

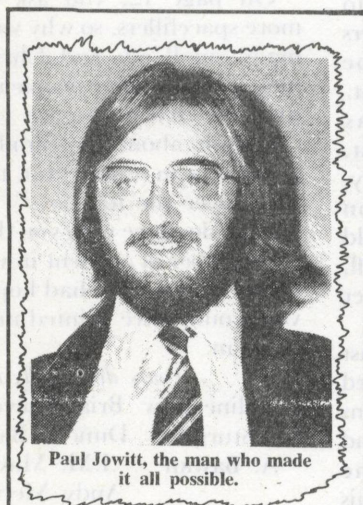


Founded in 1949

The Newspaper of Imperial College Union

FOR GOD'S SAKE GROW UP!

*Southside wardens insist on
hard route to the top*



Paul Jowitt, the man who made it all possible.

Dr Paul Jowitt, pictured in a FELIX from 1973 when he was responsible for the provision of a room for the student welfare service at the top of Union Building.

The penthouse flats above the Southside Halls of Residence have now been filled, after lying empty for a term. However, the new residents are not to be allowed access to their accommodation by the lifts of the penthouse level, but have agreed to use the Tizard/Selkirk gallery level and stairs as their means of entry.

The condition that the residents could not use the lift to the penthouse level was made quite clear to the applicants, and those who were successful have, not unsurprisingly agreed to this and other terms. Whilst not disputing that the condition has been fully accepted, FELIX feels that the move is totally unnecessary and is a further example of the pettiness which has surrounded the whole question of the Southside penthouse flats.

Last term the flats were left

empty, primarily due to the fact that Dr Paul Jowitt, Falmouth Keogh Warden was living in one while another, larger flat was being decorated for his use. It appears that the condition of the second flat was not good enough for him (although it was for the previous occupant, Dr Frank Potter). This lost the College revenues of the order of £2,000.

Now we see a further example of this short-sighted attitude. The students living in the flats are not being

allowed to use the lifts provided because it will disturb the privacy of the wardens. Surely this is an example of the "we don't want a black living next door" prejudice mentality being applied to a group of students.

It is such a shame that Dr Jowitt above all, who is a former student and Deputy President of the Union, should be so petty. He apparently did a lot of work for students and would probably have been writing an article like this himself eight or so years ago.

So cut the pettiness and reverse this decision, Southside wardens. Remember that you and your neighbours are truly on the same level.



Dear Mark

In your issue of December 4 you published a letter from Nick Green in which he alleged that Professor Hartley is currently negotiating the sale of one of the College's most valuable resources in industry: the fermentation pilot plant. He quoted as his authority the *New Scientist*.

Professor Hartley is doing no such thing. The pilot plant is not for sale and could not, for many reasons, be sold. It is the case that the Governing Body has authorised the examination of proposals with a view to improving the income derived from the pilot plant by fuller use of spare capacity.

There are a number of such proposals and no decision has been taken.

Yours sincerely
John Smith
College Secretary

Dear Sir

I write in reply to the letter from a Garden Hall resident that you published in the last FELIX of last term. I am writing because I feel that you could not have checked its factual content and I cannot let it go unchallenged. The letter concerned the laundry in Weeks Hall and was a complete tissue of fabrication, containing not one truthful statement. In giving the facts behind the current controversy I shall not lower myself to the level of this obviously extremely unpleasant person by being abusive, but will try

to, in spite of my extreme annoyance, give the facts objectively and politely. They are as follows.

The laundry in the basement of Weeks Hall is provided as part of the facilities for the Hall and is intended to be used by the residents of the Hall only. Hence the notice to this effect on the door which has been there for at least the last five years. The lock on the laundry door is of the same type as the front door and thus will accept the residents front door keys. It also has been thus for at least the last five years. Hence the statement made by your offensive correspondent to the effect that there was a petty-minded conspiracy to lock out Garden Hall residents is a complete lie.

There has been no recent changing of locks. The truth is very far from this. Most, if not all Weeks residents would be happy to share their laundry and were in fact doing so last term when they heard of the misfortune of Garden Hall whose washing machine had broken down. This happy situation would doubtless have continued if it were not for the totally unreasonable behaviour of seemingly a great number of Garden Hall residents. Towards the end of last term large numbers of them would take over the laundry for very long periods of time intimidating the rightful users by their aggressive and uncivil attitude and preventing their access.

Additionally, a tumble driver was broken by putting a large amount of soap powder in it, the ironing board was burnt several times. Weeks Hall residents had their washing removed from the driers before it was dry and the laundry was left very untidy with litter and soap powder strewn across the floor.

It should be noted here that if this was how Garden Hall residents treated their own laundry then it is not surprising that it has broken down.

Concerning your corres-

pondent's assertion that it was official policy to lock out Garden Hall residents this is most certainly not the case. But who can blame the individual Weeks Hall student who chooses to protect his washing whilst he is away by locking the door?

If Garden Hall residents would like to use Weeks Hall laundry this year then I would suggest that they write to Weeks Hall Committee apologising for their disgraceful behaviour last term, offering to reimburse Weeks Hall for the damage they perpetrated and asking permission to use the laundry sparingly and at off-peak times for which they would be prepared to make a contribution to the maintenance costs.

Yours etc
Andrew Lyall
Weeks Hall resident

Sir,

Stan Kearns, former Southside and Holland Club bar manager has now retired and Mr Morton tells us that the poor chap is very ill. As a result of this Mr Morton proposed Mr Kearns for Honorary Life Membership of IC Union at Council last term. He felt it would be a nice gesture.

Writing as an irate Honorary Life Member of the Union, I feel it is an insult to myself and other life members for such a person to be nominated by the President.

At best Mr Kearns was extremely nasty, at worst, extremely extremely nasty, continually intoxicated on duty and on one occasion told an elderly lady to "Fuck off, you old cow". My mother wasn't at all impressed.

On the Bar Committee last year, Mr Morton expressed loud unfavourable opinions concerning Mr Kearns and his poor handling of the Southside Bar. To change his opinion simply because the poor chap is ill is the sign of a weak president.

As for Stan Kearns, he has been awarded Life Membership by Council, proving how stupid they all are.

Yours faithfully,
Steve Marshall

Dear Sir

I am writing to complain about your presumptuous and pre-emptive action in having your name placed on the FELIX Editors' board despite having only produced a dozen or so issues. At least the Union Executive have the decency to refrain from awarding UGAs to each other until later in the term.

Yours
J. Joyce

Dear Mark

Barney McCabe is continually informing us that money is being stolen from the Union pinball machines.

When I came into the Union Quad last week to get my bicycle I saw him emptying the machines. I realise this is one of his jobs, but at 5:00am?

Yours casting aspersions
Stefan Twadowski, DoC PG

Dear Sir

With reference to the last FELIX you published in the autumn term — 600 issues old, and Christmas — why the usual, boring crap? (Thanks, but don't bothering commenting.)

We were really looking forward to a bumper issue with lots of fun, and expected better. (Yes, we know your whatnot was ill and you had to find a replacement, but.....)

On page 12, you ask for more spacefillers, so why were many small ads and Christmas wishes to some people not printed? Even though you complain about the number of ads sent in (quote "tut, tut, tut.....over the top boys") —, and we do agree with you that the number of ads sent in was a bit excessive, we had hoped you would have printed most of them.

Yours disgustedly(ish)
Caroline Low Brian Stevens
M. Sturgess Duncan Batty
A. Bawan I.M. Mawer
Andy Merritt

PS: Can we have a Chem (2) column?

Ed's Note

Good idea! I'll call it *Chem (2) Egotistical Jerks Column*. So if you want to make a fool of yourself, just send in a sickeningly "in" small ad with £5 (to cover administrative costs).

Student dies in climbing tragedy

Peter Robinson, a first year physicist, died tragically during the Christmas holiday whilst climbing on an IC Mountaineering Club trip to the Cairngorms.

He was in a party of five attempting an ice-climb on Hell's Lum, on December 30, Mark Bown, a chemist, also sustained minor injuries but is now fully recovered.

A full report on the circumstances of the death will be submitted to IC Union next week. FELIX would like to extend sincere condolences to the family and friends of Peter Robinson

RCM in tune with NUS

Students at the Royal College of Music are to lose one of their two halls of residence.

The college authorities have decided to sell Robert Mayor Hall, situated in Evelyn Gardens, without consultation with the students association. This has brought into question the power of the students association, who

appear to be in a weak bargaining position at present. Indeed, it has led to a proposal to affiliate to the NUS, which was discussed yesterday.

It is believed that the move to sell the hall is part of a money-saving plan which is necessary in order to expand the RCM by the opening of a new opera school.

And now, by popular demand, the increasingly entertaining

Barney McCabe

The rest of this bit is *extremely important* to all club and society officers. Now is the time to start preparing your estimates for next year's expenditure. The only way the Union can continue its high level of activities is for all wastage to be eliminated. I hope everyone will be responsible enough so that we don't have to resort to the large scale "slashing" which happened last year.

Some of you may have noticed my new hair-do, nice isn't it? For those of you who really like it I'm selling signed photos of me from my office at £5 each. (Incidentally if you try Jingles on Gloucester Road, ask for Sue, she's very good.) For your entertainment also, anyone is welcome to come and try one of my superb curries cooked in my new pressure-cooker. To book just fill in the form in the Union Office. I also got a radio-alarm for Christmas, so that I can not get into the office before eleven—wow!

Incidentally, a certain Director of a certain Royal Choral Society seemed to think that my little "feeling" was "fine" to use for a rehearsal in the Concert Hall. I must also add that it gave me great pleasure to hear people using it (e.g. Opsoc). That's what the piano was bought for, and soon there will be an easy procedure for anyone who wants to have a tinkle to do so. Yes, fellow musicians, a first for IC—a reasonable piano that is *readit*

that is *readily available* for students to play!! (Incidentally, if anyone would like to borrow my spare banjo, or even to play just ask.)

Well, that's it for the present, thanks for bearing with me (or is it just bearing me?) See you soon and I wish you all a very enjoyable, entertaining, stimulating and rewarding 1982.

Barney McCabe

IC Men thrash Cambridge Women

A Happy New Year was not had by the women of the New Hall Cambridge University Challenge team as they were resoundingly slaughtered by the male chauvinist IC team last term.

The IC line-up consisted of T. Pigden, G. Masterton, A. Griffiths, with reserve Z. Lozinski, under the masterful leadership of Martin S. Taylor, hypnotist extraordinaire.

The heat was on a cold winter's day in Manchester on December 16. The IC team rattled out the starters for ten in a surprising contrast to last year's ill-prepared team.

The final score was 275 to IC, with the paltry 165 to the New Hall ladies.

Martin S. Taylor has urged us to point out that their success was a limited one, as they didn't manage to score with the other team. He also expressed extreme disrespect for the Union Deputy President, Barney McCabe, who failed to bring "Mike", the ICU mascot, despite ICU policy to the contrary.

The next heat is on January 27, and the team will willingly take Spanner & Bolt, as all the team are Guildsmen.

The successful match will be broadcast on February 14, alternatively titled the 'St. Valentine's Day Massacre'.

Mooney gets his just desserts!



1. Say Cheese

2. Splat!



3. You.....

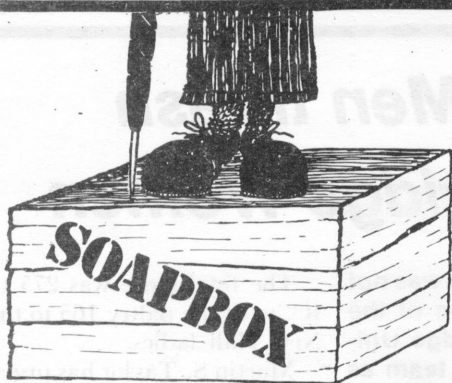
4. It's beef.....

90 x 130mm colour prints can be ordered from
The Hit Squad, c/o City & Guilds College Union, Mech Eng
Set of four: £1

Single print: 30p each.

All profits to charity.

Please quote corresponding number and title for single prints.
Do not send money with your order, cash will be required on delivery.
Guilds Hit Squad would like to thank Mr Mooney for allowing the hit to take place and all those who contributed to the £30 required for the contract.



This is a revived feature which gives the opportunity for anyone to express their views more fully than the space constraints of the letters page will allow. Articles will not be accepted which merely attempt to contradict the previous weeks column, as the letters page is usually sufficient for that. Contributions should occupy no more than a page and be typed or double spaced. You will be free to say whatever you like, as it will be you who is to be "judged" for your own honest opinions. This week:

Charles Darwin and Creationists

by Frank James

This year witnesses the centenary of the death of one of Britain's greatest scientists — Charles Darwin. Unfortunately this coincides with the rise of an opposition to Darwinism from those who term themselves 'creationists'. I will discuss their motivation for holding this belief later. The kernel of their opinions, so far as the development of life is concerned, is that all the species of plant and animal life were formed by acts of special creation during the past six thousand years. (An Irish Archbishop

'calculated' this value of the age of the earth in the seventeenth century). Fossils are explained as the remains of animals killed off during the universal flood.

So far as I am concerned people are free to believe such myths or not as they please (there are still flat-earthers after all). But I strongly object to people holding such beliefs attempting to force such contentions down other people's throats in the name of truth and science. They quite seriously believe, and misuse modern philosophical arguments to justify this belief, that creationism has the same theoretical status as Natural Selection. They further say that they have the same institutional structure as modern science. And that among their adherents there are several doctorates in biology. On closer examination the degree awarding bodies of most of these people are universities in the southern United States — the sort of institutions from which Ian Paisley 'gained' his doctorate.

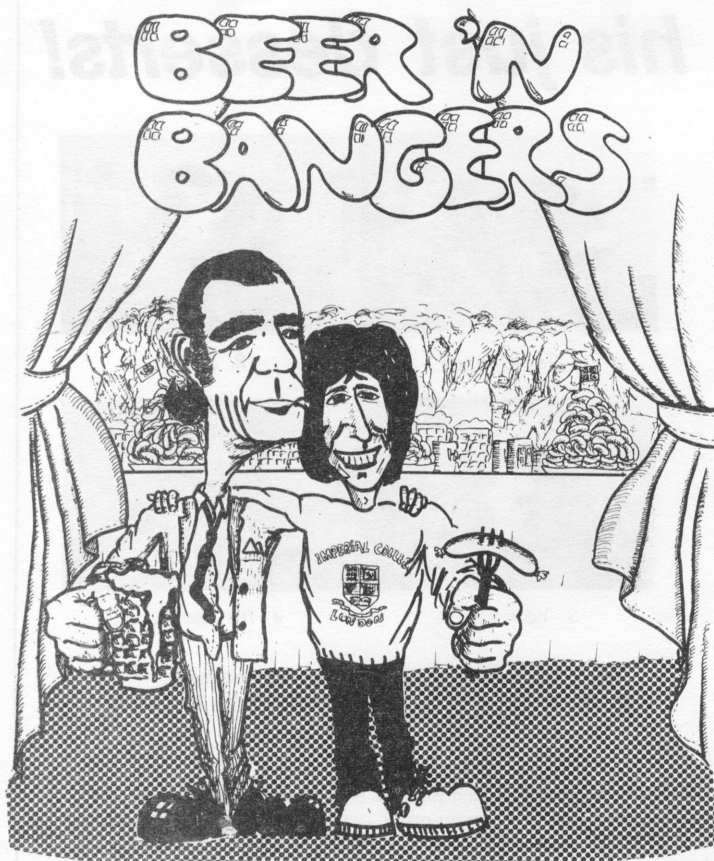
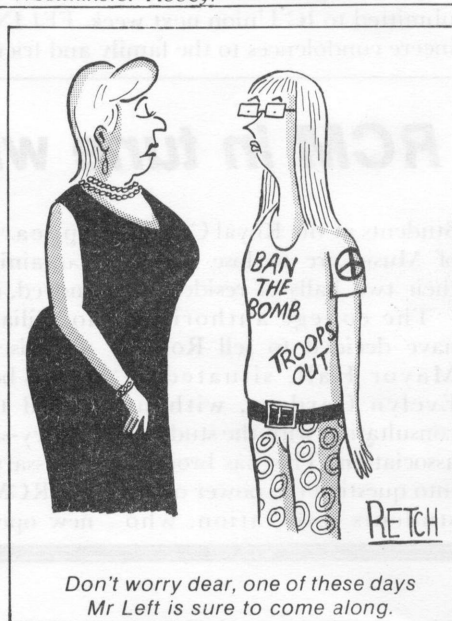
Now all this is pure propaganda on the part of the creationists to spread their point of view in the educational system and to gain respectability. If we let their views predominate and do not use reason to show that their views are absurd then there is the possibility that their views might spread in this country as they have already done in the United States.

The creationists appear to be dissatisfied with a materialistic account of the development of man. Yet what can science do but discuss the nature of the material world? To advance theories which in their very nature cannot be substantiated by any direct material evidence is unscientific to say the least. On the other hand Darwinism does account for the evolution of life and also for the evidence without any need to impose convoluted interpretations or resort to non-scientific arguments.

What is the motive of these people? The only answer I can find is power. By setting up a system for the development of life which is not

dependent on chance, and which within itself is logically coherent (*Alice Through the Looking Glass* is incidentally logically coherent given the initial postulates), the creationists argue that this will lead to a secure society. They cannot tolerate a pluralistic society in which people can do as they please. They want to enforce a system of belief on others from which no deviation is permitted and thus ensure their control over society.

They ignore the evolutionary fact that man is an animal and should be proud to be so. It is after all by pure chance that any of us are here at all, and I do not see what is so very odd in accepting that our species is also here by chance. If Darwin knew that there were still creationists in existence 100 years after his death he would be spinning in his grave in Westminster Abbey.



Lady Flowers and the IC Wives Club invite you to a FREE BEER AND BANGERS in the Rector's Pad (170 Queensgate) on Tues Jan 26, from 5:30 to 7pm. Everybody welcome, names to Jen in the Union Office by 5pm, Fri Jan 22.

Dinner in Hall

Dinners-in-Hall will be held on the following dates during the spring term: Jan 19; Feb 2; Feb 16; March 2; March 16; and May 11 1982.

Members of the Senior Common Room wishing to attend any of the above dinners should book places through Miss K. Dailly, Room 354, Sherfield (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 students' union. The latest time for booking is 12:00 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 the Level 1 and Level 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 final Hall Dinner of the term (May 11, 1982) when evening dress (black tie) should be worn, the correct dress for men for Hall Dinners is a lounge suit.

Students Serviced

**A fairy's assistant
tells all**

To those of us who work here the Student Services Office seems remarkably like the centre of the universe, so it always comes as a rather nasty shock when, in moments of casual conversation with a student or member of staff in another part of College, we are met with blank expressions and remarks like "where's that?" or "what do you do there?", when we happen to mention where we come from or what we do. Admittedly we have only been in existence (in our present place and structure) for one year, so to make the event and spread the news a little further here again is a brief rundown of our various activities.

College Accommodation

Application and billing for all the College accommodation allocated to students begins with us, including a limited number of flats for families.

Private Sector

There are quite a number of landlords and landladies in West London who now contact us rather than other agencies when their flats or bedsits become available, while we attract new sources of accommodation through advertisements in London newspapers at regular intervals. This means that we always have some current information on vacancies throughout the year with an extra effort to gain more places at the beginning of the academic year and each new term. If we cannot provide you with the type of accommodation you are looking for an Accommodation Guide may be of use with a list of agencies and legal and practical advice.

Legal Advice

This includes all kinds of legal problems from traffic offences to making claims under the small claims procedure in the county court.

In certain cases where you may have to have a solicitor, as for example, you would if you wanted someone to represent you in a magistrates court, we have lists of solicitors who do legal aid work—which is free if your income is low enough—together with the areas of the law that they specialise in. These lists also note solicitors who speak languages other than English.

Landlord Problems

These can be many and varied. One of the problems is knowing just what your rights are. Other problems, such as an imminent breakdown in the relationship between tenant and landlord, may be helped through an intermediary such as ourselves.

Consumer Rights

Legislation over the last few years has given the consumer considerable protection. However, it is still up to the individual to find out how he stands in any transaction that appears to have gone wrong, and summon up enough energy to commence battle! This is where we can provide reinforcements with advice and sometimes direct intervention when appropriate.

Immigration/Home Office Problems

This is an area which may require the skills of specialist organisations or solicitors which we can put you in touch with although for routine enquiries we should be able to provide most of the answers.

Insurance

We have quite a selection of leaflets on many types of insurance, including bicycles, possessions and holidays. We may also be able to help sort out problems concerning claims.

Covenants

Here is a useful way of supplementing your income by reclaiming tax paid by your parents on their contribution to your grant. Forms explaining the procedure are available from Student Services.

Benefits

We have most of the Department of Health and Social Security leaflets relevant to students, such as those on all aspects of the NHS, unemployment benefit, supplementary benefit, and social security agreements with the EEC and other countries. Our own information sheet also explains the rent allowance and rebate schemes.

Grants

Help with chasing up recalcitrant LEAs, advice on eligibility for grants, details of certain discretionary allowances and lists of educational charities can be provided.

Miscellaneous

This includes such things as reference books on holiday jobs and working holidays, while we also aim to act as intermediaries between those looking for tutoring work and those in need of tutoring.

If there's anything else you need information on topics not mentioned here, come and see us in the Student Services Office. If we can't help, there's always our book of useful phone numbers.

Sue Telling

Small Ads

TODAY

in Chem Eng Theatre 1 at 1:00pm
Industrial Society presents
The Chips Are Down
A view of the effects of micro-computers on industrial employment with the West London representative of ASTMS.
A real live trade unionist!!

Fantastic Knitwear Sale

Tuesday, January 19 11:30-2:30 JCR
British made Shetland jerseys £7.50
Lambswool jerseys £9.50.

●Mini 1300, 1971, flared arches, wide wheels, no rust, recent respray, MOT (Oct 82). £425. Phone 584-0854.

●Free offer: Hardly used position of power—Rag Chairman, wanted by Rag Committee. Next meeting 5:45pm, Jan 21 in SCR.

●Adidas county squash racket, towel grip, racket cover, and squash ball—all for £12. Contact A. Winkler, Chem Eng letter-racks.

●Welfare Week Feb 15-19. Watch this space for further details soon.

●Astrosoc observing meeting: A talk on the use of the Celestron by Dr Big-nall on Wed Jan 20 in the Waveguide, Physics Building at 3:30pm.

●Would anyone who wants an entry form for the GLC's 'Portrait of a City' photographic competition, please contact H. Rudd, Chem 2. (I've only got six, so first come first served.)

●BUNAC and your summer in America today 12:30-1:30, Green Comm Rm.

●Do you want to rule the universe? Or just become another union hack? Either way, you're going to need publicity. Contact Pallab Ghosh, Physics 2. PS: Steve Marshall is a liar.

●Late night tours of Kew—contact T. Raynham, Chem 2.

●We demand that someone does something about this evil tyrant Colonel Bertazzi and his foul fascists. H12R21HS.

●This summer spend your vacation at Needham's Holiday Camp, Barnsley: all possible facilities, 7 real ales, and 12 rugby pitches.

●Woodstock: Nice to have you back. Love and kisses. Bonzo.

●To Debbie "I can take them all on" Thanks for the brush. Signed the pin-kos.

●RCSRUC invite applications for the post of "half-time entertainer". All interested should see Euan for audition.

●Physics Wanderers football team challenge all-comers for games on Sundays. Anyone interested contact C. Bannock, Physics 2 via letter-racks.

●The Ricochet Disco Looking for a more professional discoteque for your party or social function? Don't settle for less, book the best. Contact Colin Room A2, Linstead Hall.

●Chemistry 2. Don't you realise that some people in your ranks are getting you all a reputation as egotistical jerks? How about an accident in the Lab?

●Watch out! If too few artistic and literary contributions are submitted to the Editor of *The Phoenix*, (Barney McCabel), then he has threatened to fill it up with his own work. Send contributions to *The Phoenix* Editor, c/o FELIX Office.

THE PHOENIX

1982

All manner of contributions are urgently needed for this annual magazine. Founded in 1886 by H G Wells, *The Phoenix* is the arts magazine of Imperial College Union. Previous editions have contained; articles, stories, poetry, music, photographs and artwork.

Contributions and offers of help should be sent to:

The Editor,
The Phoenix,
Felix Office,
I C Union.

THE MAGAZINE OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

Spring Term

FELIX Calendar 1982

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
11 <i>Jan</i>	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Ents film: <i>Deerhunter</i> , 6:30, ME220.	22 JCR Party	23	24
25	26 Elec Eng/Computing 2nd year careers party IC UGM, 1pm Great Hall	27	28 ULU Band Competition: IC heat, Concert Hall Ents film: <i>Kentucky Fried Movie</i> , 6:30pm, ME220.	29	30	31
1 <i>Feb</i>	2	3	4 Ents film: <i>Star Trek</i> , 6:30pm ME220.	5	6	7
8	9 Mech Eng/Chem Eng 2nd year careers party	10	11 Sabbatical Papers Up Ents film: <i>McVicar</i> , 6:30pm, ME220.	12 Guilds Dinner and Dance	13	14
15 IC Council	16	17	18 Ents film: <i>Flash Gordon</i> , 6:30pm, ME220.	19 Links Carnival, Union Building	20	21
22	23 Civ Eng/Aero 2nd year careers party	24	25 Ents film: <i>Airplane</i> , 6:30pm, ME220.	26	27	28
1 <i>Mar</i>	2	3	4 IC Hustings UGM, 1pm Great Hall Ents film: <i>Being There</i> , 6:30 ME220.	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 IC Results UGM, 1pm Great Hall Ents film: <i>China Syndrome</i> , 6:30pm, ME220.	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Ents film: <i>The Great Rock and Roll Swindle</i> , 6:30pm, ME220.	19	20	21
22 IC Council	23	24	25	26		

Waitrose Opening Times

Mon 1pm—7pm
Tues 9am—6pm
Wed 9am—6pm
Thurs 9am—8pm
Fri 9am—8pm
Sat 8:30am—4pm

Bookshop Opening Times

During Termtime
9:15am—5:15pm

HALDANE LIBRARY

New Opening Hours

Mon-Fri 9:30am-9pm
Saturday 9:30am-5:30pm

The Library is open for reading purposes
only after 5:30pm, and all day Saturday.

Electric
Parts!



Pubic
Hair!

Astrosoc

This term, as well as regular lectures on various astronomical topics such as "Hipparchus" by Prof Welford on January 19 (i.e. this Tuesday) and "Quantum Gravity" by Dr Isham on March 23, and observing meetings (with further talks from Dr Bignall on practical observing technique), we hope to be able to take advantage of telemetered information from the University of Surrey's planetary sciences satellite UOSAT-OSCAR-9. On-board experiments from which we hope to be able to collect data, include radiation detectors for the investigation of auroral displays and a magnetometer allowing the detection of geomagnetic storms. The CCD camera imaging system promises to be the most interesting (and most comprehensible!) though as this relays pictures of weather patterns on earth. However, before we can receive and use any of this, we need to build up the relevant circuitry. We have the components, we have the circuit diagrams, we even have soldering irons, and, yes, solder—but is there anyone out there fancies wielding a soldering iron? The more the merrier of course come to any one of our meetings (Tuesdays, Physics LT2, 6:30pm, or alternatively contact Gary Fuller in Physics 3).

Audiosoc

Is it true, has the Chairman of the Audio Society defected, only being able to print small ads in this so-called magazine? Is he exiled to reside permanently in Chelsea? Does Jo of 84 Granville Rd SW18 really have a decent system? Is she still going to keep her promise of taking me out for a meal? The answers to these questions (and more) are no, no, very yes(!) and 'I don't know, why don't you ask her?'

I may have been quiet, but certainly not dead. I have been scheming, planning and now I bring you not just one but two major lectures. No, you're not hallucinating, this is actually happening.

J. Scott Strachan, eminent engineer and designer of the world famed Syrinx PU1 and 2 tonearms will, in the Quiet Room, QR002, Sherfield Building this evening at 6:30pm deliver a lecture and demonstrate equipment (at the same time as downing a pint) on the subject of 'Tonearm and Turntable Design'. (Hear it like it is folks, from the pros.)

The second lecture will be in the same place, QR002 at 6:30pm on Wednesday, February 3 and this time Mr Mike Daniels will euphemise on the sales directions of audio companies. Mike Daniels is one of the sales managers of DW Labs, the company that bring you such goodies as the Gale loudspeakers and the Carver Cube magnetic amplifier and Mr Daniels will also be demonstrating this equipment. What a great man! Come along and bring a friend and an open mind.

CND

The IC European Nuclear Disarmament groups has arranged, through the Humanities Dept, an excellent series of lectures for this term under the title "Nuclear War in Europe?"

Critical decisions are going to be made over the next few years on which not only our defence but also our very survival will depend. Can you afford not to listen to the arguments from both sides which will be presented this term? Unless you plan to live for the rest of your life with your head in the sand you will finally have to confront and take a stand on these issues—and this lecture series could be a fine place to start.

All of the talks will be given in Physics LT1. The full list is:

Tuesday, January 19 "Nuclear Weapons in Europe", Field Marshal the Lord Carver.

Tuesday, January 26 "The Soviet 'Threat' and British Defence Policy", Professor Robert Neild.

Tuesday, February 2 "UK Defence—The Neutrality Option", Alan Clark, Tory MP for Plymouth Sutton.

Tuesday, February 9 "Nuclear Deterrence—Fact or Fiction" A debate between Lord Chalfont and Professor Michael Pentz.

Dancing

On November 28 IC Dancing Club hosted all the other London University Dancing Clubs (and Cambridge) at the London Ball—a series of friendly competitions, some in a lighter vein than others, interspersed with general dancing and a display by two professional Latin-American dancers. The event was highly successful, and the JCR was packed for the whole of a very enjoyable evening.

The Dancing Club Dinner & Dance two weeks later also proved to be a good night out—having eaten our fill, we danced to a live band until the small hours.

Now that some of you have missed two of the best social events of the academic year, we're going to give you yet another opportunity to learn how to put one foot in front of another without treading on someone else's toes—not quite as easy as it sounds when you're on a crowded dance floor.

On Tuesday, January 19, at 7:30pm in the JCR, we are starting another beginners' class in ballroom and Latin-American dancing. Hopefully by March 5 all of those who have been brave enough to take their first faltering steps will have the chance to represent IC at the Inter-Varsity Dancing Competition in the "Off Beat" event—a team effort which we usually do well in.

Whether you just want to learn a social skill, or whether you intend to be the best thing since sliced bread, you've got to start somewhere—so how about investing 40p in 1½ hours professional tuition by coming along to the lesson on Jan 19.

(NB: We now also have an Intermediate Class at 7:30pm in the JCR on Wednesdays).

Hamsoc

Fed up with CB? Bored with IC Radio? Why not get onto the airwaves with amateur radio. This term Hamsoc will be running a series of lectures for those of you wishing to pass the Radio Amateurs Exam, an essential requirement for an amateur licence.

To start things off there'll be a talk just giving an introduction to what's involved in taking the exam and what you'll be able to do once you have a licence, there'll also be a demonstration of some typical equipment as well, so if you're interested come along to Rm 1207 Elec Eng on Wednesday, January 20 at 1:00pm. More details are available from Julian Cooch, Ext 3000 or Michael Bull, Ext 3035.

Debsoc

On Thursday, January 21, there will be a lunchtime debate on the *Socialism versus Capitalism* theme featuring speakers from IC Conservative Society and the Socialist Party of Great Britain. Further details will appear in the pre-debate publicity. If you would like to join the Debating Society contact Dermot McCauley or Chris Lee via Maths letter-racks—we only bite when angry.

SF Soc

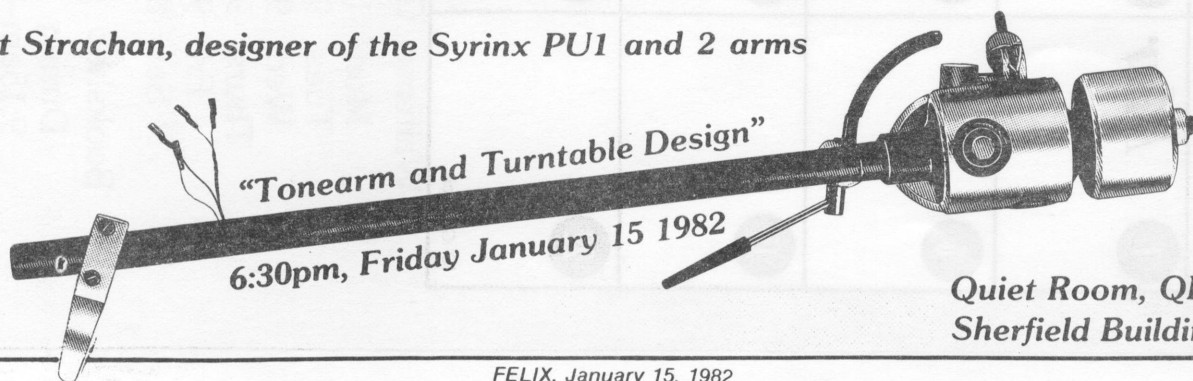
It was January 15 1982, but for four and a half billion people it would soon be January 18 1982, and people would flock to Mech Eng 220 to see *Time After Time*, a spiffing comedy thriller in which H.G. Wells pursues Jack the Ripper into 1979, starring David Warner, Malcolm McDowell and Mary Steenburgen, with a few laughs and a bit of blood. Recommended.

I trust you were all aghast at what the Beeb did to 2001—A Space Odyssey, that other slightly more famous comedy thriller. I know I was. Notice to rich film fans: tomorrow the Scala is showing the *Star Trek* blooper reel. Those who do not understand that would not be interested. Notice to book fans: *Timescope* and *Riddley Walker* out in paperback. Notice to SF Soc bulletin fans: author out to lunch.

But where have all the jokes gone? Is it the weather? The FT Index? The Editor? The sinister little men I see out of the corners of my eyes who vanish when I look at them? Or perhaps I dreamt it all. No, something must have happened to give me the vivid nightmares which make me wake up screaming the lyrics of *Dancing Queen*. Who has kidnapped all the inspectors on the underground? What really happened to Ambrose Bierce? How should I know?

Robert Blake and his Batrachian Rhythm Boys

J. Scott Strachan, designer of the Syrinx PU1 and 2 arms



Quiet Room, QR002,
Sherfield Building.

What's On

Friday, January 15

- **The Chips are Down:** a talk by ASTMS, 1:00pm, Chem Eng LT1.
- **Christian Union Fellowship Meeting** with talk on 'Prayer', 6:30pm, Music Rm, 53 Princes Gate. Followed by coffee and biscuits.
- **BUNAC weekly club meeting**, 12:30pm, Green Committee Rm.

Sunday, January 17

- **Wargames club meeting**, 1:00pm, Union SCR.

Monday, January 18

- **Hang-gliding club meeting**, 12:30pm, above Southside Bar.
- **Dancing club advanced class**, 7:30pm, JCR.
- **Boardsailing club weekly meeting**, 12:30 and 6:15pm, Southside Upper Lounge. Contact Nick Ajderian, Mech Eng 3 or Andy Grimshaw, Zoo 2 for further details.
- **Wind Band rehearsal**, 5:45pm, Great Hall, cheese and wine afterwards.
- **SF Soc film: Time After Time**, 6:30pm, ME220, 20p members, 50p non-members.

Tuesday, January 19

- **Catholic mass and lunch**, 12:30pm, Chem 231. Nominal charge for lunch.
- **3Fs lunchtime meeting**, 12:30pm, Southside Upper Lounge.
- **STOIC programme**, 1:00pm, JCR, Southside Television Lounge, Southside, Beit, Linstead & Weeks Halls. See posters for details.
- **Dept of Humanities presents:**
 1. Nuclear War in Europe?
Part 1: The Soviet 'Threat' and British Defence Policy with Prof Robert Neild, Prof of Economics, Cambridge; lately Director of the Stockholm Peace Research Institute, 1:30pm, Blackett Lab Theatre 1. (Arranged by IC European Nuclear Disarmament Group).
 2. Man, Mind and Spirit
Part 1: Christian Communication with Michael Taylor, Editor *Methodist Recorder*, 1:30pm, Read Theatre.
- **IC Amnesty Group meeting**, 5:30pm, Green Comm Rm.
- **Winetasting Soc**—tasting a selection of top German wines, 6:00pm, Union Lounge.
- **Met & Mat Sci Soc evening lecture** 'Dental Materials' by Dr B.E. Causton (London Hospital Dental College), 6:00pm, RSM G20.
- **Astrosoc Lecture** by Prof Welford on 'The Instrumentation of Hipparchus', 6:30pm, Physics LT2. Free to members.
- **Dancing Club beginners' class**, 7:30pm, JCR.
- **ICCAG Soup Run**, meet 10:30pm, Falmouth Kitchens.

Wednesday, January 20

- **Wargames Club meeting**, 1:00pm, Union SCR.
- **Astrosoc observing meeting:** Use of the Celestron by Dr Bignall, 3:30pm, Waveguide, Physics. Members free.
- **IC Trampoline Soc**, meet 5:30pm, Courtauld Hall, QEC, Campden Hill Rd.
- **Dancing Club Intermediate Class**, 7:30pm, JCR.

Thursday, January 21

- **Christian Union group meeting**, 1:00pm, Seminar Rm, Level 2S, Botany.
- **STOIC programme**, 1:00 and 6:00pm, all usual places.
- **Mopsoc lecture** 'Noise' by Dr Blitz, Brunel Univ, 1:10, Physics LT2. Free to members (membership 60p), non-members 10p.
- **Dept of Humanities presents:**
 1. Film: The World at War (Thames TV)
 - Part 10: Genocide, 1:15pm, Great Hall.
 2. Lunch-hour Concert, Albert Ferber (piano), 1:30pm, Music Rm, 53 Princes Gate.
 3. New Nations: Making Independence a Reality with E.C. Anyaoku, Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth, 1:30, Read Theatre. (Arranged by IC Comm on Overseas Students.)
- **Gliding Club meeting**, 5:30pm, Aero 254.
- **Fishing Club meeting**, 6:00pm, Stan's Bar.
- **Life Sci Party**, 8:00pm till late, JCR, 50p.

SCC

The social clubs estimates for next session have to be submitted to the Union Finance Committee this term. I have prepared an estimate form which has to be completed by each club and returned to me by January 28. These forms will be placed in the chairmen's pigeonholes on Monday. It is important that all club chairman or treasurers collect a copy. Any claims submitted after this date will be disregarded. Any representative of the Communist Society should contact Stephen Goulder immediately via the Union Office because this club faces abolition.

Community Action

Well, we're back in action again. Soup runs as usual. We need help to carry donated clothes from Holy Trinity Brompton to the action group room on Sunday evening on February 7. If you can help, drop your name to Sean Coyle, EE3.

Are you interested in helping with the Action Group for handicapped children as featured on BBC television's *Grapevine*—Every Saturday afternoon, or helping build an adventure playground for them.

Meetings on Monday at 12:30 in the action group room, top of the union.

Wind Band

IC Wind Band exists to enable players of woodwind and brass instruments to play together in a group. There is no required standard; we play for fun and anyone is welcome. No great commitment is needed. The band rehearses on Mondays from 5:45 until 7:15pm in the Great Hall and gives two concerts each term on Tuesdays at lunchtime.

We are having a cheese and wine party after the rehearsal on Monday, so if you would like to join us, please come and play and stay afterwards.

Industrial

Happy new year everybody, and we trust you had a fun time in the holiday.

This term we will be as busy as ever, administering a mixture of trips and talks. The first event is *today* no less! At 1:00pm in Chem Eng LT1, a real live trade unionist will present a talk, entitled 'the Chips are Down' about the impact of microprocessors on industry.

On Tuesday, January 19, we have a trip to the Proctor and Gamble soap factory, meet Beit Arch, 12:30pm for good clean fun.

Ian Ross, the Industrial Correspondent of the BBC, whom you have no doubt seen on the news, is coming to College on January 29; more about that in our next few articles, so watch out!



City & Guilds

It's a busy week to start the term with. Tonight is the Guilds "for no reason whatsoever" party with a live band—The Stargazers (hot off *Pebble Mill at One*) and a disco. From 8:00 till late. Tickets £1.00 from CCU Offices.

On Tuesday, January 19, there's a General Committee in the Union Dining Hall. If you're supposed to be there and can't make it, send apologies to Sue Ridd *before* the meeting.

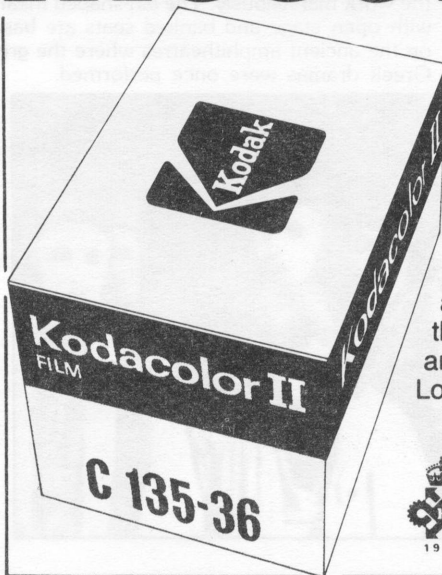
There's a trip to the pub of the week—the Frog and Firkin—on Monday. Meet Union Bar at 7:00pm. See *Guildsheet* for details.

Finally tickets for D&D (the annual engineers dinner and dance for the uninitiated) are now on sale from the Guilds Office, £30 for a double ticket.

Have a good term. Happy new year.

Neil

Your chance to meet Kodak



Kodak Limited will be interviewing at your University on

FEBRUARY 8

We need engineers and scientists, computing, marketing and accountancy trainees. Your careers service has the details. Collect a copy of "Kodak and Your Future" and apply as indicated. Look forward to seeing you.



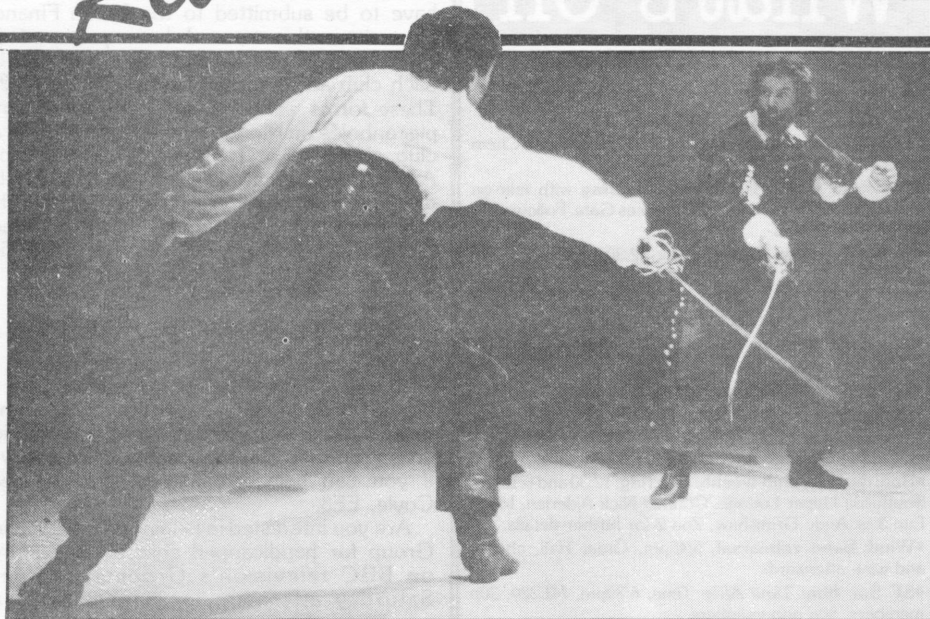
Reviews

Theatre

The Mayor of Zalamea by Pedro Calderón de la Barca in a version by Adrian Mitchell. Directed by Michael Bogdanov. The Olivier, National Theatre.

In August 1580, troops were massing in Zalamea, a small Spanish town, for what was to become a successful assault on Portugal. This was the Spain of Philip II where Holy Wars brought about the conquest of vast domains. These historical facts form the background of the play *The Mayor of Zalamea* by Calderón, the great 17th Century Spanish playwright who still remains one of Spain's greatest dramatists (the other being Lope de Vega). In some respects he is akin to our own Shakespeare. Calderón himself was incredibly versatile: he was a dramatist of superb wit and intellect, a magnificent swordsman who fought many duels, an accomplished pursuer of women and, finally in life, a priest. His plays were prolific in number and extraordinary in variety. He wrote tragedies and histories, comedies of manners, mythological plays and dramas of chivalry and philosophy.

The troops are given shelter in Zalamea by a farmer, a man of principle and honour. But no sooner does the rough brigade enter the town when the captain is determined to lay his hands on the beautiful farmer's daughter. His determination allows nothing to stand in his way and as may be feared he succeeds in attaining a girl only by raping her. Spaniards at the time of the play and of the events upon which the play is based were especially sensitive in matters of honour. Honour in the form of virginity is the keynote of *The Mayor*



Duel from the Mayor of Zalamea.

of Zalamea. In fact *El Honor* lies at the core of much of the Spanish Golden Age drama. The culprit is brought to trial by the newly-elected Mayor of the town who ironically turns out to be the victim's father.

Completing the narration of events would not only spoil potential enjoyment but would also oversimplify or even belittle the play. It is a great masterpiece that has been acted continuously in Spain since it was written in about 1644. The timelessness of the play and the reasons why it will continue to delight audiences for many generations to come lie in its masterful blend of contrasts. It is at once a

superb comedy but yet a tragedy. Tender love scenes give way to bitter sword fights. Beautiful Spanish tunes rendered on the guitar contrast with the brutal, naked sound of the cannon, and all human types from the King of Spain to the common tart make an appearance in the play. A very strong cast is headed by Daniel Massey and Michael Bryant who both give outstanding performances. This is the first production to be transferred from the National Theatre's small Cottesloe Theatre to the Olivier, and this surely demonstrates its wide appeal. This is a play that I cannot recommend too highly.

The Oresteia. The trilogy by Aeschylus in a version by Tony Harrison. Directed by Peter Hall and music by Harrison Birtwistle. The Olivier, National Theatre.

The National Theatre production of the *Oresteia* is a rare and long awaited event. From the Land of Aeschylus (b. 525BC), founder of European theatre, it is one of the most powerful works in all drama. The play tells in three successive parts an epic story of blood-guilt, vengeance and reconciliation, and concerns the gods of the House of Atreus. Agamemnon returns to Argos after conquering Troy and is killed by his wife Clytemnestra. Goaded by Apollo to avenge his murdered father, Orestes kills Clytemnestra. The Furies threaten him and he goes to seek Apollo's help. The God promises protection and sends him to seek justice from Athena, which he

eventually attains to the annoyance of the Furies.

In keeping with the ancient tradition, the entire cast in the production use masks, and this forces nearly all one's attention on the dialogue. The masks certainly remind me how important facial expression is in drama. The dialogue is poetic, relentless in dramatic intensity and somewhat monotonous in tone, and starting at 5:00pm the play certainly demands a lot from the audience. The accompanying music provided by percussion, wind and harp is simple and imaginative and provides added poignancy to moments of drama. The Olivier's auditorium complements the work marvellously. The fan-shaped theatre with open stage and banked seats are based on the ancient amphitheatres where the great Greek dramas were once performed.



Masked players in Oresteia.

A modern audience seeing *The Oresteia* largely lacks, of course, the shared culture which was familiar to all who witnessed performances in the Fifth Century BC. In his plays, Aeschylus reflected the issues of his own day as well as drawing on legends known to all his contemporaries such as the epic poems of Homer. The legends made up a pretty comprehensive history of the world as the ancient Greeks knew it. To Harrison, the director of the play, the main social factor motivating the tensions and the apparent resolution of *The Oresteia* was what Friedrich Engels called "the historical defeat of the female sex"; the transition from the old world of matriarchy to the new world of male domination, female subjection and property rights assured by inheritance in the male line. In the time of Aeschylus, Athenian women were unfree. "The best reputation a woman can have is not to be spoken of among men, either for good or for evil" claimed Pericles, and "by nature the male is superior, the woman inferior; therefore the man rules and the woman is ruled" stated Aristotle. It is said that the figure of Clytemnestra in *The Oresteia* probably resembles what many men today fear will be the ultimate result of women's liberation; a terrifying figure capable of taking her husband's life in her hands. "The new world," says Harrison, "the world of Zeus and Apollo, has continued unbroken and almost unchanged until our own time. Now however it faces a challenge from radical feminism. And the insights that have emerged from that movement are crucial to our understanding of *The Oresteia* and the conflicts Aeschylus portrayed in it."

Nick Bedding

Book

Riddley Walker by Russell Hoban, 214 pages, Picador, £1.95.

This isn't a bad book, but it's nowhere near as good as the rave reviews all over the cover say it is. It's set in the east of Kent about two and a half thousand years in the future after a full-scale nuclear war in 1997. Everyone has been permanently reduced to a mud hut existence. The hero, Riddley Walker, writes an account of the adventures that happen to him over a period of a week following his twelfth birthday.

The author writes that the book is "written not even in proper English but in a broken-up and worn-down vernacular of it." This is the most striking feature of the book. Here's a sample:

"Being the Big 2 they only done ther 4 shows a year regler plus special 1s now and then but they liket to look like ful time Eusa showmen they kep ther faces shavit and all. Orfing the littl 1 he carrit the fit up and Goodparely the big 1 he carrit the weapons the same as regler Eusa show partners done even tho they cudve had the hevvys carry the fit up and the weapons and them as wel."

I don't think it's meant to be a serious attempt to predict what an English dialect might be like two thousand years in future but it is very effective at establishing an atmosphere. A jarring note in the dialect is the presence of technical words like program (make a plan) and pirntowt (printout, meaning conclude). They add a futuristic touch that'll appeal to science fiction fans but it's a gimmick. The story itself contains a strong mystical element that puts the book closer to fantasy than science fiction. The plot concerns events which are important for the main characters

but don't have any significance for the whole world. This isn't quite clear until the end of the book, which makes for an anti-climax, and when the Punch and Judy show starts on page 128 the book begins to get silly. All the same it's a more imaginative book than most and well worth the initial struggle that's needed to make sense of the language.

Stories (seventeen of them) by Desmond Hogan, 254 pages, Picador, £1.95.

Pretentious rubbish. Every paragraph is a candidate for *Pseuds' Corner*, for example: "He came in the summer, left Dublin, city of hippies, of Divine Light people, flowers before an altar in Santry, oranges before the same altar and rhubarb." Rhubarb it is.

N. Willson

What has 16 million feet, a radius of 14 miles and a big nose?

Give up? It's London (I lied about the nose).

Have you ever held a warm, voluptuous woman (or man, for 14% of you) in your arms? No? Neither have I. But if you have, then it probably gives you very little idea as to what London is like. Life here, like anywhere else, is what you make of it; to different people it is different things: the proverbial rose or the thorn that lies below it. In this series of epic written voyages (blockbuster film coming soon) I will try and show you places that I enjoy, or would enjoy, whenever I visit them.

Chelsea

(To be read in an Alan Wicker style.)

"Welcome to one of the most eccentric roads in England. In the mid-60s it revelled under the title "the most hip street in London". Come down here any Saturday and you'll see why. For this corridor which links Sloane Street to Parsons Green by passing through the area of discussion allows some of the most eccentrically (some say forlornly) dressed people to taxi through as they stare at expensive shops, restaurants and, most of all, themselves."

But equally worthy of comment are the parades of very individual shops that line it. Let us divide King's Road (for that is what the A to Z calls it) into three sections, the first running westward from Sloane Square to Chelsea College and the Chelsea Fire Station, the next continuing to that temple of architectural orace and economic folly, the World's End, and the final part running on from there which I do not intend to deal with and suffice it to say that it contains some very extravagant antique stores (very compelling study for a lazy Sunday afternoon). No, far more interesting are the first two regions.

Sloane Square itself has many things including a notable arena of very good, mostly experimental plays (thanks Mrs Thompson), i.e. *Royal Court Theatre* and the only underground station I know with a pub on the platform—the less said about that, the better, I fear. Nevertheless, good sense prevails and we may begin our trek by musing at one of the John Lewis archipelago, the *Peter Jones* departmental

store which houses all kinds of somewhat middle-class goodies.

Then we get into what the Kings Road is all about—boutiques. No taste in forms of attire is spared the ravages of commercialism; all kinds of mannequins stand all day, all night trying to convince you that you too may, when so dressed, be equally good-looking. Heaven forbid such a morbid thought!

There are many such emporiums which may well withstand close inspection and, indeed, even intrigue one into looking inside. *The Great Gear Market* (just take a peek at this one!), *The Chelsea Drugstore* (No. 49, clothes in the basement, bar on the ground floor and topless go-go dancers and a disco upstairs), *The Chelsea Cobbler* (No. 54, booties), and *Boy* (No. 153, army gear) reside in the first bit of Kings Road, while the likes of *The Dress-Pound* (No. 396, second-hand clothes from Dior downwards), *Tibet House* (No. 490a, take a guess), *Ace* (No. 185, wildish clothes, diamanté T-shirts, expensive), *Flip* (American preppy get-ups), *Retro* (No. 229, 30s and 40s clothes) and many, many more tend to fill the other important bit.

As with any other major shopping centre, restaurants abound and some of the more notable ones on this road are, in order (approximate), *The Chelsea Kitchen* (No. 98, cheap, good), *Borscht'n'Cheers* (No. 273, Russian and rushin'), *The King's Road Jam* (No. 289a, extremely, very interesting), *Kennedy's* (No. 316, good hamburger and live rock music), *Asterix* (No. 329, for Real Breton Crêpes), and *Theirry's* (No. 342, nicely romantic).

Instead of letting my article rampage further into the wilderness of lists, I will take this opportunity to consider *The Chelsea Antique Market* (No. 245a, see the FORGET ME NOT stall) and *Antiquarius* on the corner of Flood St (where Mrs Thatcher lived) and King's Road for they are both very.....I think I've overused most superlatives.

Chelsea, as you may well be wondering, is not just made up of King's Road. To be

sure (in slight Irish accent) there are many more streets but, with the exception of maybe Fulham Road, they are certainly less fulfilling with regard to trade. (They, however, maintain their very great aesthetic value and are a pleasure to walk along.)

For people with wallets willing to die, I'd point them towards places like *The Frock Exchange* (450 Fulham Road), *A. Clarke* (340 Fulham Rd) for second-hand clothes and *Laura Ashley* at 157 Fulham Rd and cheaper, slightly imperfect *Laura Ashley* at 60 Lower Sloane St, SW1.

As nightlife will always be a part of student life (try taking that away, Maggie) one could spend time at the *Paris Pullman Cinema* (65 Drayton Gdns, 11:00pm every night), the *Pan Bookshop* (158 Fulham Rd, open till 10:30pm), *Midnight Blue* (186 Fulham Rd, an expounder of the D. Dirts tricks) or maybe try getting an early breakfast from *Up All Night* (325 Fulham Rd, closes at 6:00am). And, whatever the rest may say, I'd tell you to go to *Parson's* at 311 Fulham Rd for good hamburgers and great waitresses. (If you push this one a bit, you know do your Imperial bit, I may have a special discount scheme for all of you lovely people.)

I am sorry that I may have successfully avoided public houses so far, but you must be considerate. Enjoying yourself may mean going to the *Six Bells* (197 Kings Rd) for a spot of jazz on Monday nights or, equally, you may want to try a hand at the lunchtime strippers at the *Golden Lion* (490 Fulham Rd, including student discount). *The Café des Artistes* (266 Fulham Rd) have a nice enough disco while *The Trafalgar* (200 Kings Rd) have jazz sessions sometimes.

As a guide this is somewhat discriminating, but fairly comprehensive. It is not, as it may seem, attempting to go through all the shops that may exist in Chelsea, but an attempt to get some of you folk off your bums and trying to enjoy some of this fabled conurbation. I hope it goes some way towards helping.

Shezi Abedi

Editorial



Dinner-in-Hall

On page 4 you will find details of this term's "Dinners in Hall". This title has caused some confusion in the past and not many people are certain about the purpose of these events.

The idea really stems from the collegiate system of Oxford and Cambridge, where a formal dinner in the place where you live is a regular event. To imitate this, to an extent, Imperial College hold several dinners a term which *anyone* (not just those living in halls) can attend. A fund has been set up which subsidises the meals for students. This gives people who live in or out of College accommodation the chance to mix with staff over a meal and is intended to promote social wellbeing.

Election Fever

This term sees the onset of election fever, which will soon grasp you all by the throat.

Papers for the sabbatical IC posts go up on February 11 with hustings on March 4 and elections on March 8 and 9. I will warn candidates for these posts in particular to be early with their publicity. Every year people leave things to the last minute, so if you have considered standing, plan ahead. The last date on which I will accept completed posters or handouts for printing will be Monday, February 22. After that financial penalties will be imposed and I cannot guarantee that they will be done in time, or even at all.

Soapbox

As explained on page 4, this is a revived feature which is intended to give people a chance to air their views at greater length than the letters page may allow. I cannot guarantee inclusion but will keep articles over for future inclusion if I receive too many. I do not intend to impose very great editorial control over these articles so you may be as daring, damning or controversial as you like. This provides a unique opportunity for free speech and also means that you will be judged on the merits of your own arguments by the masses. So don't be shy—take up the gauntlet and tell us all about something you feel strongly about.

Crash Pad

Our glorious leader, Mr Nick Morton, has asked me to inform you that if the industrial action by the train drivers continues, a "crash pad" will operate in the Union Building. So if you live out in the sticks you can bring in your sleeping bag and take up residence until British Rail resumes normal services. Enquire at the Union Office for details.

Staff Meeting

There will be a staff meeting today at 12:30pm in the FELIX Office. Bring along your bright ideas for this term. Remember that it's never too late to join the staff.

Credits

My thanks to Peter Rodgers, Dave Britton, John and Soheel (promising newcomers—it's never too late!), Rich Archer, Martin S. Taylor, Lovely Lesley, Retch, David (where's the interview?), Pallab, Maz and Ian.



Next week's *Ents* film: Michael Cimino's much praised *The Deer Hunter*, 6:30pm, ME220.



I wonder how many of you recall Angus McOatup, the drunken cloakroom attendant at The Inebriated Haggis? After the alcoholic excesses of last year's Hogmanay, he thought it prudent to stay dry this year, and so he spent New Year's Day in the Highlands, watching the sporan flinging and the haggis dancing at the Highland Games.

The climax of the games is, of course, the tossing of the caber, in which each competitor tries to throw a thirteen foot tree trunk up Billy Connolly's kilt. At least, it should traditionally be a thirteen foot pole, uniform in diameter, and cylindrical in shape; but nowadays many tossers prefer a shorter length, and so each caber is 'perforated' by partly sawing it through; in this way the competitors, by breaking the caber at an appropriate perforation (or perforations) can shorten it from its original thirteen feet to any whole number of feet less than thirteen. But sawing through a caber weakens it, and so to reduce the possibility of injuring Billy Connolly for life (or to increase the possibility, depending on how violently you play) the number of perforations is kept to a minimum. Angus has been passing the time between tosses by working out where along its length the pole should be perforated. Any offers?

Solutions, comments and criticisms to me at the FELIX Office please. £5 donated by Mend-a-Bike to the correct solution randomly selected at 1:00pm on Wednesday.

Christmas Puzzles

The only person to get three puzzles out of four completely correct was **Zar Amrolia**. He wins the £10 voucher and £5 cash. Other prizes go to **George Chan**, Maths 2, **Mike Hodgson**, Physics 1 and **Andrew Britton**, Maths 3. Congratulations to these and all who entered, and also to J. Blitz, DoC 3 who won a competition last term, but whom I forgot to

credit. Cheques for all the above people will be available in the FELIX Office on Monday afternoon. Finally, very many thanks to **Mend-a-Bike** for their continuing generosity with prizes.

Light on the Matches

A v B : 2 - 1

A v C : 1 - 1

B v C : 1 - 1

Chess Player's Nightmare

1. White had played P(B2)-B4 instead of P-Q5.
2. Black had just played P-QB4. White played P(N4)xP instead of P(Q5)xP en passant. Of the four positions this was the hardest, and a number of people were caught by it.
3. Again Black had just played P-QB4. White played P(N5)xP en passant instead of P(Q6)-Q7.
4. White played P-B7 instead of P-Q8=Knight.

Code in the Head

This one was *easily* the most difficult (?) and I didn't expect anyone to find all four carols. In fact, nobody found more than one, although not everyone found the same one.

The **bold face** letters, reading in reverse order, spell 'First Noel'.

Counting A=1, B=2, and so on, the numbers of letters in each line spell out 'Rudolf the Red'.

Subtracting the numerical values of each pair of letters (so, e.g. *il* gives 9, 12, and since $12 - 9 = 3$, *il* gives *c*) spells out 'Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly'. Special congratulations to Mike Hodgson who was the only one to crack this code.

Finally replace each capital letter with a 1, and each lower case letter with a 0 and you have the numerical values of 'Good King Wenceslas' in binary! Not an obvious idea, but fairly well-known (it's described in one of Martin Gardner's books) and I warned you it was difficult.

Other solutions next week. And now, a word from our sponsors...

Mend-a-Bike

New Bikes from £65

Discounts for FELIX Readers

Park Walk Garage, Park Walk
(near Evelyn Gardens)