feel that it cannot last much longer and are surprised to find that the thread is going to be spun out for another hour.

Polanski, himself, plays Trekovsky, a mousy young clerk who takes over a two-roomed flat in a seedy Paris block. The previous tenant Mademoiselle Choule, has thrown herself out of the window and through a skylight fifty feet below. Fate draws Trekovsky to the hospital where he meets Stella, a grief-stricken friend of the suicide; together they witness the final death-throes and a

blood-curdling scream which echoes round the hospital.

The landlord is delighted to have such a quiet tenant, but finds that all is not well when Trekovsky invites some friends round for a house-warming. The neighbours complain of the noise but the guests don't care and make a noisy departure, increasing the tenant's anxiety.

A series of bizarre incidents link Trekovsky with Mlle. Choule. The concierge delivers her letters to him, and at a nearby bar he is served with hot chocolate and cigarettes that she liked. He begins to see a conspiracy of the other tenants that will drive him to follow his predecessor and he seeks refuge with Stella. But it is too late. He returns to the flat and the film ends with a grotesque sequence which cannot

have been designed to have the reception: it received when I saw it.

The film is characterised more by an emphasis on detail which somehow detracts from the whole. Individual scenes, like that in which one of Trekovsky's noisy friend turns his record player on full volume in the middle of the night and tears a strip off a timid neighbour who comes to complain: the complete antithesis of Trekovsky's situation, are memorable, where the plot is not. It is perhaps because Polanski cannot succeed in playing so much of the film by himself — he comes off better when in company.

There is a delightful performance from Shelley Winters as the Concierge, not missing an opportunity to dust the banister as she takes Trekovsky up the long staircase to see the flat.

Thomas Stevenson

The Welsh Connection

Sassafras --- Riding High (Chrysalis)

In a strictly musical sense, I don't suppose any part of the country has taken more to the sun-stoned idiom of the West Coast than South Wales. Lets face it, the bands emanating from the Cardiff — Swansea area have that definite sun bleached, half-stoned (!) musical ideology that has typified the Californian music scene since 1966. (No prizes for guessing where Ian Morse comes from — Ed)

If *Man* have leant heavily towards the *Grateful Dead* and *Quicksilver*, then Sassafras have listened a lot to the more country orientated bands like the *Burritos* and *Eagles*; Sassafras's music being a combination of country raunch and hard hitting truckin' music.

With this new album the group have taken their West Coast slanting a step further, trying to present themselves

in a way more akin to their lively stage presentation. The album consists mostly of country-tinged truckin' songs with the occasional ballad thrown in for contrasts sake.

The title track starts the record off in style the band maintain throughout the set. English in feel, the song drives along in fine style, with the tight harmonies and short, tasteful guitar work providing the main interest. The slightly harder hitting 'Nothing to loose' is next up, followed by another up-tempo tune 'Bad Blood'. After the first three lively openers, the first side desolves into the slower ballad 'See Through a Mountain'.

Side Two opens with 'New York Collapse', the two lead guitars combining to give a wistful air to the song; its interesting changes of tempo remind me almost of some *Spirit's* earlier work.

RECORDS

After the well used *Danko/Charles* song 'Small Town Talk' comes another driving song, 'Long Short Lover' which has fine harmony work and again the twin lead guitars are used to very tasteful effect.

The next song just doesn't seem to fit in with the rest of the set, 'The Band Refused to Play', a slow moody piece that has little in common with the rest of what's been laid down. Then to end the album off, it's back to the driving rock of 'Keep Rock 'n' Roll', played in the style I suspect the band enjoys most.

Whether Sassafras move up a division as a result of this record is doubtful perhaps like *Man*, what's needed is a stomping live album, which is really what Sassafras are all about.

Ian Morse

Have you ever become dissatisfied with well known writers churning out the stuff week in week out. D Clarkson has. Here he sets out to copy the style of M. Parkinson on Cricket.

Clarkson on Parkinson on Cricket

AS I watched the procession of weary England batsmen wending their way back to the pavilion on the second afternoon of the recent Test Match, I was reminded of a similar procession which takes place every evening as the day-shift trudge out of the mill in Bamsley. There are men in that mill, however, who unlike the present England team, could tell you a thing or two about cricket. In fact, come to think of it, my aunt Bertha could tell you more about cricket than most professional cricketers bron south of the Humber.

Lord Pongo Toffs XI

There's one particular game that I shall always treasure, from the summer of 1903. It was the great event of the year, when Batley Mill played Lord 'Pongo' Clark-Smythe's Toffs XI. Lord Clark-Smythe, who owned the mill and most of our houses, was a town councillor and president of the golf club, the conservative association and a life member of the MCC. It is in absolutely no way whatsoever an exaggeration to view this annual fixture as the entire

universal struggle in microcosm; as *Us* against *Them*; the people against the idle rich; exploited against exploiters; or, in short, right against wrong; good against evil.

Our groundsman, 108 year old Bill Grit (still as tough now as when, a mere schoolboy, he hooked the legendary 'Speedy' Sam Strong for six, forward of square) had prepared a typical mill-wicket. This meant that the Toffs, being used to playing only on billiard tables, had no chance.

Spilt ale and unsuspecting worms

Our opening bowler was, quite simply, the fastest bowler in the northern hemisphere. His name was George Parkinson and not for him the inflated run of these modern weeds (for whom I am reluctant to use the hallowed term 'bowler'). He would lumber in deceptively slowly from about 20 yards, and then bring his arm over in an action so ferocious that faint-hearted spectators would spill their ale. Unsuspecting worms to a depth of several yards would undoubtedly feel the impact, as the

leather cannon-ball struck earth and flew at the wicket, defended now by only a pale shadow of the confident young hopeful, who, mere moments before, had strolled to the wicket.

The Toffs managed to scrape together 53 runs, and at 2 runs for 6 wickets we began to feel that the game was going against us.

Jimmy to the rescue.....

Next in was our find of the season, one Jimmy Parkinson, who even then, at the age of 9, had the soundest defence in England, and whose father grew mushrooms in his coal-shed and often won prizes at the local working-men's show.

Sufficient to say that Jimmy scored an undefeated 50, and we won by 4 wickets; a victory that few there will ever forget. I have not seen a better innings by an English batsman, and if the selectors had even half an eye for talent, Parkinson would surely have played in every Test Match from the that day to this.

DR CLARKSON

Parker's Piece

"Autumn's here!" came the cry as the Christmas cards ousted the suntan lotion from the shops. It's time to turn our minds away from the drought and ways of producing refreshing summer drinks from old bathwater, towards the impending academic year and all that it has in store.

The new year will bring with it a new level of grant (£1380) for most of us, which should put us back on friendly terms with our bankmanagers, at least for a few weeks. If Mr Callaghan and his shiny new cabinet can keep inflation deflated, we may even last a little longer.

For those in need of financial aid there is always the refreshing thought that demonstrating rates will be going up. The Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals (CVCP) is likely to recommend a minimum rate of around £2.20 / hour. The Association of University Teachers will be pressing for a rate of £2.90 and the NUS will be topping the table by pressing for £3.00 / hour. We can only hope that the NUS will be successful in putting their case for our hardship. (National Union of Students not Seamen - the former don't seem to have quite the stranglehold on the economy that the latter do). Two years ago the College paid a rate of £2.00 and at that time the first CVCP minimum was set at £1.50. One year later the CVCP rate rose by a staggering 40% to £2.10 and we leapt up an earhtshattering 5% to £2.10. I do not believe that we should get more than the CVCP recommendation, but we must press for this to be a reasonable amount.

Away from high finance to another cloudy vision from my crystal ball. The College Postgraduate Working Party is about to make known its findings. Amongst the recommendations is likely to be the setting up of committees at both college and department level to look into and after all aspects of Graduate Studies at IC. The department committees, apart from providing hours of enjoyment for

those sitting on them and helping the College to get into the Guinness Book of Records for having the largest private collection of committees outside the Civil Service, will need PG reps. from the groups and departments concerned. I trust that you will all give serious thought to this matter and be able to supply people of the right calibre and dexterity to serve; otherwise I'll bring back conscription.

To cast my mind back briefly to the subject of finance and then forward to 1977/78, (it makes you quite dizzy), you will probably have noticed in the press that drastic changes are being proposed in the system of fees. These may result in fees of £750 or more for both home and overseas students. While many of you will not be directly affected, many of your colleagues will and the number of research places is also threatened. A national campaign will be mounted to oppose these changes and I trust I can count on all of your support when the time comes.

On the social side, I hope we can organise a few outings and social events but I do not believe that the PGG should be trying to provide college-wide events. I think that we would do better to work with the other groups already organising such events to ensure that they are aware of PG tastes and peculiar habits, and also to promote and help with social organisation at department level.

Now I must go and have another bath so that we can water the tomatoes. Please get in touch with me c/o the Union if you have any bright ideas or problems. The other two members of the PGG Exec are just slightly prettier than me so you may prefer to contact them. They are Gabrielle Dailey and Kate Ducie, both in the Botany department. Happy New Year!!!

Rick Parker
ICPGG Chairman

New courses for PGs

For far too long has the accusation been made, often with justification that scientists are totally ignorant of subjects outside their particular discipline. However, from the beginning of October, postgrads at IC have a chance to rectify this. The Associated Studies Board are opening their courses, previously run solely for undergrads, to MSc and PhD students.

Unlike the undergrads, for whom the courses constitute part of their degree, postgrads will not be expected to take exams and a fairly informal basis is intended, with a strong emphasis on seminars rather than a rigid lecture schedule.

Associated Studies cover a wide range of subjects within the Arts, Languages, the Humanities and Social Sciences. As well as being of general interest, several of the courses are particularly relevant to postgrads, such as that on communication which would be very useful for anyone writing up a thesis or considering a career in lecturing or certain branches of industry.

In response to a suggestion by the Postgraduate Group, an information sheet will be issued to all postgrads via the registry at the beginning of term. For anyone who feels that within their hard, scientific shell there is a budding historian, economist, politician or linguist begging to be let out, all ICUPGG reps will have a copy of the full synopsis and timetable. (So if you don't know who your departmental rep is, now's your chance to find out! Contact me in the Botany dept on int 2263).

Kate Ducie

No holiday for Clem

The Summer Bank Holiday was no holiday for Clementine II, the Royal School of Mines' 1926 Morris Commercial. She spent the weekend at the Isle of Wight Steam Railway Centre's annual Summer Show.

The journey to the Isle of Wight was uneventful (it took 4 hours to get to Portsmouth!) and included a trip on the Portsmouth to Fishbourne car ferry which, like Clem, is in its 50th year.

Clem was the oldest internal combustion engine vehicle of the twenty or so on display and had travelled the greatest distance to attend the show. On each of the three days of the show she was expected to appear in the grand parade of vehicles and then, after the events for steam power vehicles, to take part in the driving test for commercial vehicles.

The three drivers with Clem took turns in the driving test. They were required to drive between oil drum markers, a comparatively

easy task for a small vehicle like Clem despite her poor steering lock. Of the drivers, one demolished an oil drum, another had a clear round and the third managed to stall the engine.

The return journey was more eventful. Just outside Portsmouth, Clem ground to a halt on a hill. A brief inspection showed that something was awry with the transmission. A telephone call was made to the AA and shortly afterwards a bemused patrolman arrived, having been told that "1926 Morris" must really mean "1976 Leyland". He arranged for AA Relay to collect Clem and after a couple of hours of Gales Real Ales all were aboard for the trip back to London. One change of Relay vehicle and Clem was returned to her resting place in the Mines quad at 3.30am. Many thanks are due to both the AA and Imperial College Security for their help and cooperation.

It is hoped that Clem will be in full running order in the near future.

(At present all three motorised mascots are off the road, although Guilds' Bo and Mines Clem should be mobile prior to the start of term - Ed).

J G Phillis
Secretary RSM Motor Club

Help Wanted

Any students wanting to help organize a reception for Overseas Freshers, please contact Nick Brayshaw (IC Union office, int 3915, in day, int 4320 in evenings). No experience necessary.

Would any postgrad from Electrical engineering, Zoology, Geology or Mines who is willing to act as 1976/77 departmental rep for the ICU Postgraduate Group please contact Kate Ducie, Botany 2.8 (int 2263) as soon as possible. Very little work is required; we merely want some means of liason with each department for advertising social events etc.

VISA INFO

Overseas students are advised to apply for a new visa to stay in Britain at least 14 days before their old visa expires. This follows a recent case where it transpired that the Home Office had been wrongly interpreting the law.

The 'old' procedure was that people applied for their new visa at the time that the old one expired. The 'new' practice is that you must apply for a new visa before the old one runs out. This enables an unsuccessful applicant to appeal before the old visa runs out, when they would be forced to leave the country.

Jan Vincent

FELIX regrets to announce the death of Jan Vincent a third year physics student who had just graduated from IC. Jan played an enthusiastic role within RCS Rag and Ents throughout her three years at IC, and will be fondly remembered by many.

BUMPER CROSSWORD

Unlikely though it may seem the bat has again chased the dog for more insanity which is provided below. Note due to the vagaries of 2D space one letter has had to be omitted from an answer, and another word has been Cycled. Proceed at your peril.

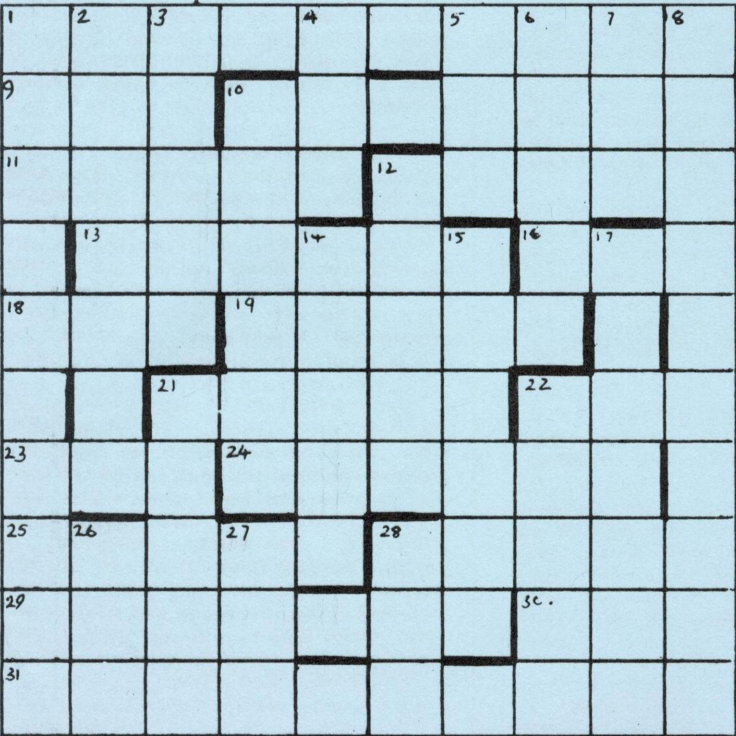
Across & Down

1. He wrote a book (Oh what a give away) (Ugh???) (2)
2. Close to an old meadow. Getting warm
3. Where they store "de shit" (Note - maybe hash is more

acceptable, but not such a good pun)
4. Anti social acts (singular)
5. Royal Society of Art or Antiquaries
6. A safe place to have alot
7. Egg (As usual)
8. Light snack of Majic Bond
9. Pre marital sexual differentiation
10. Manioc (Yes, O intended)
11. A species noted for its nose
12. Vulcan may have a collection of these
13. An ox, not a lispig

policeman
16. Worker now palandromic (See introduction)
(Some backwards for a change)
14. Hales in the psalms
15. Dashed again paint word, what a mess for hired labour
30. Novel but not a book
26. Consumed (forever and ever, Amen)
27. Source of gold of the East?
28. Normal conditions for reaction
22. Bearded as barley
And now back to normal (???)
1. The opposite of an encouraging supervisor?
10. Almost, but for (see introduction) putting up with a small increment.
12. Translation of the chein (2)

17. Insult to a beach
18. The emphasis is Titonic in porno-bookshop
19. The french lair is loaded
21. lemon translation to fruit
22. She comes out at night and is laid backwards
23. I trip
24. Not the sole aim of University life
25. Seat or backwards seat
28. All yes for bamboo eater
29. With reference to one gallery (which incidently has shown works by author in 1 across), repeats, when ordered, calculation
21. Way of lots from replica
31. Where Balloon Fellow of the Royal Society drinks without 50 others?



Solution to Crossword in FELIX No. 426

