



Founded in 1949

The Newspaper of Imperial College Union

DESIRABLE KNIGHTSBRIDGE RESIDENCE

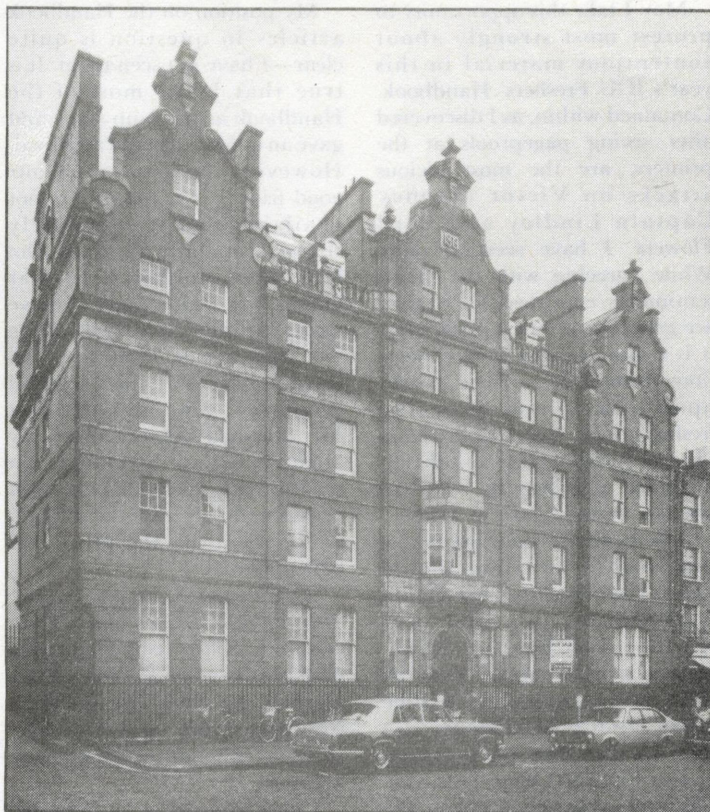
Eighty postgraduate students will be housed in a new hall which the College has agreed to purchase, subject to contract. Although final negotiations need to be completed, work should go ahead next week to prepare the building for use in October.

The building, situated in Montpelier Street, is very close to College and was constructed in 1896. It was used as a nurses home for St George's Hospital until 1979 and has since been empty.

The property was first put up for sale at Easter and the College's original bid was rejected. Other concerns sought to re-develop the prime Knightsbridge site into luxury flats, but as the building was originally constructed with the money of a generous benefactor, a condition existed that it should remain hostel accommodation. This meant that a second bid from the College was accepted two weeks ago, despite higher offers from business concerns.

Plans for the hall are still in the very early stages. There has been an amount of deterioration following two years of neglect and complete refurbishment is necessary before habitation is possible. Some external repairs and communal areas will have a lower priority than the preparation of bedrooms and may not be completed until after residents move in.

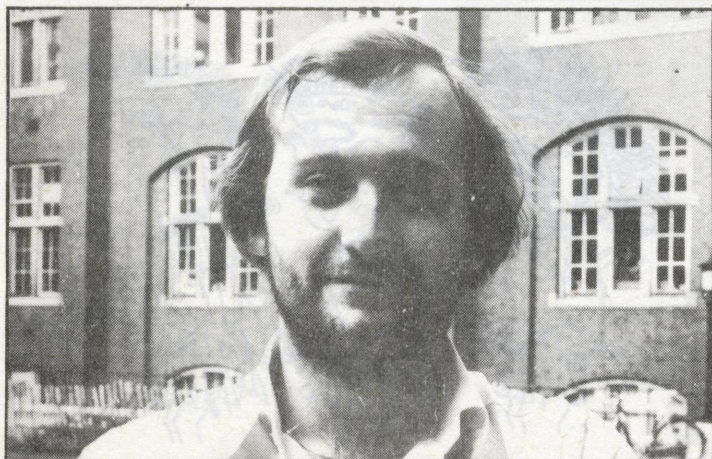
Although the hall will only be used to house postgraduates, their overall number in College residence will only increase in proportion.



The hall, situated in Montpelier Street, has not been named. It was originally built due to the benefactions of a Sir Chalmers Hall to be used as a nurses home.

There will be more places available in the current halls and houses for fresher and first time applicants as a result.

All plans are in an early stage of preparation and no details about applications for places are available at present.

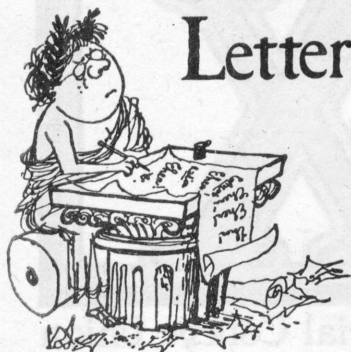


This is Your Leader

Remember this face. Douglas Armstrong, Chairman of the Postgraduate Group is here to defend your interests. His first message to you all appears on page four.

Royal Wedding Special

A look at some of the more obscure Royal Wedding items by our ace royalty correspondent, B B Wolfe. See page 6.



Letters

Sir

May I take this opportunity to protest most strongly about contentious material in this year's ICU Freshers' Handbook. Contained within, as I discovered after seeing pageproofs at the printers, are the most vicious attacks on Victor Mooney Captain Lindley and Lord Flowers I have seen to date. While agreeing with the broad sentiments expressed I feel they are grossly overstated. Moreover, it is a disgrace that such contentious comments will be foisted upon a very impressionable fresher intake. Never before has a Union publication sought to influence opinions in such an obvious manner prior to term!

It is perfectly understandable that such a situation should occur. Paul Donovan, the Handbook Editor, is a first year student and has, perhaps, become a little carried away by the vindictiveness and malice shown towards Mr Mooney and Capt Lindley that was prevalent in the FELIX Office last year. The (anonymous) author of the article is none other than Patrick Coll, ex-FELIX News Editor. Soured by his recent maths failure he has sought to "go out with a bang", to use his own words. But the one factor that is beyond my comprehension is that Mr N Morton, ICU President, has told me that he had seen the Handbook and approved of it. While not encouraging Presidential intervention in an editorial matter. I wonder how he could possibly approve of articles that are sure to incense the College and are extremely unfair to the individuals concerned, in that no right of reply is offered.

Bearing in mind that the College has kindly agreed to mail out the Handbook to freshers, I am surprised that Mr Morton, who has overall responsibility for Union matters, and, of course, the Handbook, should consider the matter so unimportant.

Yours faithfully
Steve Marshall

Sir

I am obliged to you for showing me a letter from one S Marshall, an illustrious honorary life-member of ICU. Typically, he has twisted facts and comments to his own end. He implies that Mr Patrick Coll has written articles about Messrs Lindley and Mooney when we all know Mr Marshall himself is responsible for this entire campaign. However, I shall not dwell on Mr Marshall's low journalistic and moral standards as these are well-known.

My position on the Handbook articles in question is quite clear—I have not seen them. It is true that I saw most of the Handbook at paste-up stage and gave an unofficial nod of approval. However, the articles on our good friends in College were not available and it completely slipped my mind to ask the Handbook Editor if he was hiding any contentious, abusive material from my all-pervading self. Silly me. I must take full responsibility for this dreadful oversight. I am only sorry that Mr Marshall did not draw my attention to these articles as I am reliably informed that he was occasionally seen in the FELIX Office when the Handbook was being prepared.

As the person finally responsible for all Union affairs I am certain to be the recipient of irate phone calls when the Handbook reaches the Sherfield Building. Naturally I will deal with such calls in my normal diplomatic manner.

I look forward to an informed and informative FELIX this year.

Yours faithfully
Nick Morton
ICU Hack

Ed's Note: I thought it only fair to give the President, Nick Morton, the right of reply to Mr Marshall's letter (considering there is not another FELIX until October). This prompted the above reply.

On further consideration, the President decided to approach Captain Lindley, informing him of the offending articles. Word also reached the Rector (who had written the foreword to the Handbook) and he made it quite clear that College would not mail it out if these articles were included. Printing has been stopped and the articles will not appear.

I am certain that College would have looked carefully anyway. What their reaction would have been is a matter of speculation.

Dear Sir

I feel I am voicing the feelings of many when I say how disgusted I was by the obnoxious behaviour of some people on the recent Cambridge day-trip. Indeed, I am forced to the conclusion that some of the people on the outing only went to get drunk.

Let me point out some of the deficiencies in the actions of the ringleaders which utterly disgraced this Union. Firstly, some people arrived late at the coach. This was completely indefensible. Secondly, when in Cambridge, many of the group spent most of their time at a "Beer Festival" when they could have been admiring the aesthetic beauty of Cambridge's marvellous architecture. These points, which would condemn the participants for evermore, pale into insignificance when compared with the most disturbing aspects of the trip.

I refer, of course, to the singing of callously crude and indecent songs.

If any of the intentions outlined in these songs were, heaven forbid, to take place, then the participants would surely leave themselves open to charges of indecent exposure, assault, and inciting racial hatred, to name but four. (I don't stand and count 'em.)

There can be no excuse for this behaviour. I cannot help asking if those people would have behaved in the same way if their mothers were present. Indeed, you yourself, sir, were on that coach and I have no doubt that you were one of the instigators. Fie on you, you brazen-faced malefactor.

I was delighted to see though, that our glorious sabbaticals were not on this trip; there is still some

honour left in this institution.

Finally, I call for the abolition of this trip, otherwise, the extreme consequences of further trips would be an abominable corruption, which would result even in civilised institutions, such as this college, adopting the barbarous customs of certain savage tribes.

Yours faithfully
Percy Allingbrooke-Bogle

Sir

I am not one to write reams of meaningless drivel just to get my name in FELIX but, this time I feel I really must make an exception and put pen to paper. Seriously, in all my time at IC I have never been so shocked, nor so annoyed by what is going on.

I thought that there must be some integrity left in the students of today but apparently there is not so much as one grain of common sense or decency in any one of them.

It is a far cry from my first days at university when students were looked upon as responsible, up-standing citizens who, if at times a little boisterous, were at least, genuinely trustworthy people.

Not so today! It was only recently that the true depravity to which students at IC have fallen was brought home to me in a fashion which left me speechless with disgust. Therefore I am impelled to write this letter in the hope that perhaps some of your readers will pull their socks up.

Yours sincerely
C Alucard
Real name and address supplied.

Dear Readers

Letters are required for this page. Just send them to the Editor at the FELIX Office.



Et tu Et tu Et tu

Garage for Clem

Clementine, the motorised mascot of the Royal School of Mines Union, has been found a garage near College after a three year wait. The garage, situated in the mews behind the Southside Halls of Residence, will be available from the start of the next session.

Clem, a yellow and black 1926 Commercial lorry, is at present in pieces (apparently in Aldershot) but it is expected that she will be back on the road by Christmas. A team of helpers will perform the necessary repairs, including members of the Royal College of Science Union who completed the rebuilding of their own mascot, Jezebel, in November 1979.

When the rebuild is completed it will be the first time for over five years that all of the three CCL motorised mascots have been roadworthy.

Hot penguin

THE SABBATICAL Executive Officers did not seem to learn much at the recent training school held at Wye College, but they did manage to return with Westfield College's mascot, a large toy penguin.

Barney McCabe, ICU Deputy President, was asked to drive Westfield College to the training school. They were so shocked by his driving that they insisted that he stay in the back on the return journey, along with the ICU President, Nick Morton, Honorary Secretary, Marco Ledwold, John Passmore, ULU Vice President Gillian Morgan and the penguin. By cleverly manoeuvring the mascot to the rear of the bus and creating a diversion, Barney dashed out at Prince Consort Road taking the penguin with him. When questioned, his strange behaviour various excuses were offered which convinced the Westfield College students present. In fact, it was not until some time later that ICU President, Nick Morton, informed Westfield of their loss over the telephone. It appears that they hadn't even noticed.

The penguin is now in the Union Office and no arrangements have been made to return it.

I.C. gets off lightly

Imperial College remains relatively unscathed after the University Grants Committee (UGC) distributed the Government's reduced grant to universities early in July.

The countrywide effect of the reduced grant levels is that there will be thousands fewer university places available for home students by 1984/5. At this College, however, the UGC has recommended that student numbers are to rise by 170 by 1983/4. Part of this increase will be immediately absorbed by the category change for Greek students, who will be classed as EEC rather than overseas students following Greece's entry into the Common Market. The net increase in student numbers will be 122. This means that for each of the next three years, approximately 40 extra students will be taken on. In the forthcoming session this will be distributed as follows: 10 Life Sciences; 5 Chemistry; 5 Geology; 5 Mineral Resources Engineering; 5 Chem Eng. 5 Computing and 5 to Mech Eng.

This increase in students, though, is to occur simultaneously with a decrease in the College's grant. This year the College asked the UGC for £25m, but the grant allocated was just slightly over £23m. Also the UGC has provisionally indicated a decrease to £21.6m by 1983/4 at today's prices.

The UGC letter to the University of London singles out IC for special treatment. Whilst all the rest of the universities institutions are considered together, IC is specifically recommended to increase its numbers in the biological sciences. As well as receiving £23.2m of recurrent grant, the College is also given £3.14m for equipment and furniture, £42,000 for microprocessors and £18,000 for the Linstead extension.

The effects of the UGC cut of 14% over the next three years cannot be fully envisaged. As people retire, for instance, they may not be replaced, and the Governing Body at its June 19 meeting could not rule out the possibility of compulsory redundancies. In the session some cuts may be absorbed by slight surpluses from last year. Departments may have to take a 2.5% cutback, and the refectory account may have to start bearing more overheads, although ICU finances and the Residence Account will probably be left alone.

The UGC grant makes up 50% of College income: the rest comes from overseas students fees and outside earnings. These could be boosted by having a firm sponsor a professional chair. The College has been actively seeking funds from outside to boost the UGC grant, especially by setting up interdepartmental sections, eg robotics.



P.G. trip to Cambridge

AS IN previous years, the PG Group organised a trip to this year's Cambridge Beer Festival. The festival was smaller than the one held annually at the Alexandra Palace, but still offered a selection of real ales from 26 different breweries. The trip afforded an opportunity to look round the town, as the festival shut for a while in mid-afternoon, but poor weather precluded the traditional punting expeditions. Numbers were down on last year, and only one coach was taken; this was possibly due to the poor weather.

Shop for the Union?

UNION REGALIA will in future be sold by the Union and not the Bookshop.

In July the stocks of regalia in the Bookshop were sold to the Union. The Constituent College Unions will sell their own particular items with the rest remaining with IC Union.

At present the regalia is being sold from the Union Office, but the Executive is looking into the possibility of starting a Union Shop which will sell other items and be run by a permanent staff member.

New rooms at Silwood

THREE NEW residence blocks are nearing competition at the College field station at Silwood Park.

The buildings will house forty students and should be ready for use in October. The building contractors will hand over the properties to the Estates section for final furnishing on August 23.

A Silwood resident told FELIX that although some of the rooms were small, they were a great improvement on the current rooms in William Penny Hall.

U.G. nuisance

Residents of the College field station at Silwood Park near Ascot have again been troubled by the behaviour on undergraduate field courses.

At the end of the summer term students on an engineering field course moved cars, tampered with food and ripped a billiard table, which cost the residents £55 to repair.

A Silwood resident told FELIX, "We live in fear of these short field courses".

COPY DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the Freshers' FELIX is 5p.m., Wednesday September 23

P.G. Tips

Hello, since this is a postgraduate issue, the President and the PG Chairman proudly present a joint effort. When the undergrads return there will be articles about UGC cuts and that sort of stuff, but for now a few words about PGs and, more particularly, research students.

At the Board of Studies at the end of last term a proposal was passed that "writing-up" students should pay fees. It seems this is just a recommendation and the matter is still being discussed. This is obviously a wider problem than just a question of fee-paying. We are, once again, up against the worries of over-running PhDs (for which IC is now famous) and poor supervision. We are extremely concerned about these problems as are plenty of other people in College. In the ideal world PhD students would have four years sponsorship. Whilst a handful of students are in this fortunate position, most are not and there is little chance of establishing an ideal world at present.

So let's cut this bullshit and tell you what we want. We want the impossible—comment and discussion out of you lot. Research students have a reputation for apathy and the response to the questionnaire last year was not staggering. Whether or not you wrote in then, please send us any relevant comments you have now. Address them to the President, IC Union, and they will be treated in confidence; you need not put your name to them.

You might like to consider the following questions:

Will you over-run three years?
If so, will you be writing or still doing experimental work?

In either of these cases, do you consider it fair that you should pay fees?

Why do students over-run?

Is there a problem of selection of suitable candidates for research?

Should a more comprehensive review of progress be made after one year?

Are projects too complicated to complete in three years?

Is there adequate supervision of experimental work, especially in the initial stages?

Is there adequate supervision of thesis preparation, especially regarding timing?

Do supervisors encourage students to do experimental work right to the bitter end at the expense of writing up?

If you have a problem with your supervisor, is there anybody in the department you can consult?

And finally, returning to fees, how easy would it be for you to go "underground" and continue beyond three years without registering as writing up?

Bear in mind that the College has suffered a reduction in its estimated budget with the UGC letter and is obviously looking to cover any drain on its resources be those resources material or lecturers' time and energy.

Heavy article, eh? Sorry, but please consider writing in. Perhaps we can give you better news soon. On a lighter note, we hope those of you who went on the Cambridge trip had a jolly spiffing time.

Nick and Doug

Mr Armstrong introduces the Officers

Just a few lines to let you know who the PG Group Officers are for next year and what we have planned. The officers are:

Doug Armstrong—Chairman
Bob Rollins—Social Secretary
Jim Downey—Treasurer
Dave Wood—Welfare Officer
Paul Hayman—Secretary

Last year we held several ploughman's lunches which were fairly successful and will continue next year. The two events that were held in the evening, the dinner and the party, were not very well attended. The Cambridge Trip was its usual success.

If you have any ideas for events next year, please let us know, we can be contacted through the Union Office.

If you want money for a PG event in your department, remember you can get a subsidy from PG Group funds.

Finally, on a more serious note, we would appreciate it if you would let us know your opinions on the proposed writing-up fees for PGs.



Remember Hiroshima

Thirty-six years ago, two atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The resulting horror, devastation and death appalled the people of the world. In Japan, some are still suffering as a direct consequence of the attack.

Since 1945, the world's arsenal of nuclear weapons has grown enormously. Following the recent increase in international tension, people have become aware, once again, of how real the threat of nuclear holocaust is. It is hard to appreciate the numbers involved. The size of the Hiroshima bomb was about 13 kilo tons (ie an explosive power equivalent to 13,000 tons of TNT). A bomb now would typically be between 1 Megaton and 5 Megatons; that is, between 76 and 385 Hiroshimas. We should realize that *all* the explosives, *all* the bombs, shells and mines used by *all* countries during the *whole* of World War II amounted to about 5 million tons of TNT. All that is now concentrated into one typical bomb and there are tens of thousands of such weapons.

We must all remember the horror caused by those two tiny (by today's standards) bombs dropped on Japan. The four days from Hiroshima Day (yesterday) to Nagasaki Day (Sunday, 9 August) are set aside for commemoration. A two minute silence will be observed internationally from 11:00 to 11:02am this Sunday. Please respect this. If you would like to wear a commemorative armband with the design show at the top of this article, please ring Owen Greene on int 2960 today.

Owen Greene

Bookshop News

The Imperial College Bookshop is YOUR Bookshop. It stocks not only the required reading for the various courses but also a large selection of fiction and reference books, current bestsellers, books of cultural interest, maps, guide books and a wide range of stationery items.

"Bookshop News" is featured every week in FELIX, giving information of new titles, author visits, specialist exhibitions, etc.

Books and items of stationery can be ordered through the Bookshop, depending on current availability.

The Bookshop is situated in Sheffield Building, on the Walkway outside of Level 2. Opening hours are 9:15am—5:15pm, Monday to Friday.

O/A Level Tutoring

Have you ever thought about earning some extra cash by tutoring O/A Level students? The Postgraduate Group is prepared, given enough interest, to advertise on your joint behalf, through the appropriate channels (press, etc.). The idea of such a scheme would be to put tutor and tutee in touch with each other. If you are interested in using this experimental scheme leave particulars of your subject area and location with the Student Services at 15 Princes Gardens.



Will you be in Edinburgh this summer?

Then come and see Dramsoc performing three shows at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Yes folks, we've hit the big time—brighter than the footlights, more original than the Oxford Revue, more prestigious than Rowan Atkinson.

Dramsoc will be right in the centre of action, at Edinburgh University's New Chaplaincy Centre, and we'll be working a 25hr day producing three completely original plays, all written by Dramsoc members, performed by Dramsoc members, with the help of Dramsoc Technology. It all starts on the 15th of August at Bristo Street, Edinburgh and performances are at 12:30 (lunchtime) and 9:00pm. Last night is on the 29th August so you have just two short weeks to see history made. Tickets cost £1.25 (or 75p to you students and claimants) and you can get them on the door or at the fringe box office. Our venue number is 23 and we're upstairs. See you there!



STOP PRESS
see the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in London

Tuesday 11 August at 7:30pm in the Concert Hall.

Free admission to the ICDS offerings for the 1981 Fringe.

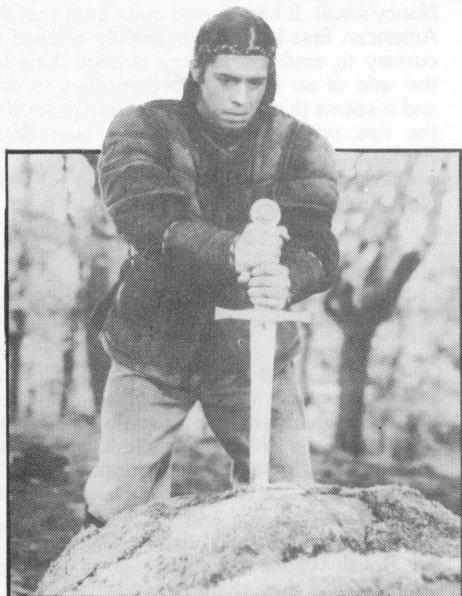


Reviews

Film

After a relatively quiet period July was a good month for the cinema, with several very interesting releases.

One of the best is John Boorman's **Excalibur**, a fanciful adaptation of the legend of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. The plot is a combination of many themes; Uther Pendragon uses Merlin, the wise magician, to enable him to seduce Igrayne, wife of the Duke of Cornwall. Merlin's price is the baby that is thus conceived, who is raised without knowing his parents. Arthur eventually becomes King and brings peace and prosperity to the land, but his half-sister,



Morgana, is up to no good and Arthur must defeat the evil Mordred before the 2hr 20 minutes is up. Needless to say, Guenevere, Lancelot, Gawain, *et al* crop up along the way to add to the excitement, but Nicol Williamson's Merlin is particularly enjoyable. There is an exciting mixture of romance, battle and sorcery which adds up to a highly entertaining and colourful epic.

Trailing a little way behind is Ken Russell's **Altered States**, which I found disappointing (not least because of the banal "love conquers all" ending). There is no doubt that Russell has produced a marvellous combination of images and sound which has moments of sheer brilliance. It is just about possible to swallow the plot; gifted scientist Edward Jessup believes that he can unlock previous experiences from the genetic structure of his cells by the use of powerful hallucinogenic drugs and sensory deprivation. He is staggered to find that an actual physical metamorphosis accompanies his mental regression and he eventually reaches back to the actual moment of creation in his relentless search for an "ultimate truth". This wild premise is well executed, with some marvellous hallucination sequences and brilliant make-up by Dick Smith. What I find hard to believe is that Russell sells out at the finale, and opts for such a clichéd anti-climax for his end sequence. A great pity that such an imaginative film falls at the final hurdle—it could have been a classic.



If you want to take your family to an unusual and funny film, then Terry Gilliam's **Time Bandits** would be ideal. Six dwarves steal a map of the universe from the Supreme Being (Ralph Richardson) and proceed to travel through space and time committing daring robberies. Along the way they pick up a young boy, Kevin, whose wardrobe happens to be one of the holes that the dwarves use to flee the pursuing Supreme Being. Together they encounter Napoleon, Robin Hood, King Agememnon and eventually Evil himself in the Fortress of Ultimate Darkness. It's a fast moving children's fantasy which is strangely appealing to adults as well. John Cleese makes a brief appearance as a terribly polite and philanthropic Robin Hood which will stick in my mind for a long time. A good family film.

My favourite release is undoubtedly Steven Spielberg's **Raiders of the Lost Ark**, another family film. Harrison Ford stars as Dr Indiana Jones, an archeologist who specialises in finding hidden treasures in dangerous locations. The year is 1936 and when American Intelligence discover that Hitler is on the trail of the legendary Ark of the Covenant (in which the original Ten Commandments were kept), they send Jones to beat him to it. Hitler believes that any army which carries the Ark before it will be invincible and has set Jones' arch rival, Belloq, the task of recovering it from the lost city of Thannis.

What ensues is a well paced action adventure story, in which Jones always manages to narrowly clear the hurdles presented to him by Hitler's fanatical henchmen. I think that Jones is cast from a similar mould to James Bond; a clever and handsome adventurer who singlehandedly succeeds against tremendous odds. He has more human qualities than the ever-slick Bond however, and will undoubtedly re-appear in a sequel. The one failure of the film is that it never quite achieves the sense of wonder and awe which made the otherwise hollow **Close Encounters** succeed. In this case, however, the story is tremendously enjoyable and it just fails to be the "Ultimate Adventure" that the adverts promise.

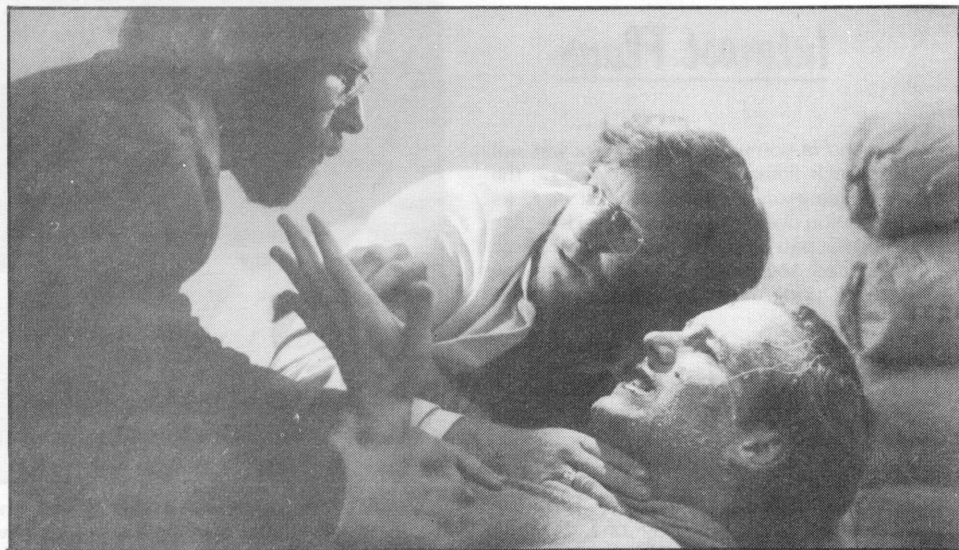
Talking about James Bond, the latest offering **For Your Eyes Only** is the best of all the recent Bonds. Thankfully there is no massive set-piece ending, but a greater reliance on really tense, dramatic scenes which works reasonably well.

The most disappointing film of the year is the over-hyped **Clash of the Titans**. This turned out to be a dull and uninspired "boy meets girl, loses girl, gets girl back" story which is only saved by Roy Harryhausen's stop-motion animation. Even this does not overcome the dreary acting and this is definitely one to miss.



Finally the **Buster Keaton Season** at the Electric Cinema still has a week to run. This is a great chance to see some of the funniest silent films ever made by the famous deadpan comic, who is surely one of the most underrated comic talents of the century. Seats are only £2 for a long feature and two shorts, which show at least three times daily. I'll see you there!

Mark Smith



Arthur draws Excalibur from the stone (above left) and Indiana Jones comes face to face with his least favourite animal (top). Above, Dr. Jekyll goes ape in **Altered States** and tries to convince Rosenberg and the marvellously cynical Mason.

Fishy Tales



By B.B. Wolfe

Hi, guess who's back again in charge of exposés, scandals, caustic comments and wry wit? Mr Smith has wisely decided to let me continue casting my eye over some of the more unusual and amusing aspects of College life. For this issue, however, I thought it only right to commemorate the glorious wedding of our future King by presenting a few of my own observations.

Men at the Top

IT is reported that half a million people attended the firework display in Hyde Park on the eve of the great day. What a pity that most of them bought their cars with them to fill the streets around College with a near stationary mass for hours after it was all over. Fortunately not everybody had to endure the crowds. The Rector, College Secretary and a few bright sparks from the Union, along with some friends and family, had the foresight to go up the Queen's Tower to watch the frivolity. Good for them! I naturally avoided such a move after reading that at a similar display in 1746, one man was killed by falling out of the tree from which he had chosen to view the fireworks. Do you realise how high the Queens Tower is?

Interest Flags

HOW many of you noticed that there was not a Union Jack flying from the flagpole on the Union Building on the great day? It appears that the Union doesn't even possess a flag. Are there no true patriots left at this College? Why, if I'd noticed sooner I would have run my Union Jack underwear up as a substitute!

I'm alright Jack

IT APPEARS that there is at least one loyal subject in the Union. Honorary Secretary Maro Ledwold has not only one, but two Union Jacks in his room. Why I'm surprised that he didn't dash out and run one up the flagpole himself.

A Right Royal Rave-up!

Happy Family

BEAUTIFUL Lady Diana Spencer has quite an amazing family tree. Through her mother she is related to no fewer than eight American Presidents (not including the present one, thank goodness) as well as Humphrey Bogart and General Patton.

But the biggest surprise is on her father's side of the family. It turns out that *Private Eye's* columnist Auberon Waugh is her fifth cousin and editor Richard Ingrams her second cousin once removed. Well fancy that! Perhaps *Private Eye's* novelisation of the Royal Romance, *Born to be Queen*, is nearer to the truth than you might first expect.

Funny pair

HAVING MENTIONED *Born to be Queen*, I must say I found the serialisation very funny. The romance between Prince Charles and lovely doe-eyed Lady Diana Spencer is told in hilarious style by Sylvie Krin and has now been published in a book, priced at only 95p. We follow the tense drama of the courtship, the inevitable photographers, the intrusion of step-grandmother Barbara Cartland and much more.

While this book was at number ten in the best-selling books list during the wedding week, the number one proved to be another surprise. It wasn't the official Royal Wedding Souvenir, but the satirical publication *Not the Royal Wedding*, a send-up produced by John Lloyd and Sean Hardie which features the team from *Not the Nine O'Clock News*. This is packed with irreverent humour which mildly lampoons the Royal couple. It's good to see that even our most prestigious occasions bring forward touches of well-groomed humour.

Odd Couple

MY EYES nearly popped out of their sockets when I read a recent article in *The Grauniad* concerning the American President, Ronnie Raygun. Apparently there is a strong rumour in the West Coast radical press over there that a sort of constitutional figurehead, similar to the Queen, may be introduced to relieve the pressure from the President. Surprise, surprise, Nancy Raygun is keen to put her and old hopalong up as candidates in the suggested national poll by which such a position would be elected.

Now this leads on to the Royal Wedding and Nancy's visit. It has caused quite a stir that the American first lady has outrightly refused to curtsy to anybody (a very strange thing for the wife of an elected representative to do!) and it seems that she is very keen to pick up all the tips on etiquette from our own Royal Family.

Can you imagine it—King Ronald the first! No wonder they tried to shoot him.

Stupid Souvenirs

ONE THING that won't be missed following the great event are the piles of ridiculous souvenirs which one has to wade through on arriving at any shop. Have you seen those revolting tea towels, the pictures on which look more like Joe Bugner and Dandy Nichols than our own Prince and his bride?

The worst item that I have come across is the Royal Wedding Frisbee—good heavens whatever will they think of next!

Someone tells me that there is actually a Royal Wedding Rubik's Cube, with pictures of the happy couple.



TOP MARKS must go to the recently re-opened Scala Cinema at Kings Cross for a witty piece of programming. On the opening day in their new premises, which was formerly an ape house, they billed *King Kong* with *Mighty Joe Young*. Furthermore, as their contribution to the Royal Wedding they had a double-bill consisting of *The Bride of Frankenstein* and *I Married a Monster from Outer Space*. Well done!

Southside

Snippets

THE COLLEGE has again been the venue for several large conferences, which take advantage of the Summer Accommodation scheme to house their delegates. Conferences ranged in subject from Radiation Safety to Midwifery. In fact this year was the Centenary of the Royal College of Midwives, and these fortunate delegates spent an evening with Royalty celebrating.

THE SUMMER Accommodation Centre (SAC) seems to be one of the few places where anything happens over the summer. So it seems strange that it was decided to paint the SAC Office ceiling recently when the office was at its busiest. Whether this was to make up for the appalling state of the Royal College of Science Union Office, which is nearby and has been mistaken for part of the Summer Accommodation scheme, remains uncertain.

TO COINCIDE with the conferences the Imperial College Bookshop managed to stock specialist texts. By advertising the fact that these conferences were to take place in the newsletter of the Publisher's Association, bookshop manager Mr Roy Hicks was able to get texts from

publishers on a "sale or return" basis. This not only meant that visitors from as far away as the Far East and Australia did not have to wait while books were ordered and mailed, but also that bookshop revenue was increased.

HALL BURSAR Mrs Diana Yarrow was shocked to discover that an old English sheepdog had been kept in a Keogh Hall room by a visitor. This is, of course, against Hall regulations.

To prevent this happening again she told cleaners to watch out for "anything unusual, like with four legs or wings."

CONCERN HAS been expressed over the way in which visitors to Southside are often given the wrong keys on arrival at the SAC Office. This means that people are given access to rooms in which valuable items may have been left by the occupant.

The situation is so bad that the FELIX Editor, Mr Mark Smith, returned to his room one day to find a bemused cardiologist who could not understand why he had been given a room full of clothes and books. Captain Lindley, Domestic Secretary, was unavailable to comment on how many times this mistake had occurred.

Hacks Hacked!

THE END OF YEAR examinations provided their usual mixture of triumphs and failures.

Academic Affairs Officers did well. ICU AAO Bob Bradley graduated with First Class Honours, as did Mines AAO Pete Bamford. RCS AAO, Dave Lyons achieved an Upper Second which secured him a PhD in the Chemistry Department.

The incoming CCU Officers normally have more than their share of failures. Guilds seem to have taken the worst of it this year with the Vice-President, Nick Jenkins, and Publicity Officer, Dave Millet, having failed to qualify. Guilds President Andy Rushton has managed to get a place on an MSc course as expected, but as yet has not been offered a grant and may have to finance it himself. The External Affairs Officer and FELIX Business Manager, Patrick Coll, have also failed, which will result in two elections at the start of the next session.

All of the sabbaticals managed to satisfy the good academic standing qualification. ICU President Nick Morton completed the third year of his PhD course, whilst Deputy President Barney McCabe narrowly missed a Third in Physics (*diplomatic-Ed*). Honorary Secretary Marco Ledwold achieved Third Class Honours in Chemistry, and the FELIX Editor, Mark Smith took a Lower Second in Physics.

Fees and Grants

The College sessional fees for next session, 1981/2 will be as follows:

1. Home and EEC students, and those overseas students who began courses before September 1 1980:

UGs: home £900; overseas £1,389

PGs: home £1,320; overseas £1,803

2. Overseas students (both undergraduate and postgraduate) newly admitted to courses in the College after September 1 1980:

UGs: Mathematics £2,500; all other courses £3,600

PGs: **Advanced Courses**

a) Mathematics and Humanities £3,000

b) All other courses £4,000

Research Courses

a) Mathematics and Humanities £2,500

b) All other courses £3,600

The basic student grants for the upcoming session are:

	Undergrad	Postgrad
Living away from home/London	1,825	2,770
Living away from home outside London	1,535	2,245
Living at home	1,180	1,640
Minimum	410	

Dinners-In-Hall: dates revealed!

DINNERS-IN-HALL will be held on the following dates during the autumn term:

20 October 1981 (Inaugural)

3 November 1981 (Inaugural)

17 November 1981 (Inaugural)

1 December 1981 (Inaugural)

15 December 1981 (Christmas)

Members of the Senior Common Room wishing to attend any of the above dinners should book places through Miss K Dailly, Room 354, Sherfield Building (Int 2231) using a booking form which can be obtained, from the beginning of the term, either from Miss Dailly or from the box located in the Senior Common Room in the Sherfield Building. Students should book through the Student Union. The latest time for booking is twelve noon on the Friday preceding the Dinner.

Charges

Payment for dinners booked must be made, in accordance with the rates shown on the booking form, at the time of booking but, as bookings are accepted subject to the availability of places, deposits will be refunded if a dinner is over-subscribed at the time of booking. It is regretted that no refunds can be made in respect of cancellations by individuals after midday on the Monday preceding the dinner.

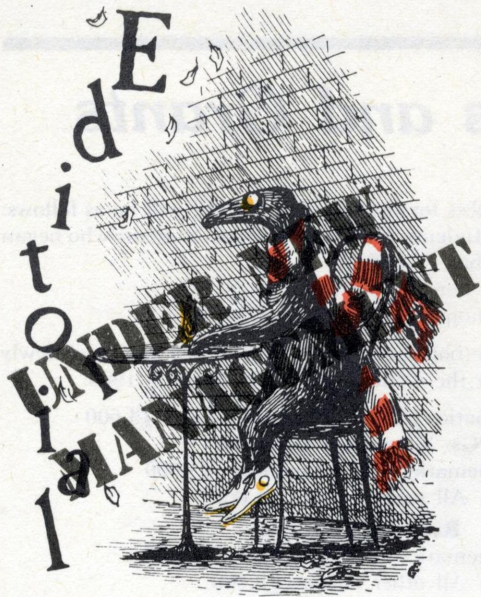
General

Staff and students attending Hall Dinners should foregather in the Senior Common Room or the Ante-Room in the Sherfield Building—depending on whether the dinner is being held in the Staff or Main Dining Hall—at 7:00pm for dinner at 7:30pm. (The location of each dinner—which will depend on the number of people attending—will be displayed on noticeboards on Level 1 and 2 Lift Concourses of the Sherfield Building).

Sherry or other drinks will be available for purchase in the Senior Common Room or Ante-Room before dinner. The wine and port served during dinner will be included in the overall charge.

Dress

Except for the Christmas Hall Dinner (15 December 1981) when evening dress (black tie) should be worn, the correct dress for men for Hall Dinners is a lounge suit.



A New Broom

Welcome to issue number 589, the first that I have produced. This FELIX may look very similar to last year's—I am using up some excess covers on this issue and the main FELIX banner will remain the same throughout the year. It is all too easy to make change merely for the sake of change, so I intend to try and modify and improve as I go along rather than go for a complete change.

Writing Up Students

I know very little about the problems of postgraduates and the "writing up" category. The article on page 4 by the President and PG Group Chairman includes an appeal for information. It doesn't take much effort to put a note into the internal mail, so I hope that there is a staggering response.

Postgraduate Hall

Having viewed the building in Montpelier Street which the College seems almost certain to purchase, I must say that it is quite a find situated just around the corner from Harrods it is well situated and, although by no means perfect, is in reasonable condition. A lot of hard work is needed to prepare it for habitation and if it is ready for October there will certainly be a few creases left to iron out. Also, I would wait for further details to be posted around College before bombarding the Student Services Office with enquiries.

SAC

I couldn't believe that the ceiling of the Summer Accommodation Centre Office in Southside was recently painted. This room is a reception area for visitors living in the halls of residence over the summer and is empty for about eight months of the year. Why people should be subjected to the smell and mess of paint when it is totally unnecessary I don't know.

Handbook Trouble

I must say that the reaction to Mr Marshall's letter (page 2) is not surprising. Whilst agreeing with some of the sentiments expressed in the offending articles, I cannot really condone the way in which they would have influenced freshers before reaching College. When I first saw the articles they struck me as humorous rather than offensive, but in retrospect I can see that they were bound to cause a reaction from the College administration. I only hope that the individual(s) concerned do the decent thing and make suitable apologies.

Dramsoc at the Fringe

You all have a chance to see the Dramsoc offerings for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe

next Tuesday (August 11) at 7:30pm in the Union Concert Hall. There is no admission fee.

The Royal Wedding

It warmed the heart to see so many people having such a great time on July 29. Whilst I found it hard to take any interest in the trivia which commentators padded the day with, I enjoyed the relaxed air which the event inspired.

Fox Farewell

Former RCSU and ICU President Chris Fox is due to fly out to Bolivia as soon as the political situation over there clears. I'm sure we'd all like to wish him good luck in his new job.

Freshers' FELIX

This will be published on Monday, October 5 and prepared in the previous week. If you have any contributions then the deadline is Wednesday, September 23. Anybody who is willing to help on the production side will be more than welcome—come in at any time during the last week of September.

The monstrous task of collating the Freshers' issue will take place over the weekend 2-4 October. All hands will be appreciated.

Just two hours more.....

I seem to have spent all my waking hours in the FELIX Office this week. The job is certainly a lot harder than it may appear from the outside and I am particularly grateful to the following people for their help: Hector Cameron Clark (especially for the photograph on the cover), Martin, Steve, Dave, Patrick, Shanne (Diamid!) Douglas, Nick, Barney, Tim, Matt, Maz & Ian.



It won't be long now before scores of musicians (pun intended) set up their week-long vigil on the steps of Albert Hall for that great national institution, the Last Night of the Proms.

There is great skill involved in this queueing. If you're too near the front of the queue, you are committed to several unnecessarily lonely nights on the pavement, to say nothing of the danger of being trampled underfoot by the stampeding mob when the doors are opened. The other hand, if you're too near the back of the queue you may not get a place at the front of the hall, and so miss out on the mass hysteria, the chance to appear on television, and the smell of the conductor's socks.

To determine the best place to stand, I tracked down the seven people at the front of last year's queue, and quizzed them about the order they were standing in. I elicited five pieces of information.

Derrick said: There was at least one person between me and Suzanne.

Dave said: If I wasn't fourth in line, then Suzanne was.

Martin said: There was exactly one person between Karen and Derrick.

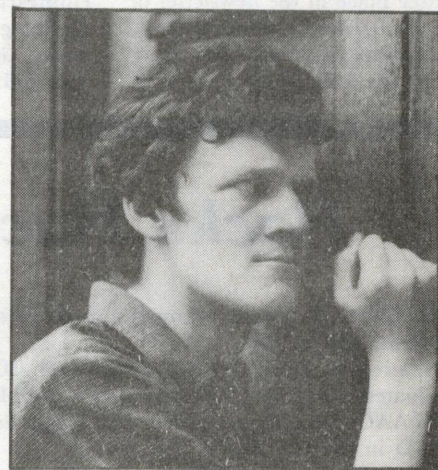
Bernard said: Martin was somewhere in the line between Derrick and myself, but Suzanne was not.

The girls said: John was in front of both of us, but Dave and Derrick were both behind us in the queue.

But feelings run high, and competition is stiff, it seems, for I later discovered that one of the statements is false.

What order did the seven stand in?

Solutions, comments, criticisms to me c/o FELIX by 1:00pm on Wednesday 19th August, please. The usual prize of £5 will be awarded to the first correct solution opened on that date.



The Editor desperately trying to avoid another space-filler.

Hopefully, this space will become smaller throughout the year.