



# Felix

The Newspaper Of Imperial College Union

Founded 1949

## Play School

The University of London's Institute of Education and students from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) have launched the 'London Childcare campaign' in an attempt to persuade universities in London to improve their nursery facilities. Teaching and student unions are being encouraged to lend their support, and motions in favour of the campaign are due to be raised at Imperial College on the 4th of November and the The University of London's Union (ULU) on the 28th of October.

The Institute of Education believes that present facilities are inadequate and unaffordable for many students and staff because of the University Grants Committee's unwillingness to allow their funds to be spent on childcare. They also believe that this contravenes the Collegiate council's declaration in December 1984 that 'no regard should be taken of a persons race, sex, age, marital status (and) number of children' when appointing university staff.

At present, say the institute, nursery facilities are badly co-ordinated with some being over subscribed whilst others are underused. The facilities at Imperial College provide space for forty-three children from six months to five years old. About one third of the users are postgraduates, but the fee of £42 a week has meant that this is rarely used by undergraduates though a grant of £10 per week is available for a limited number of users. The waiting time varies from two months to over a year in the case of the baby room.

IC Union President Christine Taig is worried that students with children will be deterred from studying at universities because of the high charges. She feels, in particular, that more female students could be encouraged to enrol at Imperial if the nursery were less expensive.

Miss Taig will be issuing a questionnaire on behalf of the child care campaign at a future date.



**FELIX staff members hard at work pasting up this week's issue in the new office**

## Threat To Funding

Research in universities is under another threat. A secret Cabinet Committee chaired by Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has been set up to find savings on research expenditure. The Government is concerned that there is insufficient control of the money spent by the universities. In its review of all research and development programmes by Government departments, the committee will be concentrating on the 'dual support system' by which the Advisory Board for the Research Councils and the Universities Grants Committee both channel money to

universities for research.

The ABRC provides about £500 million for research development. The UGC provides £600 which pays for academic salaries, buildings and overheads.

Sir David Phillips, chairman of the ABRC and heading another inquiry into the UGC supplied money, said a Guardian interview that they would have to find out what the £600 million pays for and how much of it finds its way into the support of programmes which research councils are also supporting. 'No one knows how the £600 million is spent,' he commented. He acknowledged that

the money could not be withdrawn without 'dramatic consequences', but has already identified £55 million which is an easy target for transfer; the amount of money given by the UGC to university departments which are successful in attracting research council grants.

The universities will fight rigorously any attempt to transfer money to the research councils as, if such a transfer occurred, research councils might decide to channel research money to polytechnics instead of universities.

## Indsoc Backs Union Policy

Dear Sir

Having read FELIX last week, the Industrial Society regrets clashing our Cheese and Wine with the UGM. Our event was organised in July and at that time we were unaware of the UGM meeting dates. We did not put up the bulk of our posters on the day as a result, but by then the damage was done.

The Industrial Society recommends to all students of IC that they attend UGM's, as they are the best way for students to influence Union policy and be represented.

Yours

Paul Basham

Dear Ed,

I was interested to read the various comments on the Indsoc/UGM clash last Tuesday. Bloody minded? Well, I don't really think so - the date for the 'get-together' was fixed during the last academic year, and we had no complaints from ICU before the event. I fully support Christine's view, as expressed in her report, and the Indsoc committee has agreed to comply in future. As Membership Secretary I would like everyone who missed the get-together to know that they can still join Indsoc. All our events are free, and £1.50 sent to me (cheques made out to ICU/SCC) with your name and department will bring you a membership card by return of post, and our weekly newsletter as it is issued. All the best.

Trevor Power  
Mech Eng 3

## Free Speech And NUS

Dear Sir,

It was very interesting to note in FELIX last week, a small article in which the NUS opposed a proposed Government bill allowing freedom of speech on British university campuses. It struck me as somewhat hypocritical that the NUS wants to protect the rights of blacks, gays, Jews etc. in the light of the fact that some NUS institutions, notably Sunderland Polytechnic, have banned their Jewish society on the grounds that it is racist!

Putting the hypocrisy aside for a moment, it is a highly suspect argument that one can somehow protect minority groups by censoring information. The NUS should remember that freedom of speech on campuses would not only allow the right-wing M.P.'s they mention to speak, but also all the minority groups that at present are unable to do so.

Yours Sincerely,

John Ranson (Mech. Eng 2)

P.S. If the overweight member of the Union Exec. wants my legs, he can come and cut them off himself. If he doesn't, I suggest that he spends less time making silly threats and digging up petty rules, and more time worrying about the consequences of the hypocritical NUS taking over I.C.U.

# Felix

FELIX 750

Upon reaching any milestone the tendency is always to be retrospective; in this instance, to assess the progress FELIX has made since it was spawned from the Phoenix in 1949. Accordingly this weeks issue includes several articles by former Editors. Two of these men were at College in the days of the Imperial Institute, long before FELIX had its own Print Unit or Sabbatical Editor. Paradoxically this 750th issue is the first to be produced entirely in our new offices on the northside of Beit Quad

I am still not certain what effect the move of the office will have on FELIX in the long term. The site in Beit Archway was indeed prime one; I hope that being out "of the way" is not going to deter people from using the office. Looking at the staunch support FELIX has had from its student staff over the years, I expect that the paper will continue to flourish. Nevertheless I would maintain that FELIX, over the last ten years particularly influential, and that the archway site was, at least in part, responsible for this.

### Credits

Another tough week. Particular thanks to everyone who helped move the office last weekend, and to all the ex-Editors who submitted articles. Many thanks, Dave, Robin, Mike, Colin, Martin, Pallab, Dave, Hugh, Pippa, Nigel, Bill, Judith, Chris, Chris, Andy, Dave, Pete, Pete, Kamala, Sarah, Diane, Mark, Jane, Liz, Simon, Alex, Ian, Francis, Man Tai, Steve and Rosemary.

FELIX is published by the Editor for and on behalf of Imperial College Union Publications Board and is printed by the Imperial College Union Print Unit, Prince Consort Road, London, SW7 2BB (Tel 01 589 5111 ext 3515). Editor, David Jones. Business Manager, Jane Spiegel. Copyright FELIX 1986 ISSN 1040-0711.

**NEWLY OPENED**

**The Delhi Brasserie**

**134 CROMWELL ROAD  
(near to Sainsburys)  
KENSINGTON, SW7**

**Open 12-2.30pm; 6.30pm-11.30pm daily**

*Friendly attentive service in an atmosphere of style and comfort*

**Fully licensed**

**Air conditioned**

**Seating for 110**

**Private parties of up to 40 catered for**

**10% discount for IC students and staff**

**Early reservations advisable**

**01-370 7617**

SERVICING & REPAIRS  
at

**RICKY'S GARAGE**

*(Personal service guaranteed)*

**19 QUEENS GATE PLACE  
MEWS  
SOUTH KENSINGTON  
LONDON S.W.7  
Tel: 01 581 1589**

## Calling All Residents

Dear Student,

The Student Residence Committee is made up of Wardens, Health Centre officials and the Chief Surveyor for residences, along with your President and the IC Council representative. This dubious post is my responsibility. If you have any serious problems or complaints about your hall or student house please let me know - I might be able to help where bureaucracy stands in the way. Anything from the telephone not being mended for four weeks to the building falling down.

My involvement in this line of work started last year with the Southside security problem, something which still needs a lot of work.

I live in 72 Beit New Hostel or contact me in room 318 Geology or Union letter racks.

I look forward to helping with your problems.

Yours,

Ian Howgate

P.S. Any suggestions on improving the halls would also be gladly heard.

## FELIX NOTICE

All copy submitted to FELIX should be typed or written double spaced on single sides of A4. Copy which is difficult to read will be discarded immediately. Please pay particular attention to names. Deadlines for FELIX are as follows;

Small Ads, What's on, Sports Reports and Club articles; 1.30pm Monday;  
Letters, Opinion articles, 1.30pm Tuesday

All submissions must bear the author's name; For letters these can be withheld in certain circumstances, but only by arrangement with the Editor. Names need not be published with small ads, etc.

# Kitchen Blues

Residents of Tizard Hall have written to the Managing Surveyor of Residences, Mr Peter Hallworth, complaining about the kitchen arrangements in the Hall. They are concerned that no improvements have been made since September 1985.

Last year it was decided that the laundry rooms of Tizard and Selkirk Halls would be converted to kitchens in order to reduce the congestion in their existing facilities. Mr Hallworth had originally intended to convert bedrooms on each staircase into kitchens and to convert the existing kitchens into

bedrooms. This plan was rejected by the Tizard and Selkirk committees because of the disruption involved and because they felt that the kitchens would be noisy and smelly. Falmouth Keough Hall, however, elected to introduce the staircase kitchens. Members of Tizard and Selkirk committees have suggested that Mr Hallworth is waiting for the residents to be persuaded by the success of the Falmouth Keough facilities. The Tizard committee still rejects this idea as it would involve either turning students out of their rooms or delaying the kitchens for another year.

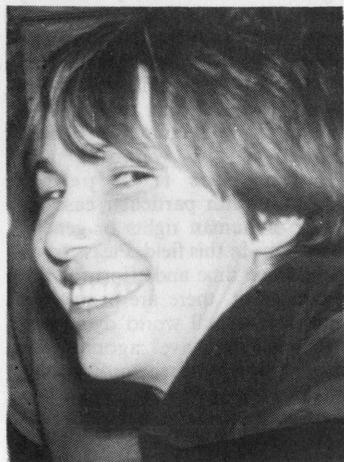
## Broken Window

Students from Richmond College have been banned from using IC Union rooms following rowdy behaviour in the Union Lounge. The College, which is for American and other overseas students, had booked the room for a "Hawaiian Beach Party" last Friday. Several complaints were received about noise, including one from Dr Finlay, the Warden of Beit Hall, which resulted in the party being closed half an hour early.

"The students brought in a lot of alcohol and left a great deal of mess," said Deputy President, Jackie Peirce, adding that the bar staff were considering closing the bar because of their drunken behaviour.

Later in the evening one of the students threw a bottle through a window in Biochemistry, and more disturbance was caused when they were left waiting in Beit Quad for three-quarters of an hour when one of their coaches failed to arrive on time.

The cost of replacing the window of £30 will be taken from Richmond College's deposit.



## Famine Talk

Mary Wright, a field worker for Third World First spoke on 'The true causes of famine' at their meeting last Friday. Mrs Wright explained that exploitation of good soil for the growth of cash crops, such as tea, by multinationals was pushing peasants out onto more marginal land. She commented that overpopulation was not such a large problem as it had been made out to be and that Third World countries could feed themselves if they were allowed to control their own resources. "For a subject as important as this, it was disappointing that the meeting was so poorly publicised and attended", said one observer.

## University Funding

The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals is urging the government to act to halt the decline in universities' funding. The committee is also pressing for higher salaries for academics "We realise that we can't mean competitive salaries, but we mean a reasonable salary", they stated. Professor Maurice Shock, chairman of the committee, said that funding of universities would drop by one-third in this decade if nothing was done. As a result not only is the education of prospective students threatened but also the future of Britain's basic research—a main purpose of the universities. Prof Shock warned that in the end "the medical schools which underpin the health service will slowly decay."

Salary increase and restructuring the academic profession would cost £170 million, while stabilising university funding at 1986/87 levels would require a further £80-130 million.

# Aphrodisiac Teas



The Union Snack Bar Manager Norman Jardine has introduced a new range of 'aphrodisiac teas'. "Ordinary tea is slow suicide", explained a very laid back customer, his eyes still dilating from a cup of 'orange dazzler'.

In an exclusive FELIX interview, Norman pointed out that he had always wanted to introduce unusual teas, but has only recently found a reasonably priced supplier. He reckons that the novel teas will prove very popular, especially after the recent articles in the Guardian and Standard which extolled their virtues.

At present the tea is only sold at lunch times. Four flavours are available with more on the way, 'orange dazzler' being the most sought after. Norman can vouch for the tea's aphrodisiac qualities from his own personal experience. "Since I started drinking it I've been up all the time", he said.

## More Sabbaticals On The Way

A working party has been set up to consider increasing the number of sabbatical posts. In her report to council on Monday, Union Deputy President Jackie Peirce suggested that five full-time officers were needed now that the Union Snack Bar and Union Bar are under Union control.

## Video Art

The University of London's interactive video network 'Live-net' was unveiled on Monday at a demonstration in the Sheffield Building. It was hoped that the system, a prototype of a British Telecom design, will be fully operational by October 1987, enabling intercollegiate seminars and conferences to take place.

The network allows simultaneous audio visual communication on a maximum of four channels so that five way conversations can take place 'over the television'. At the moment Imperial College, Senate House and University College have links to the network, and King's and Queen Mary Colleges are due to be connected by the end of November.

## Rector's Wife Opens Lift

Mrs Eric Ash, the Rector's wife, opened a new passenger lift in Biochemistry last Friday. This lift replaces the old paternoster system of continually moving platforms, on which a man was killed last year. The lift installation was carried out by E R S Lift and Elevators Ltd under the supervision of Mr John James who is the Electrical Engineer at IC.

# Union Cards Grabbed

The past week in the office has been full of horrible non-stop queries about parking permits, gym bookings and Union cards. Parking permits and bookings have now been distributed, if you feel you've missed out we're sorry, it's a difficult task trying to allocate scarce resources like these when there are hundreds of worthy causes. As for the union cards, we haven't got any left because they were stolen. If you need a student card you can still get a University of London Union card which will allow you to use facilities here and in other Colleges.

## Council

The council meeting on Monday night was good in at least two respects; firstly that it was well attended and secondly that it was short. Council is the 'managing body' of the Union; consisting of 46 Union Officers, at least one of whom represents you. If you have never heard of council or didn't know you were represented on it, ask your departmental representative about it.

Council makes decisions which the Sabbaticals and other officers

should abide by, for example, the views and ideas they should take to College, the way they should spend money, and action they should take on internal and external affairs. Minutes of this meeting will be posted publicly in a week or so.

One of the issues raised at Council was that of the Deputy President's job, which, since the takeover of the bar and snack bar, has become too much for one person. The workload on Jen, the Union's permanent administrator, is also ridiculously large. We are therefore setting up a 'working party' (though I hate to use the phrase) to decide how the work should be re-distributed, possibly by taking on another sabbatical. Anyone interested in the Union re-organisation, whether or not you're a Council member or 'Officer', can take part see Jackie or myself in the Union Office.

## Get Involved

There are a few places on Union and College committees still empty. These is 1) one place on the Union External Affairs committee, which deals with all things relevant to students but not specific to Imperial

e.g. grant campaigns, accommodation, etc; 2) one place on the Union House Committee which allocates money for the upkeep of the Union Building and other Union rooms; 3) two places on the College radiation safety committee, which deals with radiation problems throughout the whole college, and 4) one place on the reactor safety committee which, like the reactor, is based at Silwood park.

If anyone has a special interest in any of these fields would like to get involved, let me know. Remember that the posts of Welfare Officer and Publicity Officer of the Union are still vacant; papers are up in the Union Building ground floor. To stand, you need a proposer and ten seconds; election will take place at the UGM on 4th November. Any questions - come and ask us.

## Finally

All the Rockers amongst you get down to the Union tomorrow...live band (featuring the meanest bass player since Norman Jardine), rock disco and cheap booze. see you there.

Christine

## looking for Royal College of Science Association Careers Forum

October 30th  
6.30pm in the  
Senior Common  
Room

An opportunity to meet people from a broad spectrum of the industrial, commercial and managerial world, able to offer advice on careers and prospects. Informal buffet served £2. Cash bar. Contact the RCSCA at room 303 Sherfield before the 24th October to book.



**ENGINEERS -  
PHYSICISTS AND  
MATHEMATICIANS**

**Engineering**  
CONTROL & ELECTRICAL

**COME ON DOWN!**

for

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN  
CONTROL/ELECTRICAL ENG'G.**

with

**FREE BEER & SANDWICHES.**

BY JULIAN AMEY & CHRIS. GARTON.  
(IC 80-83)

at

**SHERFIELD BUILDING ANTE ROOM**

**MONDAY 21st. OCT. at 6pm.**

## The World Outside

One of the most important aspects of this wonderful democracy thing we're supposed to have is the electoral system. It affects YOU and it is important that you should be sure you have a vote. The next edition of the electoral register for the country is being compiled at this very moment. The initial deadline for registering has in fact past but this doesn't mean you will be excluded. If you live in College Halls and Houses your name should have been automatically submitted for the local constituencies. Also you may well be registered at your home address as a postal voter, this needn't stop you being registered here as you can choose which constituency to vote in for national elections and you are entitled to votes in both for some local elections.

If you are unsure whether you are on the new register or not then the draft version should be available for checking at local council offices from November 28th. You then have until December 16th to correct any omission. As long as you are over 18 and a British or Irish citizen then there is no reason for you to be omitted from the register (certainly not if you are a student here).

Remember this could be your last chance to have a say in the next general election, it affects YOU NOW!

On another matter concerning rights, in a few weeks time there will be a week of events in college devoted to publicising and raising money for campaigns against human rights abuse. Although much of the material you will see will be from political clubs and societies, human rights is essentially a non-political issue. Much of the organisation is done by Amnesty International whose apolitical status is regulated by their relationship to organisations such as the UN. As a prelude to Human Rights Week, I am producing a special centre section for FELIX and I would welcome any contributions from people concerned with particular cases of denial of human rights or general campaigns in this field. Please try to spare some time and effort for this special event, there are people out there in the real world dying and suffering repulsive agonies for whom you may be the only hope.

Mark Cottle  
External Affairs

# THE INDEPENDENT

**FELIX media watcher Andy Vickers reviews the launch of Fleet Street's newcomer**



Tuesday 7th October saw the launch of the first new quality British newspaper since that of FELIX in 1949. To meet this challenge, Andrew Vickers set out to give it a bad review. Here are his findings:

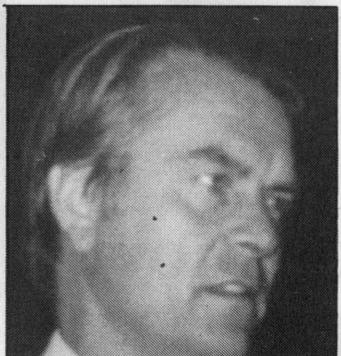
As I was unable to buy a copy of The Independent on its first day, I watched that evening's news reports on T.V. Of the new newspaper's circulation, the following facts were quoted:

- 1) The launch print run of The Independent was 600,000.
- 2) This number was sold out by lunchtime.
- 3) The same run will be used on the second day and until demand falls off.
- 4) Target run is 400,000, which has been exceeded temporarily.
- 5) This target is lower than the other three quality papers, whose circulation is approximately:

Telegraph ..... 1.1 million  
 Guardian ..... 500,000  
 Times ..... 450,000

Comments on The Independent from other Fleet Street editors did little to help me form my own opinion.

Max Hastings of The Telegraph called it "informed but dull". Others



were reluctant to admit that it came up to the standard of the 'big three'. None the wiser, I vowed to buy one on Wednesday morning.

Having managed to find a copy, my second objective was to see if it really was independent, so I read the political news. The complete page dedicated to the Tory party conference seemed a good place to start. Party Chairman Norman Tebbit's speech was quoted in summary - no comments, as was Education Secretary Kenneth Baker's - no comment.

The same was true of the orations of John Mayor (Minister for Social Security), John Patten (Housing) and Norman Lamont (Treasury). Even a tiny item about Avon County Council refusing leave to the allegedly racist teacher, Jonathan Savery, for attending the conference contained no comments.

OK, fine. I wondered about juice, scandal, muck. Was there any? Not until I read the centre pages. The title of these pages was "Media" - appropriate I suppose, as most of the sordid revelations of the national press are sensationalised by Fleet Street anyway. Articles had been written on the Wyman-Smith affair and the subsequent commercialisation of Mandy Smith, City Limits magazine, Neil Kinnock and the "capitalist" press (The Independent is owned by a consortium of city wizards) and a comment (yes - a comment) on racist advertising.

My conclusion was that these centre pages were not quite politically independent - they could have been printed on pink paper.

The next focus of my attention was the editorial. Under the title "The best form of defence", Secretary of State George Younger was warned of the impending collapse of Conservative defence policy. A retreat from the Falkland Islands was suggested as the least unpalatable method of cutting expenditure. Although this looks like an attack on government policy, it ended by saying that Labour and the Alliance defence policies were even more unstable.

Under the title "Third World Follies", phrases like "The irrepressible Mr M Bow", "Autocratic stewardship", "political patronage", "repressive states" and "block of non-democratic states" stuck out like sore thumbs. But then the point of this rant was not an attack on the activities of UNESCO and its leadership, but more a note of



congratulation to Britain for stepping out and staying out of that "club".

So far the editorial has been left of centre of the right (?). However, under "Fair's Fair Shares" the inhabitants of that Mecca of all true capitalists - the city - were labelled as marauding sharks. Predictably on this issue (privatisation), the Government came off badly.

In summary then, the editorial has had a go at every party (including the Alliance) and so could easily be called 'independent'.

Two games of badminton in the last four years will not make me a candidate for sportsman of the year. Similarly, 2½ pages of sport out of 32 will not earn a nomination for sports paper of the year. That aside, the sports coverage was wide and informative. Hardly inspired, but nonetheless interesting. I'll leave it at that.

The pages of business news were good. News of mergers, prices, money markets, profits, unit trusts, cutbacks and law were good. The City may welcome The Independent as an adequate supplement to the Financial Times, and possibly as a replacement for The Times.

Finally, my overall opinion of The Independent is good. Although political comments are made (though rarely), they are balanced. I believe that it will make a worthy rival to the big three, and will probably become one of the new big four. With a three week money back offer (issue 2, page 26), who could fail to give it a chance. To its staff I say "Best of luck"

**ULU travel**

**Twice the size —  
Twice the service**

Call into the new ULU Travel office and see how far you can go this winter



- Special fares for students and academics.
- Worldwide scheduled flights on quality airlines.
- Ski holidays.
- Winter breaks around Europe.
- ISIC cards, ISIC insurance, Group rates.

Winter Warmers include — daily flights to New York £222 rtn.  
 Read all about it in your free copy of HOT NEWS

Enquiries and Bookings ☎  
 European **01-581 8233**  
 Intercontinental **01-581 1022**

**ULU travel**  
 Imperial College  
 Sheffield Building

A service of  
**STA TRAVEL**  
**The Worldbeaters**

The world's greatest student travel organisation — getting bigger all the time!

# GRADUATES

## When you finally come out of your shell, we'll teach you to fly.

Rank Xerox Mid Volume Business Unit is the European design and development centre for Xerox Corporation. The company designs and develops photocopiers for the mid volume market. So why not come along and see for yourself just what we can offer in the way of graduate development? We know we can open your eyes - a one year development plan designed to enable you to achieve your career aspirations and to lead you to early responsibility.

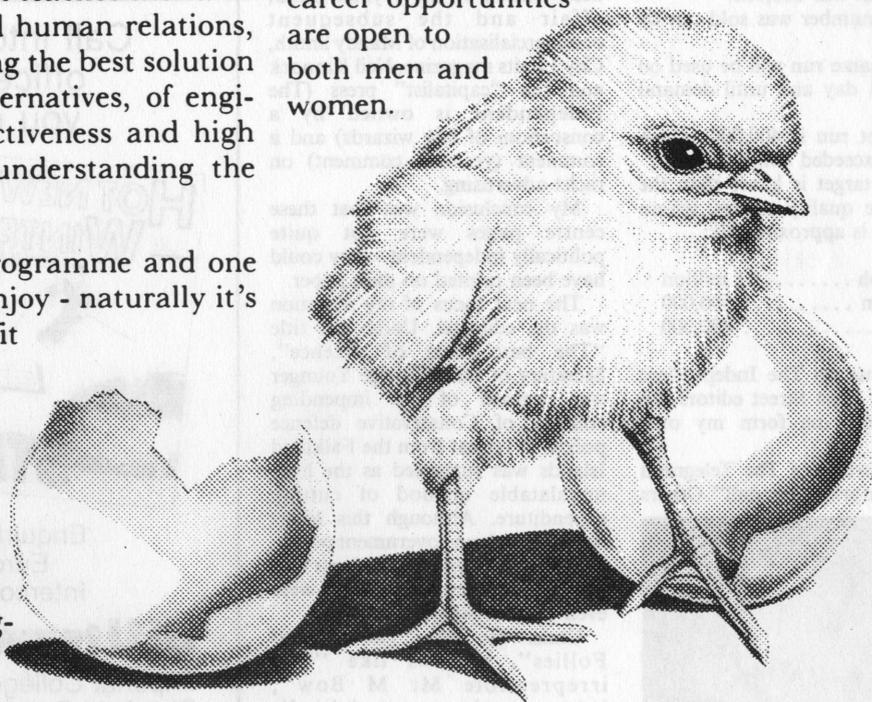
It's a programme that teaches the value of teamwork, of good human relations, and the art of choosing the best solution from a variety of alternatives, of engineering for cost effectiveness and high reliability, and for understanding the process of design.

It's an interesting programme and one we're sure you can enjoy - naturally it's done partly to benefit us, after all, the sooner you can make a productive contribution, the better. But it will also benefit you by giving you the basis for the challeng-

ing and exciting career future we can offer. We're a meritocracy - if you're good, you get to the top - we make no apologies for this attitude, we happen to believe in it.

If you believe in it too, then contact Suzy Johnson at Rank Xerox Mid Volume Business Unit, Bessemer Road, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL7 1HE, tel. 0707 323434.

We are looking for electrical/electronic and mechanical engineers, applied physicists, computer scientists. All career opportunities are open to both men and women.



### Come and find out how.

**RANK XEROX**

MVBU



# Felix 750

*In celebration of 750 glorious issues of FELIX, we present a selection of ramblings for past editors.*

## Dave Griffin rolls back the years and finds the English language corrupted by Uncle Sam

FELIX Editor 1956/57

As the 750th appearance of the Cat comes and goes, I have, as one of the early Editors, fallen to pondering on the changes that have taken place since those dim and distant days of the mid-50s, when copy was typed upon manual typewriters and pasted up on boards for the Polish photolitho printer in Earl's Court that we had forbidden to 'correct' the English in the copy, even if he was sure it was wrong.

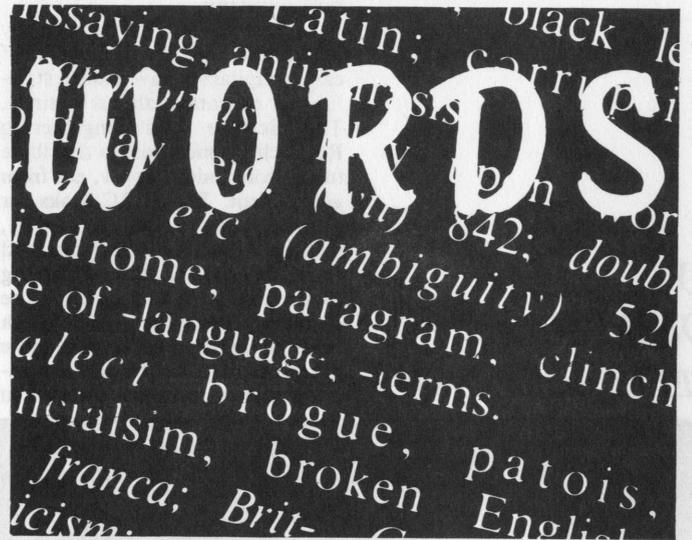
One sort of change that might become apparent if one compares the early issues with the present-sad to relate, I do not have an example of either to hand—is the change in vocabulary. Who would have known in the 1950s what was meant by 'macho' 'rip off' 'go-go' 'freebies' 'ID', or would have given 'gay' its current meaning. If I'd heard tell of a campus then, I would not have been sure what it was, but I would have known it was something to do with an American University—this was of course before universities like East Anglia were built, each having its own 'campus'. Yes, all these words have started life somewhere west of Galway Bay and have since crossed the Atlantic and made their home here too. The colonialists have colonised, and are still doing so.

Yet there are many Americanisms that have not (yet?) made the journey, such as bathroom (for toilet) or raincheck (a promise of the same thing at another time), although they are beginning to be heard over here—I suppose Dallas and Dynasty, not to mention computerspeak, have their influences. And others that probably never will, since there are already well-established British English words that offer too much competition, one hopes or perhaps one should say hopefully (another one that has been naturalised since the '50s): to mind come the well known pairs 'railroad/railway', 'elevator/lift' and 'vest/waistcoat', or the lesser known 'ride/lift' (in the hitchhiking sense), 'raise/rise' (of salaries) and 'faucet/tap' (where water comes out)

Most confusion I find are the words that mean different things on each side of the pond—vest is one of them, but a well publicised example. Not so purse (meaning the whole handbag, not just the money container), dormitory (the building where one sleeps, typically what we would call a 'hall of residence'), fag and faggot (homosexual)—leading to confusing perhaps less for us over here than for Americans over here in the context of cigarettes, public schools and chopped meat concoctions! Also, you have to be very careful not to be misunderstood if you tell an American to keep his pecker up or to ask him to lend you his rubber!

As a regular visitor to the USA, I arrive at Chicago O'Hare airport on a Seven-Forty-Seven airplane, collect my luggage from the carousel and put it on a cart, then, after immigration and Customs, collect the rented automobile (naturally it will be with no gearshift and will have an Illinois license plate), throw my luggage in the trunk, check that there is enough gas in the tank, observe that the windshield is clear (there are only a couple of decals on it) and that the muffler is not blown, back up to come out of the parking spot and drive off. I get up on the tollway and head north. But it's slow going since the pavement is under repair, made worse by the presence of a number of semis in the line I'm in. But things soon clear and I can hit 55, the national speed limit. Before long I stop at an oasis where I visit the bathroom and perhaps grab a brat and a soda (but certainly not any root beer!)

At Rockford, Illinois I look into the Time Museum attached to a motel just off the interstate, and am gratified to see among the books in the museum shop a couple of titles (on astronomy) by another former FELIX Editor, my contemporary Robin Kerrod. I eventually reach the beltway of Madison, Wisconsin (The beltway is of course a divided highway, i.e. a highway with a median) and head for downtown. I might be stopping in a university dorm or may be visiting with friends



in their condo that they have just brought not too near a railroad crossing. They comment that their realtor was 'real good' (pun?!), and point out that the yard had been in a well-cared for state when they had moved in.

I've now ceased to be puzzled at the terminology of classifying undergraduates according to where they are in the four(!) years of their course of study as freshmen (never 'Freshers'), sophomores, juniors and seniors or at the system of assistant, associate, and full professors (where we have lecturers, readers and professors); the term faculty (to signify the university teaching staff) has I think now successfully made the crossing. I am still a little confused about semesters—in theory, the two halves into which the academic year is divided, as compared with our three terms, but they seem to have summer session in addition.

What takes a bit of getting used to is the different pronunciation of several words—not the different 'accent' but a difference within their framework of sound values as compared with what we say in our parallel system (is this what the linguists would call a difference in phonemes as opposed to allophones?). Well known ones are 'tomatoes' (rhyming with 'potatoes') and 'either' (rhyming with 'ether'), but also 'solder', which is pronounced 'sodder', a herb is an 'erb' and 'basil' is 'base-ill'. In proper names, 'Elgin' becomes 'Eljin' and 'Brynmar' is

'Brinmore' (for the non-Welsh among you, it should be pronounced 'Brin-ma-oor!')—these are places in the USA; presumably called after the originals over here. Of course the French must really squirm when they hear the places 'Des Plaines' and 'Notre Dame' pronounced as English words, but there is a nod in the French direction with 'Des Moines' which is said to rhyme with 'sirloin'; however, anyway it's been a very long time since the French heard 'Detroit' said as it originally was (de triot)

Then there is the changing stress in words such as *adult*, where we say *adult*, and *laboratory*

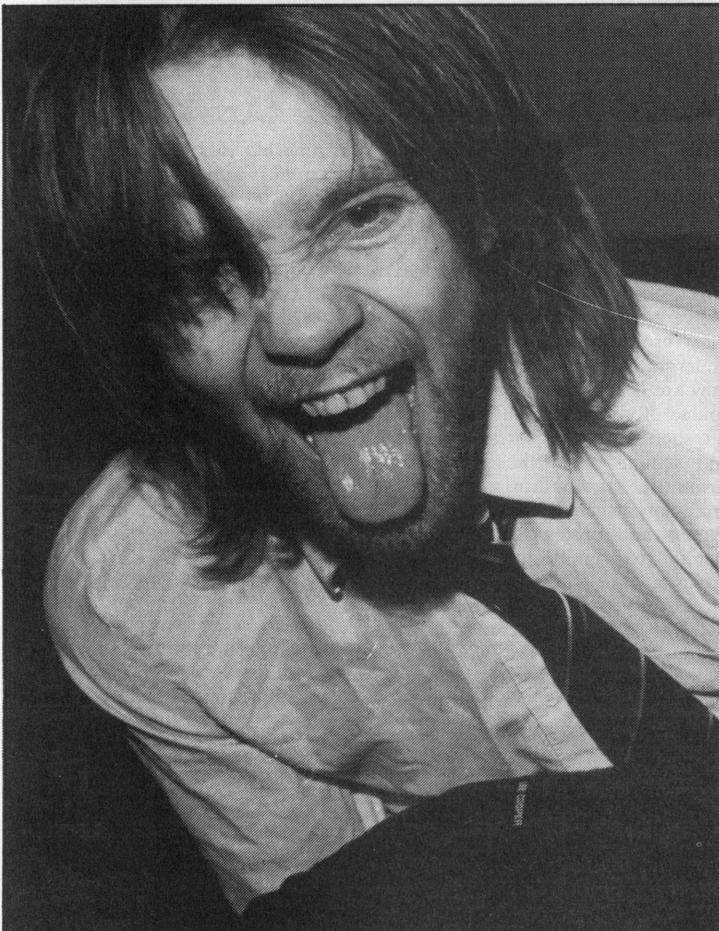
Also, the subtle changes in the use of words, such as using a verb transitively where we would use it intransitively, like 'protest' they say 'The students protest the cut in grants'. As a matter of fact, we too use 'protest' their innocence, but over there they protest their conviction!

And the different use of abbreviations; chrysanthemums are mums, whereas 'refrigerator' is not abbreviated—but you often hear it called what it once was: the icebox; and a cooker is always a stove.

But I could go on (this is a 750th issue guest corner not a series) OK, suffice to recall what Mark Twain is said to have remarked on being told that American was a mere aberration of English; 'The King's English is not the King's. It is a joint stock company and America owns most of the shares'.

# A Sick University

by  
David Rowe  
FELIX Editor 1984/5



The Senior Assistant  
Undersecretary for Data  
Processing

You must know that Imperial College is a swamp of fear and loathing. The year is 1994, the 1000th issue of FELIX has just thudded on your doormat; it is the beginning of another Friday at the sick university.

Successive administrations by application of the principles of caring capitalism have eroded state-funded education almost entirely. The Science and Engineering Research Council exist to distribute funds from industry now, not from government. The SERC looks for glamorous research fields, overfunds them for a few years, and then transfers the funding elsewhere. Academics are constantly changing their research fields to make them appear more glamorous. Erstwhile collaborators now take evil pleasure in

continued employment of Jack, the man who paints people's names on their doors).

No one dares to exchange pleasantries in the corridor, or reply to letters for fear that it will be thought that they don't have enough work to do.

Office juniors hope to obtain promotion by writing to the Rector to tell him that they can do their own job *plus* that of their boss 'and wouldn't it be a good idea to....' The administration responds by changing the boss's job title, moving him sideways, and giving him nothing to do in the hope that he will get fed up and go away. People don't resign or get sacked. They just drift away.

Of course most of the power in the Sheffield building lies with the data processing manager, or 'principal second secretary with responsibility for information systems'. The administration thrives on disinformation, half-truths and downright lies, most of which are circulated by electronic means, from one department to another. The data processing department adds to the fun by 'losing' parts of the data from time to time. Vast armies of temporary secretaries are then engaged by the personnel department to type all the data in again.

In a rare stroke of genius the refectory was closed down last year, and a franchise awarded to MacDonald's ('a long established family firm with a fine tradition of sponsorship of research in the artificial food faculty'). The old refectory staff have been redeployed on the Star Wars project.

The assistant third secretary (exploitation of American tourists) has had the tunnels under the College renovated at a cost of £65 million. 'See the tower and the tunnels for an all-in, once-and-for-all, unrepeatable £25.'

As the administration has grown larger and larger it has been deemed necessary for more and more of the senior staff to be found flats and accommodation on campus. Pairs of rooms in Southside have been knocked into one to make flats for administrators; the demand for these rooms is so great that there are interesting plans to build a new hall of residence, possibly to be sited on top of the sports centre in Princes Gardens.

Alarmed by this prophetic vision of the future, dear student? No need to be. The teaching of undergraduates has been farmed out to private contractors at Cranfield. Students have no place in the sick university.

## A LOAD OF CRAP

Mike Llewellyn-Williams  
(Editor 1974/75) wastes  
some ink

Dear Mr. Editor,

Yes indeed, I see your problem only too clearly. Poor you. FELIX issue no. 750 on the horizon and doodly squat of interest to publish.

So you've contacted lots of Ex-editors to bail you out with self-indulgent drivel that should never see the light of day. You poor miserable bugger.

Has it never dawned on you that ex-Editors of FELIX cannot be trusted within half-a-mile of pen and paper any more? That the merest sniff of a copy deadline is enough to send them stark staring bonkers? So that they start repeating themselves? Repeating themselves?

And sometimes they start to think they are two people! (Both of us are quite adamant about this).

That's when the exclamation marks start appearing out of the blue!

Then the spelling in the artykel shtartz te dizintergrate two.

Zo, wee both! feal thatwenthese happenz yooshood eggsercize yorritesasaneedittor and! stopthe seellysossagefrom! finisheenghis senten

Hugh Southey (Editor  
1985/86) writes about  
being a fruitcake

Four months ago Dave Jones asked me to write something on a topic of my choice to celebrate the 750th issue. Sounds easy doesn't it? It isn't though. When you have the opportunity to write about anything nothing seems appropriate. Dave suggested that I should write about being engaged. I am sure most of you don't want to be bored by a slushy tribute to your Deputy President (she is wonderful you know). Anyway those of you who were here last year when I was Editor will have read enough boring drivel in my editorials so I'll keep it short. I'd just like to say that I'm pleased that FELIX has managed 750 issues. I hope it manages to stay as the most readable publication at IC for another 750 issues. It is very satisfying to see 4000 copies disappear on Friday morning. Finally I hope Dave hides this article somewhere so that nobody reads it.

Keep the Cat Free  
Hugh.



# A View From The Top

by Robin Kerrod (FELIX Editor 1958/59)

'It's Davy Jones on the line. Sounds like a sailor to me. Didn't think you knew any sailors.' The wife's voice drivels in from the hall. 'Says he's something to do with Felix. Didn't think you knew a Felix either. But you do have funny friends.'

Well of course it was our Davy Jones. Please write something. Special issue. Short deadline. Unctuous flattery. You're one of the the oldest. Didn't mean that. Not too long, not too short. You know the sort of thing. Indeed I do.

Strangely Dave phoned almost exactly 30 years to the day that I started my first term at IC. When City and Guilds still had its Gothic portals; when the Colcutt Tower still had a building; when the summers were always fine; when grants were 70 quid a term. And of course when FELIX was very young indeed. When enthusiasm substituted for expertise. When it was all cow gum, Indian ink and stencils and all-night panics twice a month to get the camera-ready boards down to a little Polish litho printer down Earls Court way. And when we charged 3d (no, not three-

I was editing a paint journal. Two years later found me technical editor of a children's encyclopedia ('about your level' everyone said, and they were right). And by the decade's end I was writing science books for children full-time.

This was, you will recall, the Apollo Moon landing era. With ghostly figures kangaroo-hopping around the lunar surface; hot-rod-ding it in the 16km/h Moon buggy; dropping feathers and a hammer to prove Galileo was right; hitting a golf ball for hundreds of metres. That is when space began to take me over. Things astronomical and astronautical began to permeate my depths like a benevolent alien influence one reads about in sci-fi.

Come the '80s and I am thoroughly space-washed. And it forces me (what a chore) to disappear at regular intervals to particularly fascinating parts of the globe in search of 'stories' and 'inspiration' and to witness significant astronautical and astronomical events. Two such events stand out. In spring 1981

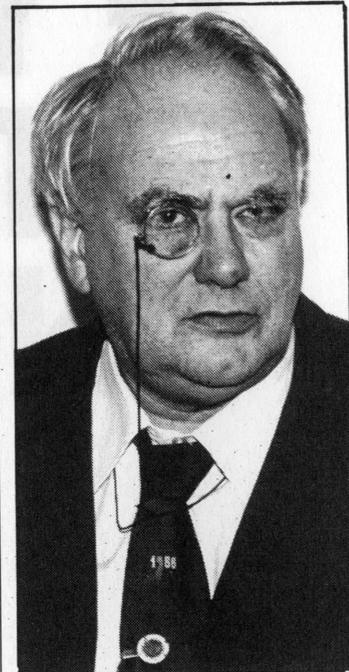
tragically demonstrated in January this year when Challenger exploded in a spectacular fireball just after lift-off, killing the seven astronaut crew and grounding the shuttle fleet. It was a salutary reminder, as one commentator put it, 'of the enduring hostility of space and the fragility of Man'. Until we come up with a different way of beating gravity, except by high-explosive fire, space flight will continue to be an excessively dangerous occupation.

A more recent highlight was chasing Halley's comet across the Australian outback. The best views of Halley were to be got in the southern hemisphere, so there was little choice but to go down-under for the once in a lifetime experience. Spending nights under the southern stars was spectacular. The southern skies are so much more brilliant than our own, and of course in the outback there is no such thing as the light pollution that besets astronomy in the civilised parts of the world.

The Milky Way seems bright enough to cast a shadow. Halley stood out easily to the naked eye as a luminous wedge and, comparatively speaking, raced across the sky. Strangely enough it was the wildlife that occasionally upset viewing. Just when you'd set up your telescope and went to tell your friends, the dingoes came along and kicked-and on one occasion peed upon-my tripod. And there was one colleague, exhausted by a late viewing session, who fell asleep under the stars and woke up at dawn with a female kangaroo snuggled beside him. Well, he was a nice looking fella!

The Australian outback

again shall I extract the urine from those Aussies who wear hats with dangling corks. In the outback the only water lies underground and all the lakes are salt flats. Flies descend murderously on the unprotected flesh of those foolhardy enough to venture outside in temperatures up



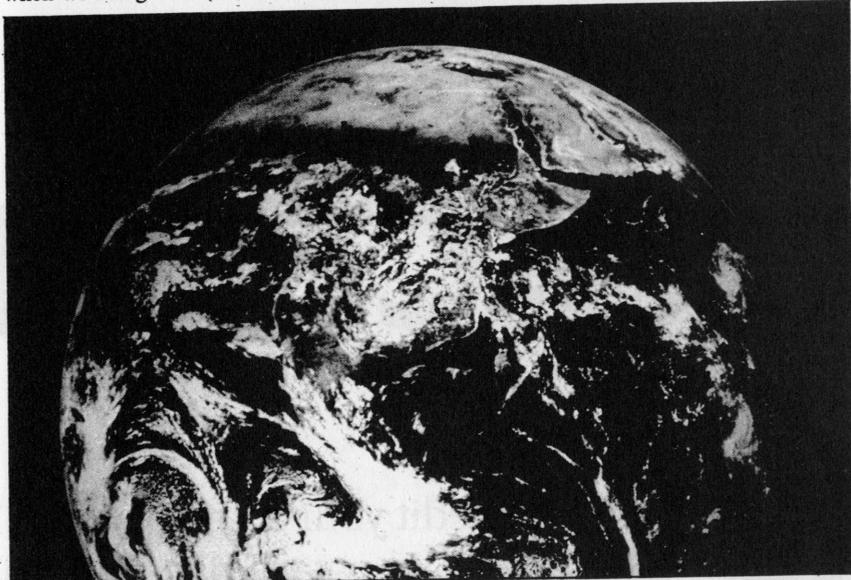
to 110°F. Oh, for a tifter with dangling corks. But don't forget to leave a gap in front. I spoilt reels of film because I didn't.

And then it was off to Bali. Bali, I hear you say, what astronomical delights await one there? In my case it was Patrick Moore, a delight astronautical if ever there was one. And there was an eclipse of the moon due. Could anything match watching a total lunar eclipse, with Halley's comet close by, and sipping Singapore slings with Patrick Moore on a balmy Balinese night? Of course not. We shall not see the like of that again.

Where to next? Well, there just happens to be a total eclipse of the sun in spring '88, with a path of totality sweeping through Sumatra and the Philippines. Yomping halfway round the globe to see day turn into night for just three minutes forty-five seconds cannot I suppose logically be justified. But it beats eating sausage sandwiches while designing chemical plants in Billingham.

Felix, dear Felix. I owe it all to you. Seven hundred and fifty times have you escaped from the presses. May you continue to do so until Halley comes round again, and again, and again.

Robin Kerrod, known universally at IC as 'Killer', edited Felix in 1958/9. He is a prolific author (he's now on his 95th title) of science, astronomy and space books for young people and the general public. He also runs a small publishing company from his home near Salisbury.



*"no such thing as the light pollution that besets astronomy in the civilised parts of the world"*

dimensional but three old pence) for each copy. Yes, we had to pay our way. No sabbaticals and union subsidies in those days!

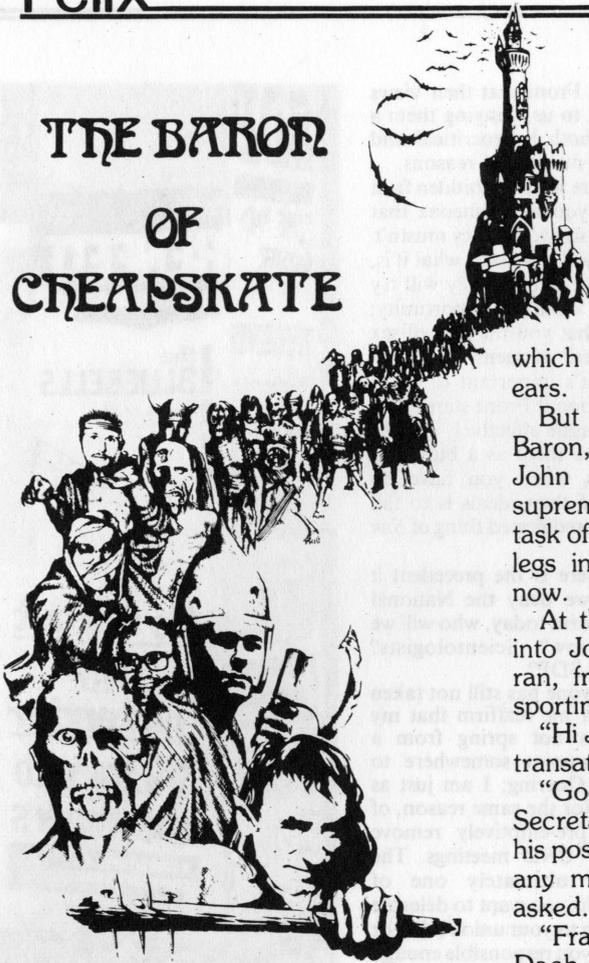
For me FELIX found the parts other things couldn't reach. It triggered off artistic bents that chemical engineering could not stifle (that is, if you stifle a bent). So by 1960, following a stint at ICI Paints,

came the launch of the first space shuttle from Kennedy Space Center, which proved an awe-inspiring experience as two test pilot astronauts rode a totally unproven vehicle into the heavens with no hope of escape if anything went wrong. What could have gone wrong, all through the subsequent 23 missions, was so publicly and

experience was, well, original. We went down opal mines in a town called Coober Pedy, which makes the stage sets from old Westerns seem positively metropolitan. We climbed (obligatory) Ayers Rock, which the Aboriginals call Uluru. We sauntered in a town called Alice. And, like everyone else, barbecued fillet steak. But oh the flies! Never

# THE BARON OF CHEAPSKATE

By  
Juvenal



**A torrid tale of terrible torment. Any resemblance to persons living or dead is purely coincidental.**

They came to Cheapskate on a warm rose coloured afternoon. The leaves in the gardens rustled as if to warn them of the bleak winter ahead.

She got out of the car, clutching her books, her cooking pots and her teddy—who had been a friend for so many years.

Tearful parents waved her goodbye—goodbye for the last time to the most precious thing in their lives. She sat alone in her room, filled with a curious mixture of awe, intense excitement and a terrible sense of loss. She expected so much from her new home, her mind hungry, eager to explore and discover. She sat upright, like a flower at its moment of perfection.

Meanwhile in another part of Cheapskate John Secretary, the Baron's former right hand man fondly remembered what life was like when old Baron Weed was around. Then Cheapskate was the jewel in the nation's crown and John Secretary had been the most powerful and influential man in Cheapskate.

This most honourable of men, now grey and withered, no longer had any control of this once great kingdom,

which he saw crumbling around his ears.

But on the bright side, the new Baron, Derek Dash, had promoted John Secretary. He now had the supremely important and responsible task of standing on his head wiggling his legs in the air—which he was doing now.

At that moment Derek Dash burst into John Secretary's dungeon. In he ran, fresh faced and eager on heat, sporting his new squash kit.

"Hi John," said Dash in his cultivated transatlantic accent.

"Good afternoon Baron," said John Secretary with all the poise and dignity his posture would allow. "Do you have any more tasks for me today?", he asked.

"Fraid so John me old cheroot," said Dash. "I have some important industrialists visiting from that cess pit north of Watford. I want to sell them another part of Cheapskate."

"Yes," said John Secretary excitedly, wiggling his legs in the air.

In another part of the kingdom, the new Felix Editor, Rabid Bones, was in a particularly bad mood. As well as his usual burdens, Rabid had to cope with the loathsome former Felix Editors popping into his office to contribute their miserable articles for his anniversary issue.

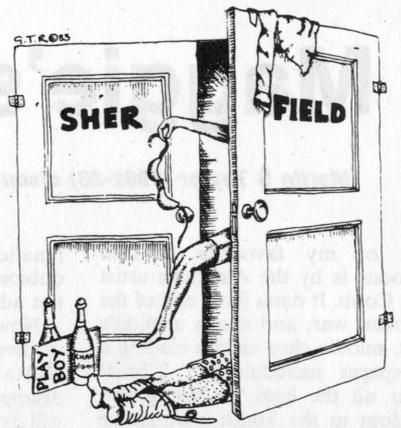
Rabid was a mean son of a bitch. He never smiled, he whipped his staff regularly and kicked a dog to death once a week. Rabid thought he'd become a mean son of a bitch faster than most of the old Felix Editors because he was far more intelligent than them, but really it was because Felix was rapidly sucking the life out of him.

*Will the student ever reach the stars?*

*Will John Secretary regain his honour?*

*Will Rabid ever become a proper human being again?*

read the answer to these questions and many more in the next thrilling episode of **The Baron of Cheapskate.**



## BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

**No. 23: Pallab Ghosh,  
Professional Paranoid.**

Last Sunday two men in Reykjavik killed peace. So the media said. The truth is that two business men couldn't work out a deal on how many times they need to kill us all.

Those at Imperial College, a centre of academic excellence, smugly distance themselves from such hypocrisy. But now the idea of independent academic centres of excellence seems as far in the past as the Edwardian ideals that spawned it.

The smart-suited smoothy from industry is now coming to the rescue of ailing universities with his magic cheque book. And with him comes the big compromise. As industry starts getting its hands on universities it starts becoming part of the problem rather than part of the solution. For what industry wants—with share holders breathing down its neck—is a fast buck.

Thus, inevitably, resources are diverted away from blue-sky and socially conscious research to areas that make the fastest return on outlay.

Once academic institutions start becoming fast buck factories the atmosphere within them changes. Profits take precedence over excellence and an environment devoted to cultivating minds becomes one which turns people into money-making machines.

"But we have to face realities," is the retort from College administrators, "the money has to come from somewhere." Such an attitude is the attitude of a balance sheet mentality.

Balance sheet mentalities on the University Grants Committee have sold academia down the river—or more precisely, to Reagan's Star Wars effort.

**The Mole**

# Maggie's Farm

**Martin S Taylor (1982-83) discusses pressure groups and freedom of speech.**

One of my favourite political cartoons is by the American artist Ron Cobb. It dates from end of the Vietnam war, and shows a middle aged, middle class citizen reading a newspaper incredulously; 'Christ! After all the lives we lost giving freedom to the South Vietnamese people all they do with it is criticize President Thieu'

The comedian Michael Flanders made a similar joke in his revue *At the Drop of a Hat*-I take it everyone here is in favour of freedom of speech-at least, provided it isn't calculated to change our Western way of thought'

It's very easy to approve of freedom of speech as long as it will be used for causes we approve of. I was caught out this way when reading Amnesty, the journal for the human rights group Amnesty International, and, incidentally, one of the most depressing magazines published. I am an enthusiastic supporter of Amnesty's work, but I was abashed to read that their campaign on behalf of Jehovah's Witness, extreme right-wing groups,

fanatical Moslems, and all sorts of dubious causes (provided they do not advocate violence).

Now I don't subscribe to the belief of these people, but I do agree with Voltaire's famous maxim; I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it. Which brings me to the main point of this article.

Last Friday's FELIX included a paragraph announcing a new NUS campaign. Apparently the NUS have decided that the National Front is such an enormous evil that we are being asked to prevent them and similar right-wing groups from addressing meetings at universities and colleges throughout the country.

If this is true, then it is one of most misguided ideas and the NUS has ever proposed, and one IC Union must have nothing to do with-indeed, this is one of the most eloquent arguments when put forward for not joining the NUS (who assert that they present the views of the whole student body).

For while it is admirable to show

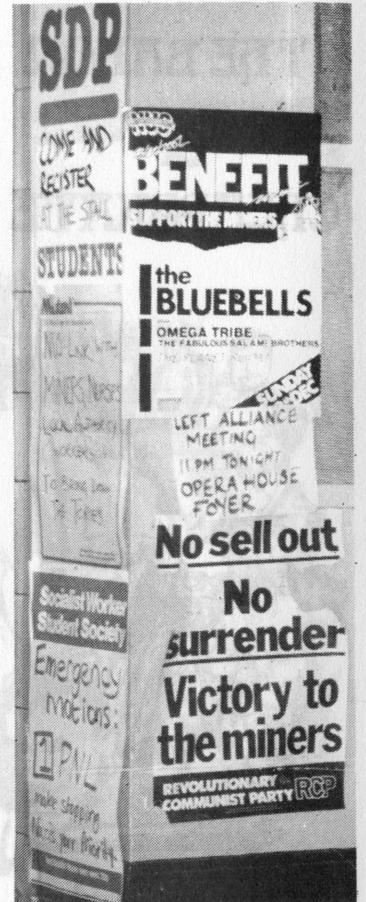
the National Front that their views are repugant to us, denying them a platform is both hypocritical and foolish for a number of reasons.

Firstly, there is the forbidden fruit problem. If you tell someone that something is so wicked they mustn't even be allowed to know what it is, human nature dictates they will try it at the earliest opportunity; remember what you thought of sex when you were thirteen?

Secondly it's important to know what the National Front stands for, in order to argue effectively against it. To criticise them as a bunch of fascist thugs when you have no knowledge of their ideals is to fall back on the predigested thing of *Sun* readers.

Thirdly there is the precedent it will set. If we deny the National Front a platform today, who will we ban tomorrow? Scientologists? Greens? The SDP?

In case anyone has still not taken my point, let me reaffirm that my attitude does not spring from a political viewpoint somewhere to the right of Goering; I am just as critical, and for the same reason, of those who pre-emptively remove publicity for CND meetings. The principle is ultimately one of censorship; do you want to delegate your thinking to your union (ICU or NUS) or are you responsible enough to decide for yourself?



## Tested and Measured for Success

Datron Instruments is setting the pace in the design of high technology test instruments - these currently include Digital Multimeters; Calibrators and Calibration Systems.

To maintain our technical leadership we require graduates who can combine flair and innovation with aptitude for design in any of the following disciplines:

**Analogue** - advanced circuit designs in the frequency range DC to 1MHz.

**Digital** - system design using microprocessors, gate arrays and interface technology.

**Software** - real time measurement system management and interface handlers using both assembler and structured languages.

You will work within a highly skilled team on the development of new products incorporating imaginative measurement techniques and the latest technology. Training will be under

- ★ Leading in measurement technology
- ★ Impressive growth in turnover
- ★ Plants in Norwich, Florida and California
- ★ Technology Award Winners

the guidance of a senior engineer, supplemented by specialist courses.

Datron offers an excellent working environment in a new, well equipped Engineering Research facility. This is augmented by an informal and friendly atmosphere. Based in picturesque Norwich, close to both the coast and Norfolk Broads, the area offers excellent recreation facilities and low cost housing.

Your experience at Datron will give you an identity in a company which has an international reputation for quality and excellence, with positive opportunities for further career advancement.

Highly competitive salaries will be offered; other benefits include profit share, a transferable pension scheme and BUPA. Assistance with relocation is available.

Final year students are invited to apply. For further information please contact the Careers Advisory Service or meet us on 29th October at the Careers Fair.

- ★ Full air conditioned laboratory
- ★ Ambitious R & D Programmes
- ★ Attractively priced housing
- ★ Scope for career advancement

Datron Instruments Limited, Hurricane Way, Norwich, NR6 6JB. A subsidiary of Datron International plc.

World Class...Worldwide



# No More Bets Please

Blackjack is THE GAME for students of science and technology. It combines the subjects of statistics, computing, extra-sensory perception and personal psychology. No matter how many computers you've got attached to your left ankle. No matter how many yards of computer printout you've read from your personal Cray 11 (which is constantly analysing Blackjack hands in your study bedroom) there is one powerful tip that I can give to all punters: if you find yourself hitting a bad losing streak - never chase your loss. Tomorrow is always another day. In the long term if you play Blackjack with the percentage in your favour - you must come out on top. The aim is to bet high when the percentage is in your favour and low (or not at all) when the percentage is against you. To be able to judge when the odds are in your favour it is essential to fully master the rules of the game.

Four packs of cards are used and these are dealt from a shoe (a box that reduces the possibility of a 'crooked' dealer manipulating the deck). Each player bets before seeing his two cards dealt face up by the dealer. The dealer also deals one card face up to herself.

As in Pontoon, the object of the game is to get a total as near to 21 as possible without busting (getting a total of greater than 21). While a player's total is under 21, he may stand or draw a card. Players can split pairs, i.e. if the first two cards dealt to the player are the same then the player can put in a bet equal to his initial stake and play two split hands. The only restrictions are that a player cannot split pairs of fours, fives and tens. If a player splits aces then only one more card is dealt to each ace.

The other option is that a player may double his stake if on the initial two cards he is dealt a 'hard' 9, 10, 11 i.e. say a hard eleven made up of a six and five. If a player opts to double then he is only dealt one more card.

A Blackjack is when the player or dealer gets a two card 21 made up of a ten and an ace. (A ten can be a Jack, Queen or King). If the player is dealt a Blackjack, he receives a bonus of half his stake i.e. if he bet £10, he gets £15 plus his £10 making £25. A player can ask for 'insurance', if he holds a Blackjack and the dealer shows an ace. If a player takes insurance he loses his bonus and gets paid even money.

At the end of each round, the players who have not bust compare their individual totals with that of

the dealer. If their total is greater than the dealer's then they are paid even money. If their total equals the dealer's, it is a 'standoff' and no money is lost or won on that hand. If one's total is less than the dealer's then one has lost. If the dealer busts then all players who have not busted win!

For readers who intend to write computer Blackjack simulation programs there are a couple of obscure details that will complete the picture.

If a player splits a pair of aces and is dealt a ten to one or both aces - this is not classed as Blackjack but is a normal 21. If the dealer gets a Blackjack then the split bet is lost.

A player can double on a hard two card 9, 10 or 11 even after a split i.e. if a player splits a pair of eights and is dealt a three to the first and a two to the second 8, he can double on both hands (an outlay of four times his initial stake). If he splits eights and is dealt a 10 to the first 8 and a 3 to the second eight, he can still double his stake on the hand which is hard eleven.

A Blackjack table is usually made up of seven boxes i.e. up to seven players can have individual hands (it is possible for players to share boxes). There is a rule that at least two boxes must be active - so if you are on your own at a Blackjack table you will have to play two hands.

The minimum stake at Blackjack is normally £5 but there are tables which offer £1 or £3 minimum during the early evening (Casinos open from 2 pm to 4 am every day except Saturday night when they close at 2 am - an old tradition to allow punters to have time to get some sleep ready to go to church on Sunday).

The final and perhaps most important point of all is that although four decks of cards are available - the last 30 cards in every shoe are "dead". A plastic marker is

inserted at that point by the dealer. Once the marker has been reached, the final cards to complete the round are dealt and then all four decks are shuffled and a player is offered the chance to cut the decks with another plastic marker. Straight after the cut the cards are placed in the shoe ready for a new series of games.

If you've read this far, you know how to play Blackjack. Now you need to know how to win. The path to fortune lies in knowing when the odds are in your favour, and also making the right decisions on whether to stand or draw, depending on the state of the decks.

The number of high and low cards that are left to be dealt is the key to estimating whether the odds are in your favour or the dealer's. If there is a bias towards more high cards left then the dealer will bust more often - and the odds are with the player.

If there is a bias towards more small cards left then the odds are with the dealer.

A simple method of card counting is to start your count from zero at a new shoe and add 1 every time a 2, 3, 4, or 5 is dealt and subtract 1 every time a ten, Jack, Queen or King appears. Divide the current total by the approximate number of decks left in the shoe, i.e. say there have been 104 cards dealt (2 decks) and you have a current count of plus eight, the ratio is 8 divided by 2, 4. Surprisingly even a small positive ratio can swing the odds dramatically in the player's favour.

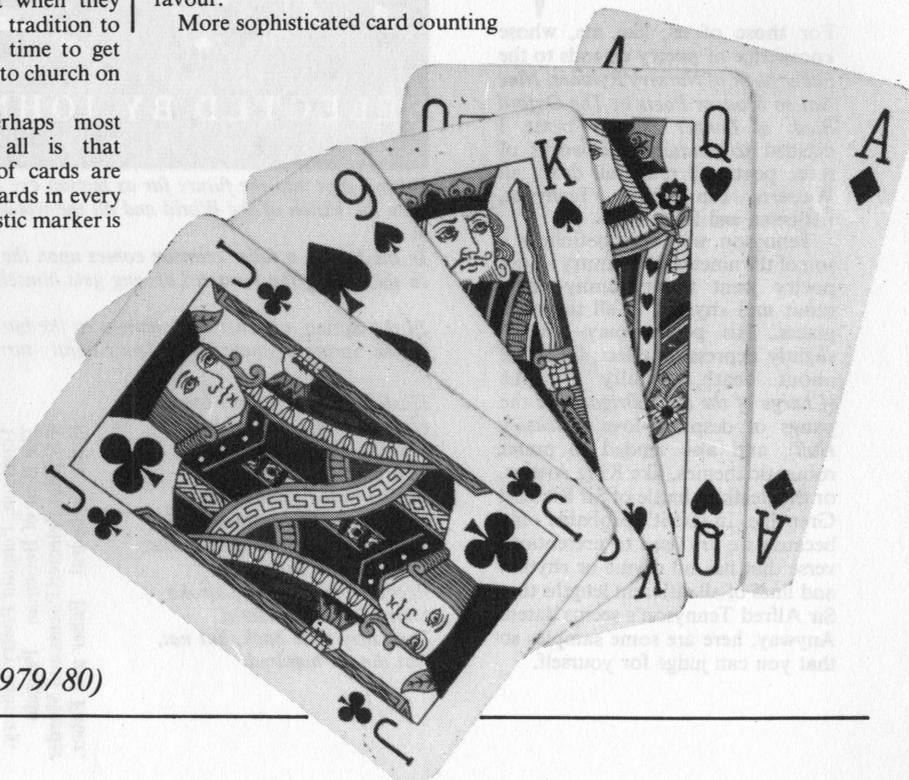
More sophisticated card counting

can be employed but I have found, after several years of playing Blackjack, it is not important that one has an accurate card count - more a general feel of how the shoe is progressing (this saves a lot of work and improves one's enjoyment of the game). Also, hunches play an important part. If one is in tune with the cards then profits come quickly, if one is tired or distracted then profit can be difficult to obtain.

A little bit of ESP and a lot of personal psychology is a bonus, for the player must recognise when he's tired or losing his sharpness.

It's not too difficult to become a member of a London casino. Simply visit the casino of your choice (dress reasonably smart) and give the receptionist your particulars. Casinos aim to "elect ladies and gentlemen of good standing in society". The consider students as potential big money earners and seem to ignore the fact that the majority are carefully making their grant last the term. Why not form a syndicate-even if you don't gamble, the restaurants are very good and the atmosphere is worth experiencing. Membership is usually free. If elected to the Sporting Club you will be able to gamble 48 hours after registration.

Never risk more than you can afford-and if you do make a profit .... treat yourself to something special.



by Colin Palmer  
(FELIX Editor 1979/80)

*Les Liasons Dangereuses* seems destined to be the next fight-for-a-ticket show in the West End, continuing in the tradition of its RSC predecessor *Les Miserables*. Therefore those who like to be culturally up-to-date should hastily beat a track to the Ambassadors' Box Office as ticket sales are already soaring.

Rightly so; the play by Christopher Hampton (of *Savages* fame) is a fine theatrical piece which deals with decadence and 'sexual liberalism' in 18th century France, being based on a scandalous novel of the period by Laclous. The performance has style, assurance and a considerable amount of humour, bawdy and otherwise, without amounting to more farce.

The acting is strong all round, Lindsay Duncan and Simon Matticks bring intelligent polished villainy to their two leading characters whilst playing up to the deeper, more psychological side of the plays, which runs beneath the plot in a manner one might expect from modern French cinema.

However, one cannot but be entertained by this thoroughly unpleasant story of two dissolute aristocrats corrupting a young convent girl (Beatie Edney from *Highlander*), and the fine details of the production- the set, the menacing incidental music and the choreographed dramatics of the close are all particularly pleasing.

Should be seen. A modern play in many senses.

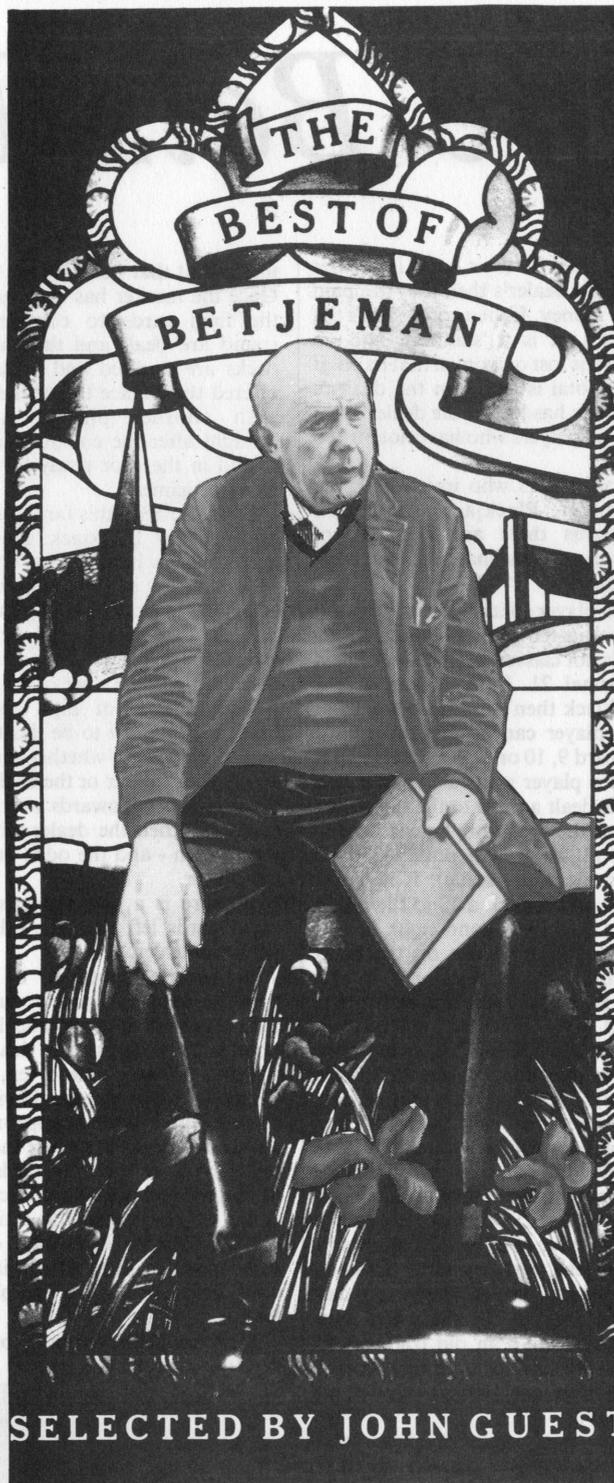
Alex McNeil

theatre ▲

books ▼

For those of us, like me, whose knowledge of poetry extends to the *Faber book of Nursery Rhymes*, *Nine Not so Modern Poets* or *The Oxford Book of Longer Boring Poems*, I decided to examine the works of three poets, all male, all dead, all Western, I'm afraid: **Tennyson, Betjeman and Eliot**

Tennyson was very definitely a son of the nineteenth Century whose poetry went tumity-tumity-tumit and rhymed in all the right places. His poems may have a slightly depressing effect; he wrote about death, usually glorious (*Charge of the Light Brigade*) or the pangs of despised love (*Locksley Hall*), and also tended to prefer romantic themes, like King Arthur, or the death in battle of Sir Richard Grenville. In fact it's probably only because we are used to pretentious verse that has no rhyme or rhythm and lines of all different lengths that Sir Alfred Tennyson's seems dated. Anyway, here are some samples so that you can judge for yourself.



*When I dipt into the future far as human eye could see;  
Saw the Vision of the World and all the wonder that would be-*

*In the Spring a fuller crimson comes upon the robin's breast;  
In the Spring the wanton Lapwing gets himself another crest;*

*In the Spring a livelier Iris changes to the burnish'd dove;  
In the Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love*

*Flash'd all their sabres bare,  
Flash'd as they turn'd in air,  
Sabring the gunners there,  
Charging an army, while,  
All the world wonder'd  
Plunged in the battery-smoke  
Right thro' the line they broke;  
Cossack and Russian  
Reel'd from the sabre-stroke  
Shatter'd and sunder'd.  
Then they rode back, but not,  
Not the six hundred.*

Tennyson, Penguin Poetry Library.  
The Best of Betjeman Penguin  
T S Eliot Selected Poems and Murder in the Cathedral Faber and Faber.

Both Betjeman and Tennyson were Poet Laureates, and both wrote poesy with rhyme and meter, but there the resemblance ends. Betjeman is a lot more modern and therefore accessible, and writes about more ordinary happening.

He is unashamedly middle-class in both subjects and outlook but can nevertheless lampoon the snobbish narrow-mindedness of his own breed in poems such as *In Westminster Abbey*:

*Gracious Lord, Oh bomb the Germans.  
Spare their women for thy sake,  
And if that is not too easy  
We will pardon Thy Mistake.  
But gracious Lord, Whate'er shall be,  
Don't let anyone bomb me.*

Many of his poems are concerned with architecture, and quite a few with women; at school we were all convinced he was a Dirty Old Man. Others are in a kind of gentle, rose-coloured spectacle mode, like *Upper Lambourne*, about a major race-horse training village.

*Up the ash-tree climbs the ivy,  
Up the ivy climbs the sun,  
With a twenty thousand pattering,  
Has a valley breeze begun,  
Feathery ash, neglected elder,  
Shift the shade and make it run.*

T.S. Eliot is the most pretentious of the three writers, more modern in style if not in date than Betjeman. He believed that poetry had been made 'too easy' for people to understand, and to remedy this put into his lots of obscure Greek words and underlying metaphors. When not showing off, his poetry is extremely lyrical and beautiful;

*April is the cruellist month, breeding  
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing  
Memory and desire, stirring  
Dull roots with spring rain.*

Eliot also wrote plays in verse, one of which, *Murder in the Cathedral*, is especially lovely. This explores the theme of conflict between temporal and spiritual power (or servitude) enacted in the murder of Thomas a Beckett. This is a bit like a Greek tragedy in format- there is a chorus of the women of Canterbury, and all violent doings are separate from the narrative.



T. S. ELIOT

*You know, and do not know, what it is to act or suffer.  
You know and do not know, that action is suffering,  
And suffering action. Neither does the agent suffer  
Nor the patient act. But both are fixed  
In an eternal action, an eternal patience.  
To which all must consent that it may be willed  
And which all must suffer that they may will it,  
That the pattern may subsist, that the wheel may turn  
and still  
Be forever still.*

And on that note, goodbye.

Sarah Kirk

## records

### New Model Army - *The Ghost of Cain*

I wasn't sure whether I liked New Model Army or not until I heard their new album. I first saw them when they played at an IC freshers' do several years ago. At that point they were making a noise suspiciously like a heavy rock band while sitting around with a lot of other groups in the rather outdated category of "New Wave". Since signing to EMI in October 1984 their excellent single "No Rest" has taken them beyond the Indie charts, where they have had consistent hits. With luck "The Ghost of Cain" will turn them into a big enough success for their controversial ban from the United States to be overcome.

NMA are not the sort of band who dither around with lyrics and statements. Perhaps it is not so surprising that occasionally they have a clash with the authorities - like the IBA who banned their single "Vengeance". At the same time, it is difficult to argue with the uncompromising nature of "Only stupid bastards take heroin" or the lyrics of "Western Dream", a song which sounds like a direct attack on the commercial policy of Top of the Pops. Don't get the impression that

NMA are just some post-punk power combo though. The tracks "Lovesongs" and "Ballad", and the harmonica of Mark Feltham from "Nine Below Zero" make this a very varied, though not variable, album. Producer Glyn Jones has worked for Led Zeppelin, The Who, The Rolling Stones, The Clash, Joan Armatrading and many more, and you can take him as a fair guarantee of rock credibility.

This record will certainly get a vote from me as one of the year's top ten albums. In fact I'd go along with the press release which says "Britain in the 1980s has for the most part got the music it deserves; bland, unchallenging and unoriginal. NEW MODEL ARMY are a major part of the opposition."

Mark Cottle

### The Rose of Avalanche, *Velveteen*, Fire Records.

The eagerly awaited second single by the Rose? I hadn't heard of The Rose, before, but apparently their previous single made it to the Indie top 5. *Velveteen* is a bouncy little track, with a very sixties guitar feel to it, not unlike the Velvet Underground. Despite one or two well worn tricks, I quite like it. I won't rave about it, but I'll play it again.

The Rose will be playing the Town and Country Club, Kentish

Town on 2nd November.

### David and David 'Boomtown' A&M records

The Davids' boomtown is a desperate place. A place where the cocaine is in the dresser, and you pick your own habits (they've got plenty to go around). A place full of disillusion, where money makes a succulent sound. So this is Hollywood, complete with sportscase, cocaine, casual sex and, of course, money. Unlike Ellis' glib best seller 'Less than Zero' which glorified the L.A. Highlife, this record paints a colder picture. Even over the sparkling new wavish score, this sounds as jaded and streetwise as even Tom Waits at his most probing.

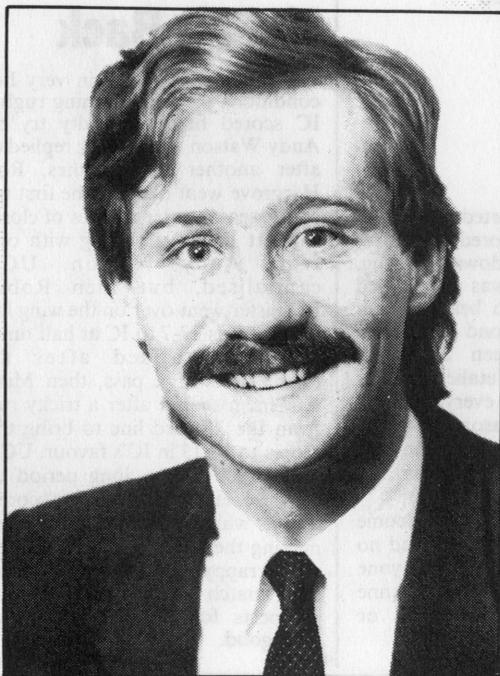
'So welcome to my boomtown'

The tunes of 'Boomtown' generally avoid the tiresome formulae used by some of their contemporaries. A standard line-up of guitar, bass, drums and synth parts that enhance rather than overwhelm, takes up through progressions and melodies which are remarkably fresh and inventive-if a little American. David Baerwald's voice, wrecked by cigarettes, Springsteen with a sore throat (to my mind the best way to hear Springsteen), whilst David Rickett the composer mercifully avoids the temptation of becoming a 'gee-tar' hero in the American tradition. I liked it.

Pete Wilson



# "If you can't find satisfaction in ICI you'd be struggling elsewhere"



Ken Moran has held a variety of jobs in ICI Mond Division's Research and Development Department since graduating four years ago. He describes his time with ICI as 'the best in my life. I work with lots of different people, have responsibility and travel the world.'

At present Ken is responsible for membrane cell technology in the

Chlorine Group. 'In order to do the job I work with engineers, process operators, research and development scientists and people from the commercial side.

'I've had a high rate of change in my life since being in ICI. It seems to me if you can't find satisfaction in ICI you'd be struggling elsewhere.'



ICI are recruiting graduates from all disciplines. You can discuss careers in ICI at the Careers Fair or at the Gloucester Hotel's Courtfield Suite on the 28th October at 6pm.

Football: UC 1st XI 2, IC 1st XI 4

# IC Firsts Win Silent Victory at Shenley

The ban on away supporters seemed to have expanded from Luton to Shenley, as the crowd who met Imperial College's sporting superstars was, approximately, nil. Undeterred by the hostile home crowd, as well as the hostile atmospheric conditions, IC were confident of a good performance and result in this, the first match against non-IC opposition of the new seasons.

It seemed, however, that IC were thinking about lazy summer afternoons on the beach as UC went to work, scoring first after 10 minutes. Reaction was instant, and an IC goal was in the air. After good work from Simon Cole on the left, the ball was volleyed home by Nigel Collier on the edge of the penalty box. IC continued to dominate a scrappy and understandably tired game, but UC regained the lead after slack work on the IC right, and the half-time score stayed at 2-1 to the home team.

The industry of Simon Coel and

the persistence of Paul Olden were rewarded in the second half and they began to dominate the midfield, and UC's hard and physical approach was nonsensical by IC's smart one-touch passing game. Nigel Colier equalised when a throughball released him and he cleverly lobbed the oncoming goal keeper. Paul Olden put the visitor in front when he tapped in a shot from the ever present Nigel Collier. He

later completed his hat-trick with 15 minutes to go.

Praise must go to the already mentioned Coel and Olden, Nigel Colier for his lethal finishing, and the central defensive partnership of Covil and Paul Dyson who were superb in the second half.

Team: A Allen, J West, L Covill, P Dyson, P Ewart, M Porter, D Olden, S Cole, A Lungi (Capt), D Lynne, N Collier, sub B Wood.



Sailing, Whitstable: IC vs Kent University

## Kent University Sunk

On Sunday the IC Sailing team set off for the first match of the year.

We arrived at their sailing club to find just two team members and five boats. Not to be deterred we suggested two boat team racing with Richard Brinslow and Gareth David from IC Sailing for Kent.

The racing went well with IC winning all races despite deteriorating conditions as the tide went out and the water around the buoys got shallower causing a few rudder problems.

Rugby, away: IC 1st XV 17, UCL 1st XV 23  
IC 2nd XV 17, UCL 2nd XV 27

## IC Fall Back

The game was played in very hot conditions ideal for running rugby. IC scored first, a penalty try by Andy Watson which UCL replied to after another few minutes. Rob Hargrove went over for the first try of the season after a series of close-support passes, finishing with one from Andy Watson. UCL capitalised, but then Robin Bannister went over on the wing for a try. It was 13-7 to IC at half time. UCL capitalised after an interception of a pass, then Mike Anderson scored after a tricky run from the 25 yard line to bring the scores to 17-13 in IC's favour. UCL drew level after a long period of pressure, and then their wing scored a try, which was then converted making the score 23-17. The match was scrappy as expected for their first match of the season, but prospects for the coming season look good.



Ladies Rugby: Charing Cross Hospital 4, IC 28

## Ladies' Day At Charing Cross

Last Sunday was the first game of the season for the Ladies' Rugby team, and for three-quarters of the team it was their first game ever. Despite this, IC rose to the challenge and ended up with a magnificent 28 points to four win.

The game started slowly with players finding their way and gaining confidence to tackle and run out the opposition. Then after 10 minutes there was a scrum and scrum half Judith Day released the ball to fly half Natalie Handler who managed to run through and pass the opposition with a series of side steps and swerves to lay down our first try. One more try was scored in the first half.

Charing Cross started the second half strongly and scored soon after kick off with a try down the wing. But this recovery was short lived and IC managed to beat through five tries in the second half. Tries coming from Noreen Haninton, Judith Day and Natalie Handler again. Well done to everyone for a great start to the season, especially all new players including the two new centres. Fiona Nicholas and Jackie Evans.

New players are always welcome in the Ladies' Rugby team, and no experience is necessary but anyone interested should contact Anne Parsons, Mining Geology 3 or Natalie Handler, Bio Chem 3.

Football; Harlington: IC 1 5, KQC 1 1.

## Siege At Harlington

Nine KQC players and three on-loan IC players took on an IC 1 XI on a balmy autumn afternoon at Harlington. This was the second friendly of the season and an important one as IC was to do battle with KQC in the first league outing of the season. IC dominated the first half but Laurence Covill's spectacular, curling free kick was the only thing separating the teams at half time.

IC'S attitude to the second half was hungrier as they laid siege on the KQC goal-clinical finishing by Bill Mason, Bifron Wood, Dave Lynne and Nigel Collier brought the score to 5-0 KQC beat the off-side trap once, 10 minutes from time, and duly brought the full-time score to 5-1. IC now go into the UAU Tournament with a very satisfactory played 2, won 2.

Team: A Allem, J West, P Ewart, A Lunghi (Capt), L Covill, B Wood, B Mason, P Olden, R Dark, D Lynne, M Collier, Sub M Bradley.

Cross Country Club:

## Wombling With Hare and Hounds

The first race of the season, a friendly with Thames Hare and Hounds was held on Wimbledon Common last Saturday. Despite the glorious weather and scenery, once again it was only regulars who turned out. We were soundly beaten, though it was a very enjoyable afternoon with tea cakes provided until the pubs opened. Details of future races are on the noticeboard to the right of the main stairs on the ground floor of the union Building.



Rugby: IC 'A' Team 52, School of Slavonic and Eastern European Studies 7

## Brave Defence

As the scoreline suggests, this was a fairly one-sided match. However, SSEES never stopped trying, and they got one try after some good commitment, when the IC pack was in their 'let's go for a stroll' mood. Towards the end of the match, the pressure was too much for them (42 points scored after half-time) and the IC Backs ran some great tries.

Badminton, Mixed Hammersmith League Div. 3: IC lost 6:3.

## Panic In Hammersmith

Our debut in the Hammersmith League was also marked by the first blunder of the season. Through some rare miscalculation, the match secretary managed to arrange two matches on the same night. Needless to say, there was incredible panic and the club captain and team captain tried to sort things out.

In the other matches IC were beaten 6:3.

Science Fiction

## Hyena Offal

Something I have always wondered about is what makes people go into Science and Technology and end up in a place like Imperial. Is it the love of the large pay cheques that graduates receive? (Only if you go into accountancy!) Is it the pioneering spirit of working on the edge of human knowledge? (That certainly doesn't apply here). Or is it just a way to get letters after your



Industrial

## Bread & Fishes

I've heard tell that it is possible to feed 5000 people on 5 loaves and 3 fish. Couldn't have been easy. The Indsoc 'Get Together' took 160 french loaves, 30 granary loaves, 108 lbs of cheese and 140 litres of wine, provided with the help of Sainsbury's. It was of course the french loaves which caused the trouble. Sainsbury's weren't ready for the size of our order, despite being warned, and had to start baking rapidly. This took an extra two hours and left us with but one hour to prepare the food in College. It was a mammoth task and no mistake, though by the end of the day Indsoc had obtained a membership of just over 400, which makes it all worth it.

So now if you have joined Indsoc, all you have to do is come to a few of our events. The Saatchi and Saatchi Speaker Meeting on the 21st (next Tuesday) would be a good one to start with. It is at lunch-time, starting at 12.40 p.m., but you can get something to eat at the informal buffet afterwards. Come along to Chem Eng Lt 1 on the day and discover advertising. Also next week is the Price Waterhouse business game on the Wednesday. Get in touch with Trevor Power in Mech Eng 3 for more information, but hurry.

If you want to join Indsoc, it costs £1.50, after which all events are free. Send a cheque made out with your name & department to Trevor Power's pigeon hole (once again) and he will send your membership card by return of post. Alternatively, join at the speaker meeting.

name and I.C.'s good because you end up with four extra letters free of charge? Whatever the conscious reasons, there are doubtless many subconscious reasons lurking in the background explaining why you chose a certain subject. I suspect that many people in college first came upon the idea of science in the pages of some piece of science-fiction they read as children, and that it has not been insignificant in your final choice of career.

Whether this is true or a complete pile of hyena offal, it serves as a useful introduction to this description of what SFSOC is actually getting up to. We are a very varied club and our members can get involved to any degree they want. At the very highest end we arrange visits to SF conventions and gatherings, write stories and, soon, will produce a magazine. Any submissions would be most welcome. For those people who still

like reading science fiction, and it really isn't all ray guns, spaceships and chromed robots and all, we have a large library from which books may be borrowed. This is open every Thursday lunchtime and is situated on the top floor of the Union Building. If you want to read SF cheaply or can't find the book you want in the shops, feel free to come along and join us.

In all our activities though we like to enjoy ourselves and there's nothing quite like a good all-action film for that. Our film shows are how most people get to meet SFSOC and we've got a cracking one lined up for Tuesday. **Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom** will start at 7 p.m. in Mech Eng 220 on Tuesday 21st October, entrance 50p for members and £1.50 for non-members, which includes SFSOC membership. It's a fantastic film and I hope to see lots of you there. Till then, share and enjoy!

Rag

## Collect £200

And now to write about the next rag stunt being organised for October the 18th. This is yet another event traditional to Imperial College, and for those monopoly fiends' out there, this is for you! Have you ever played monopoly? Really played it I mean. Using London as the monopoly board, travelling between the destinations not by rolling dice but by London Transport? That's what Imperial College students will be doing in teams of 2 to 4, dressed up in original dress and carrying a mascot each, on Saturday October 18th. The idea will be to set off round London to destinations on the Monopoly board armed with rag cans, travelcard, set of clues and an A to Z. At each destination, a clue will need to be solved, and there will be a live 'community chest', though we cannot guarantee that we can get you out of 'jail' if you land in there. The winning group will receive a camera as prize, points being awarded for money collected, number of clues solved, original transport used and any unusual

objects you might 'acquire' along the way. For those who participate, there will be a pop concert in the Hammersmith Town Hall held free afterwards with a bar 'til 12.00 midnight, doors opening at 6.30pm, bands on at 8.30pm, with disco. Loads of other students from other universities will be attending the concert in the evening; people from Loughborough rag, South Bank rag, Bristol and Birmingham rags, so I expect a good turnout from our own Imperial College rag. The bands playing will be our very own bred **Blue, Blue Ice** who played at the Funeral Party, and also **Tri-60** who are semi-professional and a very versatile band. **Tickets for non-participants of Monopoly are available to IC students with Union cards at 50p each from the Union office, in advance only, so come and buy your tickets early.**

This will be the last major rag stunt before rag week in November, so support your rag and have loads of fun too. Specific details of Monopoly will be appearing soon, so keep your eyes open and enrol when the posters go up!

A final re-mention of thanks to the participants of Tiddlewinks-lets hope Saturday 18th will be yet another Rag Success!

### RAG TIMETABLE

Friday 17th October SCR 12.45pm	Monopoly Hammersmith Town Hall Concert Allocation of duties etc... Distribution of license.
Friday 24th October Lounge 12.45pm	Debrief of Monopoly/Town Hall Rag Week events/publicity Allocation of duties etc....
Friday 7th November SCR 12.45pm	Rag Week Preparations Advertising distribution Final details distribution for Rag Week.
Friday 28th November SCR 12.45pm	Rag Week debrief National Rag Conference
Friday 5th December Lounge 12.45pm	Rag Committee Cheese and Wine Discussion of future events. National Rag Conference in Loughborough.

# Gutterpress

by S Leaze

I sometimes think that the introduction to a gossip column should run something like a government health warning—'Reading gossip can seriously damage your view of reality'. Unfortunately, there is a twilight world of unprovable information that can't pass as news in the great and ancient tradition our editor dreams of upholding. However, if there were no worth in 'official rumour' then most of the tabloid press would be bankrupt inside a week. The justification then for "Gutterpress" is essentially economic rather than moral—give the proles what they want.

Past FELIX gossip columns have been especially keen on the wonderful College administration who, based in the Sheffield building, are supposed to keep the place from falling down around us as we work. If you were to believe all you read then you would surmise that what we have is more of a combination of Dallas and Yes Minister with College Secretary John Smith as some sort of hybrid JR Ewing/Sir Humphrey figure and the Rector as an innocently bystanding Minister. However the new Rector, Prof Ash, has caused consternation among some traditionalists by actually attacking Imperial's problems with a strong personal commitment. Furthermore Mr Smith has been observed being noticeably more affable toward students which is leading Smith watchers to believe something 'big' is brewing.

An interesting development in the secretary saga is Mr Smith's new residence, a flat in No 47 Princes Gardens. This is one of the houses next to Southside and many people have wondered why it is not being converted into more student accommodation. Well, the answer is that Mr Smith's time at Imperial will not continue forever; a year or two is the unofficial estimate. When John Smith leaves it will be very difficult to find a replacement of a similar calibre, and it is hoped that a South

Kensington home as a 'perk' will keep suitably experienced outside candidates in the running for the job. This will be seen as a great disappointment to those young hopefuls already here who dream about the seat of power and spend all their time edging themselves closer to the vital South Corridor on the 5th floor.

Sadly for some of the desk dwellers their efforts at ruthless efficiency have not made them universally popular. One such, renowned for his pomposity to students, is ex-Student Services officer and current assistant secretary Michael Arthur. Mr Arthur has long been known for emphasising his achievements, while lounging safely behind a desk, but one achievement he is playing down is his monumental cock-up of the Queens Tower Tourist scheme this summer. Strangely Michael is rarely invited to social gatherings organised by his ex-workplace, next door to Weeks hall. In fact he may now have problems in Sheffield where he was caught relieving himself behind a pot plant at a leaving party over summer.

It must be something about Student Services which finally cracks people, as evidenced by current boss Don Ferguson. Don is so strained by his workload that he spends long periods of time asleep behind the closed door of his office, much to the consternation of the hard pressed counter staff. At least he has not suffered the fate of official College pain in the neck and Rag Chairman, Man Tai Tseung who incurred the wrath of some of the temporary staff during the start of term accommodation crisis. Man Tai, who was unsubtle enough to have the college Welfare Advisor covered in shaving foam, and who has been described as having "the sensitivity of a potato", was locked in a cupboard for 15 minutes because nobody would talk to him. Well, it's a cruel world and this is a cruel column!



A Potato

# MEGABRAIN

## Last week's problem

I forgot to say that I wanted the year that the old calendars come from as well as the dates of the two birthdays, which made the problem considerably harder. The most recent leap year for which January 1st occurred on the same day as it did this year is 1964, which was the year I was looking for, since one can assume that both people involved were born before the war. The remaining information gave the two dates as 6th January and 3th August. The winner was Adrian

Huang, Civ Eng 1, please collect your £5 after 1.00pm Monday. The week before's problem—Room Roulette, the solution was:-

- S was in Y's room
- T was in U's room
- U was in Z's room
- V was in W's room
- W was in X's room
- X was in S's room
- Y was in V's room
- Z was in T's room

The following people have been granted permits on **APPEAL**: If your name does not appear, sorry we have **no** permits left.

Name	Car Registration No
I Abdlatib	C110LYY
Claire Abbott	B970 HNP
H Abudaka	DYS 808T
S Brookhouse	A44 KKR
W Cheung	LUV 328X
P Ching	D 785 FYP
N Cook	KHX 972W
Cribb	JCR 188X
A Crumey	Nightline
R Dimant	D140 FHY
A Deuine	C975 GBM
G Fish	LGX 391K
	VPP 820M
T Fletcher	C326 ONV
	C183 XTP
A Folefac	HGP 926V
A Forovzani	EBY 747Y
M Foustok	C448 UGX
B Fleming	WPR 8635
D Fuller	VST 19V
E Gan	B698 YYW
G Guimaraes	VKN 1185
K Hampez	PUC 684R
E Hickling	OOG 849X

S Haeri	GMS 2465
J Hutt	
M Jain	EMF 488V
Jury	B113 CTL
A Kakas	B307 NLC
S Koide	HGX 379V
V Koratzinos	PJD 391R
N Lawes	B275 LPJ
O Lie	XOR 163V
R Marsden	AUF 339L
V Miloseuic	A876 CHV
H Momen	TYP 410M
L Moura	BPJ 817Y
Z Matta	B67 NLF
Z Namani	A874 XMD
Naylor	A950 LPP
V Palmer	SMU 330Y
Y Popic	RI 197 143
M Pourali-Bazardeh	FOR 769 K
D Royle	PMA 792V
E Saievar	HGT 53T
D Sharpe	FLK 354T
M Staffilo	Mi 73262
G Stavrinidis	CLT 587Y
F Sutcliffe	EBV 354W
J P Tabet	GGT 998
J Whiteman	RDD 309R
P Yew	54B 969Y
M Zalaf	Bad 2270

## SOUTHSIDE BAR

There is now a regular disco on Fridays between 9pm and midnight.

On Saturday and Sunday lunchtimes until Christmas there will be Carlsberg & Fosters on sale at just 50p a pint.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you are unsure whether you are on the electoral register you have until December 16th to check and correct any omission

**what's on**

**FRIDAY**

**The Queens Tower 10-5.30pm**  
Will be open. Admission 60p.

**Rag Meeting ..... 12.45pm**  
Senior Common Room.  
Everyone welcome.

**Nutford House Party . 10.30pm**  
Blue, Blue Ice on stage. Doors open 8.00pm Disco by Hans Beier. Tickets £1.50. (Brown St, W1—off the Edgeware Road).

**SATURDAY**

**Human Monopoly..... 9.30-10.00am**  
Meet CCU Offices to play, and free concert afterwards.

**Concert..... 8.00pm**  
At Hammersmith Town Hall, free to Monopoly participants, 50p to students. Tickets from Union Office. Two Bands, Tri-60; Blue Blue Ice and disco, bar. Students from Loughborough rag, Bristol rag, Manchester and Birmingham

rag attending too, so come and represent Imperial College Rag.

**MONDAY**

**Wind Band .....5.45pm**  
Rehearsal in the Great Hall.

**TUESDAY**

**ICCAG New Year Mass ..... 12.35pm**  
To be celebrated by Bishop Dewit. Venue Chem 231.

**Ski Club ..... 12.45pm**  
Above Southside Bar. Christmas Ski Trip Ski Racing, Skiing lessons and recreation Skiing. Come and find out more!

**Broadsailing meeting .. 1.00pm**  
In the Lounge above Stan's Bar.

**Mopsoc ..... 1.00pm**  
Cheese and Wine party level 8 Common Room Physics Building Everyone welcome.

**Exploration..... 1.15pm**  
Through the Limestone Mountains of China by Dr Tony Waltham. Read Theatre Sheffield Building.

**Wine Tasting Society . 6.00pm**  
Tasting of fine Italian wines £2.00 members, £3 non members.

**Bridge Club .... 6pm to 11pm**  
In the Union Concert Hall. Teams tournament-no need to bring a partner.

**ICSF Film .....6.30pm**  
Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom. Adm. £1.50 incl. membership or 50p members.

**Judo..... 6.30pm**  
Union Gym. All welcome particularly beginners.

**Opsoc Rehearsal .....7.30pm**  
In the Music Room, 53 Princes Gardens for HMS Pinafore and the Zoo

**ICCAG Soup Run .... 9.30pm**  
Weeks Hall Basement return 11.30pm

**WEDNESDAY**

**Skiing Lesson..... 12.30pm**  
Beginners meet above Southside bar to go to Hillingdon for lessons. Bring gloves, decent socks and thick trousers.

**Wing Chun Club..... 1.00pm**  
Wing Chun Kung Fu is a practical street fighting martial art. Invented by a buddhist nun it is one of the most effective

forms of self-defence known. Meet IC Union Gym.

**AP Tech Soc ..... 2.00pm**  
Mech Eng Foyer help make toys for handicapped.

**Orchestra Rehearsal ...7.00pm**  
Great Hall

**Motor Club Rally ..... 7.30pm**  
Briefing Mech Eng 750

**Orchestral Rehearsal . 10.00pm**  
Queens's Arms

**THURSDAY**

**Commemoration Day**  
No lunch hour concert.

**Ski Club ..... 12.45pm**  
Above Southside Bar Come and sign up for our Christmas trip ski racing, recreational skiing and skiing lesson.

**AP Tech Soc ..... 12.45pm**  
Janice Owens alert Londoners against radio active materials Elec Eng 403A.

**Bunac Stall..... 12.45pm**  
Spend the summer in America? Come to the JCR.

**Judo..... 6.30pm**  
Union Gym all welcome particularly beginners.

**The Larks .....8.00pm**  
Plus Timothy London and Heads on Sticks. Price £2.50 in the Concert Hall.

**small ads**

**FOR SALE**

●**Women's 3 speed bicycle.**  
Very good condition. £35  
Contact H Rubin Mech Eng 3.

●**Power Amps** Pair Quad 50W per channel monodoc amps. Broadcast quality, can feed several pairs of speakers at rated output. Easy to pre-amp from NAD 3020 etc. As new, boxed, complete with all necessary leads. £195. Contact Chris Gordon Man Sci 3 on 747-5081 evens.

●**If interested** in buying ARID GRE Aptitude Test Guide with Practice Tests and/or Baron's GRE Test Preparation series or TES Official Guilds to the GMAT exam contact Tishu Nanda Chem Eng PG on 4320 prices negot.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

●**IC Union presents** an evening of rock music featuring local band Stagefright and Rock disco till

12pm and cheap beer. Doors open 8.30pm Sat 18 Oct.

●**Micro Club** for anyone interested in coming to the BBC Micro user show (Nov 7th-9th), tickets will be available at £1 each at Micro-club on Wednesday 22nd October (Top Floor of Union Building).

●**Ents Hire** our disco and lounge £50 only. See Glasgow's finest 'Fruits of Passion' and from Boston, USA 'Three Colors' for only £1.50 (£1 in adv.) on Thursday 16 Oct in the Lounge.

●**Deadline** for Human Rights Week articles is Friday October 24th

**LOST**

●**Omega Seasmaster unit watch gold and black leather band, in metallurgy on Monday Contact C Harris 5917.**

**WANTED**

●**Drummer** for four piece group must have own drum kit. Contact A Haisley or D Brown (Comp 2) Pig. Holes room 219 Huxley.

●**Competent Jazz/Funk** bassist to join popular college piano drums duo. Cotact Chas Int 782 or IC Union.

**PERSONAL**

●**The A-team** all have big bottoms.

●**FWAAL** why do women in their underwear annoy you?

●**Min Res MSc:** Is there any life among you lot?

●**Hello,** 'What a physique', back again?

●**Designed by computer,** made by Italians, drunk by Wine Soc 6.00pm SCR Tuesday 21 Oct.

●**Tall dark handsome Italian,** well almost tall not particularly dark, and only slightly Welsh. Special Guest speaker, Wine Soc.

●**The Ice at Hammersmith Town Hall** is this the big one? Are the band raunchy enough to handle it? Will they get dirty? Will they still talk to their friends? Will their friends want them to? Go see...

**Model of Statue of Liberty**

A plaster model of the Statue of Liberty (about one foot high and painted red) was removed from the exhibition level 2 of Sheffield Building. This model is an essential part of **Keith Waters' Ph.D project** and he cannot remake it since all work is based on this original piece.

Will the person who took the model please return it so that Keith Waters can complete his Ph.D.

If anyone has any information about the model please contact Dr G. Hargreaves (Tel 3046) or Mr Reeves (The Security Officer. Tel 3371.

## Graded Grades

The University of London has decided to take the controversial step of revealing final exam marks to students from 1st October 1987. Currently, the marks are confidential because the element of discretion exercised by examiners in assessing degrees may lead to misunderstandings. Under the Data Protection Act of 1984 the University will be obliged to give this information to individuals within 40 days of being asked, provided it is stored on a computer.

Other universities are considering using loopholes to keep this information under wraps. They can do this either by keeping manual files or by destroying all computer records of the marks within 40 days.

## Fire Damage

Serious damage was caused by a fire in the Department of Social and Economic studies in Princes Gardens on Wednesday. The fire was discovered by a cleaner at 6.35am on the second floor of the building. An estimated £4000 worth of damage was caused by smoke and flooding when a fire hose was burnt through. A spokesman for the Humanities Department said that the fire had probably been started by a cigarette carelessly discarded by a student.

## Southside Intruder

A mysterious intruder has been discovered sleeping in the corridor of IC Radio in Southside, last week. The man, who is in his twenties and dark skinned with a student-like appearance, has been loitering in the area for about three months, usually outside Southside shop. Following complaints from the assistants that the man had been 'ogling' at them persistently, he was asked to move on by Pat, The Southside security guard. He has not been seen for the past few days, but it is uncertain whether or not his disappearance is permanent.

## Sports Hall Lobby

The Athletic Clubs Council has decided to lobby the college for a new sports hall to replace the volley ball court in the old Chemistry building, which is due for demolition soon. The Volley ball court is the only sports hall on the South Kensington site. The ACC has recommended several sites for the new hall, including the tennis courts behind the Southside buildings, in the Chemistry building or over the swimming pool. They suggest that funds for the project should come from the sales of gravel mined from the Harlington Sports grounds.

## Princess Anne At IC



On Monday Princess Anne visited the college under very tight security for the official opening of the Science and Technology exhibition. She was welcomed by Lord Flowers (Vice Chancellor of London

University), the Rector Professor Ash and College Secretary John Smith. A group of 40 students congregated to see her, but were not allowed into the JCR whilst she was touring the exhibition.

## Fallen Arches

The decorative canopy at the front of the Civil Engineering building has been dismantled for safety reasons. A spokesman for the department explained that there had been problems with mosaic tiles becoming dislodged.

## Chemistry Scholarships

The Chemistry Department will be introducing a scholarship scheme for undergraduates taking degrees in Chemistry, or Chemistry and Biochemistry, next year. Four scholarships, each worth £800 a year, are to be provided by Galaxo Group Research, Johhan Matthey Technology Centre, Minnesota 3M Research, and PPF International.

Students will be selected for the award on the basis of their UCCA applications, academic reports, and their admission interview. Those short-listed will be asked to write a statement explaining their interest in one of the sponsoring companies, but there will be no obligation to work for the company at the end of their degrees.

## Exec Protest At Charges



A petition of 25,000 signatures was handed over to Professor Sir Richard Harrison, Chairman of The Board of Trustees of the British Museum, at a demonstration against admission charges on Thursday morning. Delegates from

the Museum Civil Service Unions, the Association of University Teachers (AUT) and the Association of Technical and Managerial Staff (ASTMS) were present, whilst IC Students Union was represented by President

Christine Taig, Hon Sec Dave Colley, Bill Goodwin and Mark Cottle.

The Natural History and Geological museums are to introduce compulsory charges from April 1st. The Unions believe that this move will be self defeating because the number of visitors will be substantially reduced. IC Students union are concerned that students will be discouraged from using the museums to supplement their studies.

"It is ironic that the museum is stating the need for expansion as a reason for implementing the charges when they admit that the number of visitors will drop by 40%", said IC PCS Chairman William Lindsey.

The Shadow spokesman for the ARCS, Mr Norman Buchan, told FELIX that the Government should take the national heritage more seriously, and said that he would be raising questions on the subject in Westminster.

## Very Old Dragonfly

The most complete specimen of a Hawker dragonfly found to date has just been acquired by the Natural History Museum. The 125 million year old insect had a wingspan of 85mm and is described by its discoverer Ed Jarzembouski as being the best preserved specimen of an early Hawker dragonfly found so far, Mr Jarzembouski, of the Entomology Department at the museum found the dragonfly in a Weald claypit in Surrey. It is now on display in the Central Hall.