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# editorial

Just as I promised ten days ago—a bumper edition of FELIX which will take until the end of term to plough through! We've got loads of features, reports and letters, and the whole thing took a very long time to put together—so appreciate it.

My favourite bits in FELIX this term have to include the features on body language and courtship gestures. This week we have featured graphology as the centrespread. This science is almost as fascinating as observing people. Am I the only one who has spent the last month watching people making open crotch displays at one another? Before I used to think that particular people were sexy/charming/charismatic but now I just know that they can use their body language to its full effect.

Graphology can also reveal more about your character, although it is a far cruder way of analysing your friends. I spent the weekend discovering that I am an egotist who enjoys dominating others. But I knew that already.

### Quorum

In the last issue I was severely restricted for space so I was unable to write about the Results Union General Meeting which took place two weeks ago. I decided to sit to the back of the meeting with the students who were more interested in eating their QT burgers than watching the antics of various Union Officers. I spent most of the meeting explaining to curious observers what was happening the other side of the room. They were none the wiser. Procedure is a hard thing to explain.

When the voting took place it was clear that only about eighty people were actually taking part in the meeting. There were over three hundred people in the room but the meeting was clearly inoperative.

I am of the opinion that the idea of taking the General Meetings into the JCR hasn't worked—it hasn't

attracted any more people to the Union and 'Quorum' has been abused just as much in there as it was in the Great Hall last year. At least in the Great Hall you had a fair idea of who was interested in the Union and how it was run. Your voice could be heard and everything was treated in a more serious fashion than it has been this year. I think that next year's UGM Chairman should consider moving the venue back to the Great Hall and sort out some serious publicity for such events. This year's has been abysmal.

While on the subject of the abuse of the call of Quorum, I must say how stupid and childish it was of our President to call Quorum in the middle of a Union General Meeting just because the meeting was not taking the direction he wanted.

### Gambling

Should FELIX be encouraging students to gamble their grants away? This is a question that several people have asked me recently. I think that it is a harmless bit of fun because I know when to stop. Unfortunately I know of at least one student who is in severe debt and still gambles. Auntie Judi's advice is only gamble if you can afford to lose your stake and don't put bets on any of the horses

Paul Shanley recommends. Just remember that it's only the bookies who win.

### Baron

Following the shock revelation last issue that I was going to scrap the Baron, there has been a flood of protests. I am going to spend the next three days conducting a straw poll around College on the subject. If the majority want to keep The Baron, then it will be resurrected.

### Controversy

My editorials seem to have caused a great deal of controversy recently. I even have lesser editors mentioning them in *their* editorials. My 'election results' editorial was written while I was in an extremely cynical mood. I still stand by what I said, because Mr Goodwin distorted 'facts' in his election material in order to win. I am not alone in my feelings.

### Print Unit

Due to the printer's oncoming temporary nervous breakdown, the Print Unit will be closed from today for a month. I'll still be in the Office over the Easter holidays if you need any photocopying done, artwork advice or technical process work done.

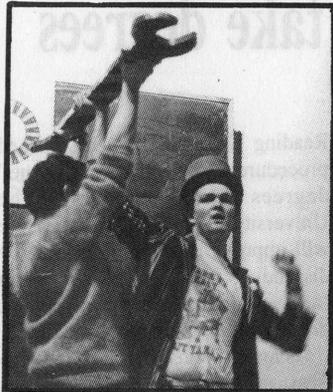
### Finally

Roll on the holidays, don't eat too many Easter Eggs and get as much revision done as you can. If you're around College over the vacation, drop by for a chat, and if you're in Physics I can probably try to help you with your problem sheets! Happy Easter!

*Judith*  
XXX

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## Spanner & Bolt liberated



C&GU President elect Ralph Greenwell holds Spanner aloft

The Royal College of Science Union (RCSU) successfully liberated both mascots of the City & Guilds Union (C&GU), Spanner & Bolt, yesterday.

A member of RCSU managed to stowaway in the car which was carrying the mascots, after they had left a C&GU meeting. The car was left behind Linstead Hall, with the mascots still in the boot. The student then called the Mascotry team which opened the boot and took the mascots.

At first Guilds denied that the mascots had been taken but later it became clear that RCSU had indeed removed them.

RCSU plan to ransom the mascots back to Guilds for Rag.

The City and Guilds Hustings UGM took place yesterday. The Presidential candidates, Ralph Greenwell—proposed by Duncan Royle, and Chris Horne—proposed by Chris Greenwood, each had three minutes to say why they thought they should be elected next year. With neither candidate reaching quota on the first allocation, the second placed votes were counted. This proved to be the closest ever presidential election in the history of Guilds with 49 first place votes and 62 second place votes cast for each candidate. Under Guilds election rules, it was left for Returning Officer, Alan Hepper, to have the casting vote. He ruled that as Mr Greenwell was a second year, the vote should be cast in his favour, and so he was elected and subsequently ratified as next year's President.

In the election for Vice-President, Max Kallios was returned unopposed after Chris Horne announced his decision not to stand down to VP candidate.

The election for Hon Sec was close with Murray Williamson polling 61 votes to Chris Greenwood's 51.

Following the meeting, Mr Greenwell followed the tradition of buying everyone present a round in the Queen's Arms, which came to £56.09. Mr Greenwell told FELIX, 'I'm completely underwhelmed'.

## Lawson gets rid of covenants

Parents whose children enter higher education for the first time this Autumn will be expected to pay up to 25% less towards the student's maintenance, following last week's Budget. The difference will be made up by their Local Education Authority.

The reduction is compensation for the end of the tax relief on student covenants taken out after the Budget and is much higher than had been predicted. An unpublished report by the Department of Education and Science, however, shows that about 40% of dependent students receive less than the assessed amount from their parents.

The old and new assessment scales will run side by side for the next four academic years. Grants for students already in full-time higher education will still be calculated from the scales as announced last December, whether there is an existing covenant or not. Exceptions to this rule will be students who entered higher education before the age of eighteen, whose birthdays are after Budget day. Students who change courses will continue to be assessed under the old system unless there is at least two years between courses.

The rates of grant effective from September 1st 1988 are £2425 for students who live in London away from home and £1630 for those living

at home. Outside London, the grant is £2050 for students not living at home.

Parental contributions are calculated according to 'residual income' from the scales shown below:

### Parental contribution scales in full

Residual income	Scale 1 (existing scale)	Scale 2 (reduced scale)
9900	50	37
10000	64	48
11000	207	155
12000	350	262
12600	435	326
13000	515	386
14000	715	536
15000	915	686
16000	1115	836
17000	1315	986
18000	1515	1136
18400	1595	1196
19000	1745	1309
20000	1995	1496
21000	2245	1684
22000	2495	1871
23000	2745	2059
24000	2995	2246
25000	3245	2434
26000	3495	2621
27000	3745	2809
28000	3995	2996
29000	4245	3184
30000	4495	3371
31000	4745	3559
31620	4900	3675
32000		3746
33000		3934
34000		4121
35000		4309
36000		4496
37000		4684
38000		4871
38153		4900

### Notes:

1. No parent's actual contribution can exceed the gross award entitlement of his child or children, so at higher income levels the contribution payable will often be less than shown by the Scales.

### Shan's Dodgy Sporting Tips

#### All selections run today

NAP: **Mystic Music**  
Kelso, 4.45pm  
NB: **Mirandinha**  
Kelso, 5.15pm  
**Megan's Move**  
Kelso, 3.15pm



## Vickers say No to planned postgraduate only hall

The proposal to make Weeks Hall a postgraduate only residence may have to be shelved due to pressure from the engineering company Vickers. As reported in FELIX (793), Weeks Hall was earmarked as a new postgraduate only hall following a decision taken at the College's Student Residence Committee (SRC). The use of Weeks had to be subject to the agreement of Vickers which provided money for its construction. One of the conditions made by the company was that all Vickers' sponsored students would be guaranteed places in the Hall. The company, however, is unhappy with the proposal and has told College Assistant Secretary Michael Arthur verbally that they are initially opposed to the SRC's plan.

Mr Arthur told FELIX that he hadn't 'got a definitive answer yet' but that Vickers had given several reasons why the proposal would not be a good one. He said that they had asked for more information, which he had sent, but he had not received a written reply.

## NUS threatened by MPs

An attempt by Tory back bench MPs to force student unions to 'opt in' to the National Union of Students, instead of the present automatic membership system, is unlikely to succeed. Some 214 backbenchers tabled an 'early day' motion proposing the change, led by Conservative Tim Janman, MP for Thurrock.

The NUS, in fighting the motion, claim that the NUS is not a closed

Mr Arthur went on to say that if Vickers did say no to the proposals, then the matter would have to be re-discussed at the next SRC. He said that the only other hall suitable to become postgraduate only was one of the Southside halls of residence. If one of these was not accepted then the idea of a new postgraduate hall would have to be scrapped.

Union President Sydney Harbour-Bridge said that he was 'in a tricky situation' because a Union General Meeting had mandated him to resist any moves to make any part of Southside postgraduate only. He said that he would take any new proposals back to a UGM which could decide to call a rent strike if College forced a postgraduate hall on Southside.

Mr Arthur said that 'everybody thought that it (the proposal for a postgraduate only hall) was a good idea but they didn't want it in their hall'. It will be up to the Residents Committee to decide on a final proposal if Vickers should object to using Weeks.

shop; student unions can and do vote to join and leave, they say their policies are decided by students at their conferences, all of whom are elected in cross-campus ballots.

The Government announced yesterday that they would not be adopting the clause and so it was only tabled near the bottom of the order paper, enabling any opponents to 'talk the motion out'. As FELIX went to press, the outcome was unknown.

IC Union presents

### An American Bash

featuring

### Stagefright

Plus the Gents—  
Disco—Cheap Beer—

Rich Henry's Cheap American Grub

Thursday 24th March

Tickets £2 —gives 30% off the grub —all profits to Rag

Disco and Food start 7pm

UNION BUILDING

## Mines results

The Royal School of Mines Union (RSMU) elections for next year took place yesterday with Tariq Abbas of MRE 2 becoming RSMU President for 1988/89. Vice President with the largest majority was Eddie Gadd, also MRE 2, and Nikki Deards (Mat 2) was elected unopposed to Hon Sec.

The next Junior Treasurer will be Ros Eden (Mt 2), and 88/89 Foreign Students Officer is to be Neil Agble (Mat 1).

## ULU flop

Only one of the top three University of London Union (ULU) sabbatical posts was contested at the Annual General Council (AGUC) last Sunday.

Stewart Jackson, of Royal Holloway and Bedford New College (RHBNC) was returned unopposed for 1988/89, as his opponent was not properly registered as a student, and Nicola Jones of University College (UCL) was elected to Vice President (Finance and Administration) without opposition.

The only contested post was for Vice President (Services), where Louise Van der Straeten (UCL) beat Grant Barden (RHBNC) by a large margin.

The new President, Stewart Jackson, promises in his manifesto, to advertise ULU's services more widely and he aims to 'popularise and utilise ULU to change its image from a bureaucratic students union without students to a Union for all students'.

The returning officer told the meeting that they had collectively failed in encouraging people to come forward and stand for ULU posts, particularly the student representatives on Senate—the top body in the University. There are still four senator posts left unfilled after the meeting.

## Books shelved

The Senate House library may be made reference-only if plans by the University of London are put into action. The idea was put forward to the library users as an idea to save the library money. Librarians, however, have warned that if all books are kept in the building there will be no shelf space left for new books.

## Reading to take degrees

Reading University has established procedures to withdraw students' degrees retrospectively. The University claims that the measure will improve freedom of speech, by dissuading sabbatical officers from 'noisy demonstrations aimed at preventing people from speaking'.

As an additional measure, a video firm is hired to record student protests. The University maintains there are suspicions that the protests are 'orchestrated by people outside the University' and that the videos will in fact protect genuine students.

The Student Union claims that last year the University tried to delay awarding sabbaticals' degrees until the end of their term of office. After the recent enactment of the Education No 2 Act (1986), which involves freedom of speech, the University decided it could strip past students' degrees; it claims all universities have this right.

Rob Wilson, President of Reading SU, described the actions as 'restricting the freedom of speech of students'. He said that the Union has a freedom of speech policy and will not prevent anyone from speaking as long as they speak within the law.

The Union is taking advice on a legal petition to take to the Queen, who is the Visitor of Reading University.



### The Royal School of Mines Journal 1988

The RSMJ (1988 edition) will be printed in June this year. The RSMJ is a must for anyone who wants to be kept well informed of all aspects of academic life in the Minerals Industry and life at the RSM. As has been the case in previous years we are continuing to add new features and ideas to the Journal and this year is to be no exception.

Further information please contact either: Frank Lucas (Editor) or Barrie Holt (Business Manager) c/o Royal School of Mines Journal, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BP Tel: 01-589-5111 (ext. Frank 3524 / Barrie 6472)

To be sure of obtaining your 1988 RSMJ order now through the above address £5.00 (including P/P)  
Life subscriptions £150.00  
Cheques payable to: RSMJ

## Liaison committee set up

A liaison committee is to be set up to provide better communications between College administration and the unions concerning Silwood Park.

At a meeting between College Secretary John Smith and representatives of all the staff unions, the unions expressed their apprehension about the new Science Park and its staffing. ASTMS spokesman John Fecamp told FELIX yesterday that he was 'concerned that a resource of the College was not necessarily being put to the best use'. Mr Fecamp is unhappy that the Technology Transfer Centre is not providing as much 'transfer of thought' as he believes it should but is instead being let out to private companies to derive income.

Mr Smith told FELIX that College was making around £100,000 each year as clear profit from renting out space in the Silwood Science Park which was enabling more development work to take place at Silwood. He said that he saw the need for more communication but that 'unions have no role' in the Science Park. He is concerned that the College unions don't appreciate that the Science Park is business.

The new committee will have no powers but it is hoped that all concerned parties will be able to have a say in what is happening in Silwood.

The IC Union President was also invited to attend the meeting, and although he didn't, it is hoped that there will also be student representatives on the new committee.

## London blackspot

The EEC should recognise London as a 'priority area of economic and social need'; according to a delegation which arrived in Brussels on Monday. The delegation comprises the leaders of the fifteen labour boroughs and the Inner London Education Authority.

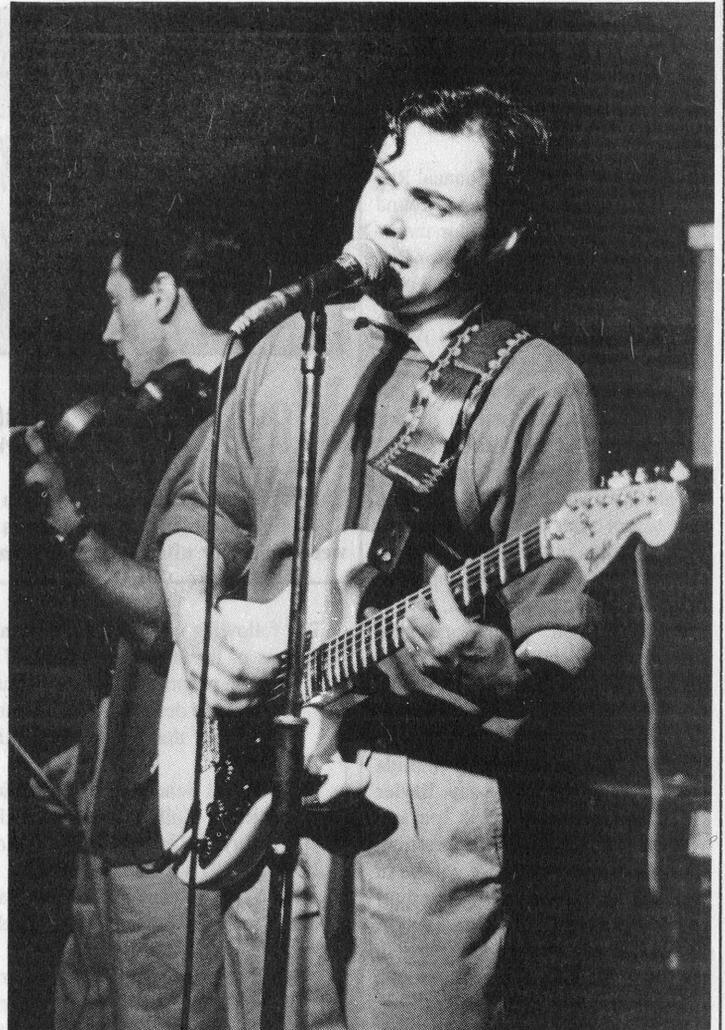
Although London's areas of high unemployment are amongst the worst in the European Community, it is not a designated development region as are Belfast and Naples. The EEC has funded training schemes as well as investing several million pounds in technology research funding in the capital, so is likely to resist the delegation's proposals for more spending.

The proposals include special measures to help the employment and training of women and young people with support for an expanded poverty programme.

## Tory row

A row about the sabbatical elections at Kings College is still running, long after most students have forgotten that they ever took place. Five right-wing Conservatives were disqualified for allegedly forging three of their twenty nominating signatures.

The Students' Union then began disciplinary proceedings against the Tories, but none of them turned up to the hearing which had to be adjourned. The Union then sent registered post letters to them but on the second date the same thing happened. The Disciplinary Committee has now referred the matter to the Principal.



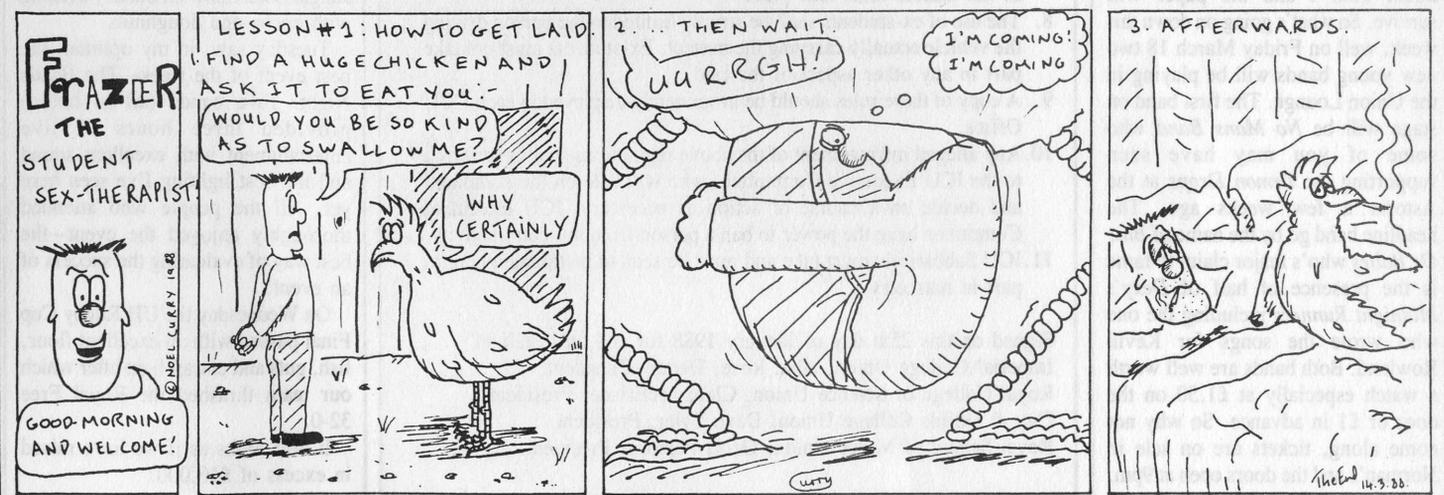
The Blue Ox Babes played the Union Lounge last Friday to a small but appreciative audience. The Babes have been receiving a great deal of press coverage recently following the release of their latest single.

## Merger

The Councils of the Central School of Art and Design and St Martins School of Art have decided to agree to a merger despite bitter opposition from both student unions.

## Flood

The Union's Print Unit was severely flooded over the weekend following heavy overnight rainfalls. It was estimated that around £100 worth of paper was ruined.



## Rag Fête

On Saturday April 30 the annual Rag Fête will take place on and around Queen's Lawn. This regular mega-event is the final major fling for Rag before exams take their toll, and is an ideal opportunity to enjoy yourself. As usual, trips up the Queen's Tower will be taking place offering superb views of London and there's a bar extension until 5pm, with a regular bar, real ale bar and a Pimms stall. Jez and Bo will be out offering rides for all: there will be stocks, allowing you to get your revenge on major Union figures of this year and next; there will be a large raffle, top prize being a trip for two to Paris; lots of stalls with food, prizes and silly games; and Michael Bentine will be giving a guest lecture. There will also be all the regular stunts and tricks like fire eating and some new ones as well. The Fête will be opened by Matilda Ziegler (Donna) and Lucy Bayler (Elizabeth) of Eastenders at 2pm and will end with the traditional wrestling match—though whether it will be in mud or jelly this year is as yet unsure.

The day doesn't end then though, since there will be a massive party in the Union Building that night to round off both the Ents and Rag years.

So come along to Queens Lawn on April 30 for a really good time, and if you've got a good idea for more stalls contact me via ICU before the end of term.

See you there!  
Dave Clements.

## ENTZ

Possibly the last article I will have the pleasure to write for FELIX, but no doubt both I and the paper will survive. So what's going on down this week, well on Friday March 18 two new young bands will be playing in the Union Lounge. The first band on stage will be *No Mans Band* who some of you may have seen supporting the *Lemon Drops* at the Astoria a few weeks ago. The headline band go by the name of *Blue Ox Babes* who's major claim to fame is the presence of half of *Dexy's Midnight Runners* including the one who wrote the songs for Kevin Rowland. Both bands are well worth a watch especially at £1.50 on the door or £1 in advance. So why not come along, tickets are on sale in Norman's and the doors open at 9pm.



## Mascotry Rules

This term new rules were set down by the Imperial College Union and its three Constituent College Unions based on mascotry. These new rules were called for after several unpleasant incidents took place last term.

The following clauses have been agreed by the Constituent College Unions of the Imperial College of Science and Technology:

1. For the purposes of this agreement a mascot shall refer to such an object as is defined by a Constituent College Union as the 'Violate Mascot' of that Union. At the time of this agreement these are as follows:
  - a) Royal School of Mines Union—'Davy'
  - b) Royal College of Science Union—'Theta'
  - c) City & Guilds College Union—'Spanner & Bolt'
2. The CCU's do not condone:
  - a) Any violence in mascotry raids (you are reminded that injury to any person may result in disciplinary and/or legal proceedings).
  - b) The breakage of locks, chairs, or any structures which are not specifically and solely securing a mascot in place, or the last remaining obstacle to the mascot (eg cupboard).
3. Mascotry is no excuse to break the law. People breaking the law will have no recourse to College or Union authorities.
4. All vehicles must abide by College regulations and speed limits.
5. In the event of any breakage of College property or any injury being sustained by a member of the mascotry team or any member of the public, the President of the respective CCU and the President of ICU should be informed immediately.
6. There will be no attempted raid or other interference for the durations of any formal event. For the purposes of mascotry a formal event will be deemed to have started once the mascot is placed in the room for that event, and has ended when the mascot is removed from that room.
7. If the 'offensive' team has a number of members greater than four times the number of the 'defensive' team then a peaceful handover of the mascot must take place.
8. The use of ex-students shall be strictly limited to the person driving the vehicle actually carrying the mascot. Ex-students must not take part in any other aspect of the raid.
9. A copy of these rules should be prominently displayed in each CCU Office.
10. Any alleged infringement of the above regulations shall be referred to the ICU Executive Committee, who will rule on the complaint and decide on a course of action as necessary. ICU Executive Committee have the power to ban a person from mascotry activity.
11. ICU Sabbaticals must take and must be seen to be taking a neutral part in mascotry.

Signed on this 25th day of January 1988 for and on behalf of  
Imperial College Union, Alan Rose, Deputy President.  
Royal College of Science Union, Clare McErlane, President.  
City & Guilds College Union, Dave Tyler, President.  
Royal School of Mines Union, Geoff Parsons, President.

## Letter from St Mary's

My absence last week was due to the success of our Rag Week. Unlike IC, the students at St Mary's like the idea of compacting the whole Rag activities into one hectic week. This allows the participating individuals to completely forget extra course work outside the lectures etc, and devote their energies entirely to the pursuit of having a good time.

One can argue the merits of the different approaches, and I suppose being a student here I am automatically biased, but the concentration achieved benefits the whole exercise as there is an identity, people do not tire of fund-raising, and anyone can try hard for a single week.

This Rag Week had the innovative (for us) Paris Dash, which by all accounts was thoroughly enjoyed by the participants and also raised lots of money. Still out on its own in terms of capital generated, is the Breakfast Party on Paddington Station. The students dress in Pyjamas etc and sell Rag Mags (or attempt to!) amongst the morning crush of commuters. This even raised £4559, which set the tone for the rest of the week.

A live steel band entertained the troops on the Wednesday evening at the Beach Party. Along with wicked cocktails and a limbo competition the fun passed far into the night.

The Slave Auction on Friday night was unprecedented. A record £1600 was pledged in return for the use of a 'slave for a day'.

I have described balls at Mary's before this so I shall just mention the fact that we had a Rag 'Oriental' Ball on the Saturday. A good recovery service was offered in the form of The Jungle Book Show on Sunday evening with cocoa and doughnuts.

Tuesday saw, in my opinion, the best event of the week—The Bands Night. Five bands (all in house) provided three hours of live entertainment with excellent sound and the best lighting I've seen here yet. All the people who attended thoroughly enjoyed the event—the best way of evaluating the success of an event.

On Wednesday the UH Rugby Cup Final passed with an excellent flourish, fish, guts and entrail fight after which our team thrashed the Royal Free 32-0.

It also looks as if we have raised in excess of £10,000.



## THE LAST EVER BARON —the runner up

Largeamounts, the Phallix Editor, switched off her VCR and phoned the Caped Avenger, the new head of the Super Heroism Department, who was in conference with Matt Chunder, the Caped Crusader.

'Caped, come quickly, I've just received a video tape from your arch-enemy, Mad Dan. He's threatening to kill all the characters in the Baron.'

Okay, Largeamounts, I'll be right over.' Meanwhile at the Cheapskate Head Citizens' Council, Sidney Spanker, Miss Greivousbodilyharm, Claire McUseless, Dave Braincell and Jumping Jehosophat were trying to teach some of the new head citizens—Dai Rocking, Heavy Smell and Coral Lustsome—how to appear to be very good at a job they were very bad at. Next on the agenda was a mysterious video-tape.

'Do you think he means it?' quailed Sidney, hoping he would be spanked to death in his new dress.

'No,' said Heavy, glaring menacingly at Braincell. 'It's probably just a flag stunt by the Lumpsofmetalworshippers' Tit Squad.'

'Yes I do and no it isn't,' said Mad Dan as he axed through the door and sliced them into very small pieces.

Largeamounts was very worried. All her staff were on sick leave suffering from exhaustion, the citizens were convinced she could produce Phallix on her own, the printing press had blown up, someone was threatening to axe her favourite column, and she'd sworn at and hit the photocopier in desperation. It had printed it would only work under a new editor.

Just as she thought things couldn't possibly get any worse, Geordie Dogleash and Mr Spindivecrashburn of the Mayfair Club dropped by in their car to pester her. 'This is it,' she thought, 'the lowest'. The lights went out and in burst Mad Dan.

'I'm gonna axe you for not revealing the true identity of the Caped Avenger!' he screamed.

Fortunately he thought she was alone and was taken completely by surprise when Mr Spindivecrashburn started breakdancing, enabling Geordie Dogleash to empty a bucket of photocopier fluid over him.

'Quick!' yelled Spindivecrashburn, 'You can escape to the Bahamas and be our page one girl!'

'Whewaye,' rejoiced Geordie Dogleash as they all jumped into the flame-red Aston Martin Vantage Volante and accelerated from 0 to 60 in under four seconds into the sunset, never to be seen again, except on postcards from the West Indies.

In the Quite Tasty Burger Bar, McNorthey was a worried man. He'd promised to open a kebab joint in the lounge above the McNorthside bar, but he was running out of meat for the Quite Tasty outlet, never mind a new 'catering' venture. How he wished he ran Normal's—they didn't use meat at all! And the Baron wanted some sample kebabs now!

Suddenly, in burst Mad Dan and cut off his arms, legs and head.

'That's it!' thought McNorthey. 'I'll cut up random drunks from the bar!' Unfortunately, he was unable to utilise this brilliant new supply idea because he was dead and being sliced up to provide the kebabs for the Baron and his entourage.

John Secretary, Michael Arthur and Mad Dash were also worried men. They'd just seen the Baron's copy of the dreaded video. Only the Baron was happy.

'We won't have to deal with those peskey head citizens wanting the money from the quarries,' he explained as they all tucked into their kebabs.

'But he wants to kill us too,' protested John Secretary.

'No he doesn't,' insisted the Baron.

'Yes I have!' yelled Mad Dan, axing his way through a wall as they all dropped dead of hemlock poisoning.

'Knew we should only have eaten the polystyrene boxes,' muttered Arthur Michael as he breathed his last.



Caped Avenger was not having a good day. First he'd been interrupted at a vital stage in his negotiation for a TV series and block-buster movie, then he'd been unable to stop Mad Dan literally axing the cast of the Baron. He stood in the Baron's throne room wondering where Mad Dan had gone.

Suddenly he saw vapour emerging from the basement of the Baron's Tower, and

watched in horror as the roof opened.

'Oh no! Not the Victorian ICBM/MIRV targetted on the Crimea, the Bars, Paris, Berlin and Moscow!'

He sprinted to the control centre on top of the Stargazing Department, but Mad Dan was already gone. A screen displayed the message, 'LAUNCH IMMINENT'.

'ABORT LAUNCH' he typed in desperation.

'IMPOSSIBLE, THE ABORTION DEADLINE HAS BEEN REDUCED FROM 28 SECONDS TO 18 SECONDS SINCE INITIATION. LAUNCH TEN SECONDS.'

'ABORT TARGET.'

'PLEASE ENTER NEW TARGET OR ALL HEADS WILL RETURN TO LAUNCH SITE.'

'Ah, well,' he thought, 'might as well kill three birds and a pet with one stone.'

'NEW TARGET: KENNY & MAGGIE'S PLACE, UPPING LANE, LONDON.'

'Should see off that Gerbill!' he continued to think.

At that instant the telescreen sprang to life. It was a nuisance, they were all in public places and never showed anything interesting, but you couldn't turn them off. Then he realised what it was saying:

'Mad Dan, the new Dictator of Cheapskate, will address his slaves in two minutes.' To STODGE at once!

Mad Dan grinned at the camera evilly. 'Bad day, slaves. First I must reveal the true identity of that megawimp, the Cloaked Marina. He is ugh!' he said as the Caped Avenger suffocated him by throwing a self-sealing cape across his face.

Caped took the stage. 'Citizens of Cheapskate, you may go about your legal business. But beware random laundry-users! I will get you.'

There only remained to discover the identity of Mad Dan. Removing his mask, Caped gasped. It was his flat-mate, Mike Insaneaxewielding maniac!

*Is this really the end of the Baron?*

*Will McNorthey's ghost open the kebab joint?*

*Will it be safe to get drunk in the bar?*

PS. The Caped Avenger is better known as...(edited due to lack of space).



## Editorial

Those of you who promised features for the science page had better get a move on: there are only eight issues of FELIX left this year. The Easter holiday is a good time to get stuck in to an article. You do want to be famous don't you? You do want to get your name in print? Honestly, it really is good for you and it really isn't that hard to do. Articles can be sent to me via the Chemistry PG letter racks or you can phone me on int 4642.

Stories illustrating Richard Feynman's unique approach to things continue to appear. Here is one I found particularly worth repeating since it shows Feynman himself putting all his great achievements in physics into perspective. The source of the story is Marcus Chown, who is Reviews Editor for *New Scientist*.

The first science programme that Marcus Chown's mother ever watched was the *Horizon* profile on Feynman. She seemed very interested in him, even though she had never shown any other interest in science despite her son's constant attempts to explain physics to her.

Later, when Chown was at CalTech, he thought of the useful idea: he would ask Feynman to write to his mother in the hope that this would prompt her to be more receptive to his explanations of science. He had never spoken to Feynman before, but he knew, somehow, that he wouldn't reject the idea as trivial.

He was right, Feynman duly posted a letter, but this is what it said: 'Dear Mrs Chown, ignore your son's attempts to teach you physics. Physics isn't the most important thing. Love is. Best wishes, Richard Feynman.'

Marcus Chown told the story to illustrate Feynman's character and he didn't think it was particularly profound. But I think that it is both profound and moving: the first time I read it I cried.

## Following brains as they work

If William of Ockham was a saint he would be the patron saint of scientists (unfortunately he was excommunicated for heresy). He was the 14th century theologian who invented the principle that the simplest explanation must be the best one

# UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



by Steve Black

(though he wasn't expelled from the church for this but for his adherence to Fransiscan vow of absolute poverty—the 14th century Vatican wasn't too keen on poverty).

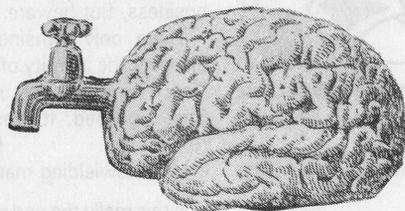
Ockham laid the intellectual foundations for modern science by his espousal of the principles of empiricism and reductionism. Modern science has been ruthlessly reductionist. To find out how complicated things work, we have tended to chop them up into smaller things that are easier to understand. This has been an immensely successful technique in the physical sciences. The ten million or so known chemicals can be chopped into the 100 or so elements which can, in turn, be divided into protons, electrons and neutrons, and so on.

This technique has not proved so wonderfully useful in the life sciences. There, reductionism often gets in the way of progress: it is difficult to understand how an animal works by chopping it into pieces, as animals tend to stop working when they are chopped up. We find it difficult to understand how brains work (even though we understand the bits well) because the whole is more than the sum of its parts. Biologists are, eventually, moving away from

Emission Tomography' (PET for short), but it's not as painful to do as it is to pronounce. It has already caused a stir among brain scientists by short circuiting some of their previous theories.

The method involves injecting the subject with radioactive water (the radioactivity only lasts for several minutes and the amounts involved are safe—less radiation is involved than in conventional medical X-rays). The emission can be detected and a map of where the radioactive water has gone can be made from the information. The parts of the brain that work hardest use more water, and the radioactive oxygen accumulates there. This enables scientists to tell what parts of the brain are used for certain activities.

The recent work involves a study of how we convert reading into speech. Previously it was thought that we convert the visual image into its spoken equivalent, then look it up in a dictionary to see what it means and only then pass it to the speech centre to be vocalised. PET shows that no dictionary stage is needed: we convert scribbles directly into sounds. However, the area of the brain that is active in converting writing into sounds is different from the area



reductionist methods and are starting to look at things as a whole.

This brings me (belatedly) to the subject of this story: a new technique for studying how whole brains work that doesn't involve chopping them up. The technique is called 'Positron

involved in actually understanding what is written. Perhaps this should have been obvious from the behaviour of politicians.

The group are now working on the study of more complicated tasks. Their work may prove useful in

aiding brain surgery in cases of injury. Significantly, their work represents a technique that allows study of the whole brain without having to dissect it. The sort of answers that they are getting should be far more useful than the reductionist models of brain action common at present.

## Deadly veg

I always get annoyed when people complain about chemical additives in food. Most of them are there for a good reason and have been thoroughly tested for safety. The same cannot be said for some of the naturally occurring chemicals present in perfectly ordinary foodstuffs. Recently a group of chemists have spotted some particularly nasty compounds in the celery, parsnip and carrot family.

The effects of these chemicals was first seen during the First World War when a group of soldiers in France were taken severely ill after loading some supplies into the truck. Initially the symptoms were mistaken for mustard-gas poisoning (the Germans had just started to use gas as a weapon). But it turned out that the symptoms were the result of handling vegetables suffering mild fungal infections.

Recently chemists have been investigating the chemicals that cause the trouble. The particular group of compounds involved (with names such as psoralen, angelicin and coriandrin) are produced by some plants in response to stress such as physical damage or fungal infection. The compounds act by interfering with nucleic acids and hence DNA replication. They are at their worst in the presence of sunlight which excites the molecules enabling them to cause severe genetic damage and virtually prevent cell repair or replication in the invader. Unfortunately the chemicals rub off onto anyone who handles the vegetables. The resulting symptoms are rather like some chemical weapons. There are few regulations requiring cancer-testing on fresh vegetables, but there may soon be a case for it, as these natural nasties outclass most of the ones developed by man in deliberate attempts to make deadly compounds. If the vegetables are in good condition, there is not usually a problem, but concentrations of the nasties shoot up when the vegetables have been damaged. I'm taking my rubber gloves home from the lab to use in my kitchen.

(*Chemistry in Britain*, 24, p203)

## THE LAST EVER BARON —the winner



'And Lo!' cried Sindy Silly-Suit, 'I command you, the Sinister Union, to be cast out from Cheap skate and into the wilderness, so you can find your own dosh for a change. And may the UCCCCF kick the sh\*t out of you as well.'

'You can't do this to us!', yelled the Sinister Sec Jackie Jock. 'We haven't taken over the whole college yet. And we'll have nowhere to hold our rallies. Where are we going to advertise?'

'Spread the word of God by mouth,' suggested an ailing Baron from his wheelchair.

Pathos Ritzpenis gagged the old man with a copy of Cairo. 'Shut up non-believer or I'll show you the college's overdraft.'

The Baron nodded wildly then slumped further back into the cushions.

Silly-Suit was about to continue his tirade when a dreadful noise arose from Southside. 'Whassat?' he asked.

'Methinks,' answered Nigel Halfbaked as he climbed off Fiona No-elastic, 'Tis Bob MacSnorty building his new Dog-on-a-stick house. Word has

it that it'll have ten strains of salmonella on the take-away menu alone.'

'It is the policy of Cheap skate that any citizen has the right to join any society without fear for his life, academic record, or consumer rights,' stated Sindy in his best crusading voice. (He omitted 'Bank Balance' for obvious reasons) 'We can't have Sinisters flaunting the rules just because their divine ruler tells them to, can we?'

'But the UCCCCF is all knowing, all seeing and all doing,' protested Jackie. 'We appease it by obedience, and it showers us with the odd cheque.'

'And just what is in your coffers at the moment?' asked Sindy. Ritzpenis, scratched his head; then his armpit, then his head again. 'Ah...Well...Hm...Dunno actually. Being a religious sect, we don't have much care for mon.....'

At that moment, a large hobnailed boot attached to Jock's foot met with Pathos' rear and sent him sailing out of the union mausoleum and onto the Bite Rectangle below.

Halfbaked let out an audible groan and got off No-elastic again. 'Hey guys,' (being the next President he had to learn to communicate) 'Don't you think we'd better listen to the budget?'

Jock and Silly-Suit grabbed the nearest tranny and switched it on '....grants, covenant tax relief, housing benefit, nurses and filofaxes are to be abolished...'

They switched it off.

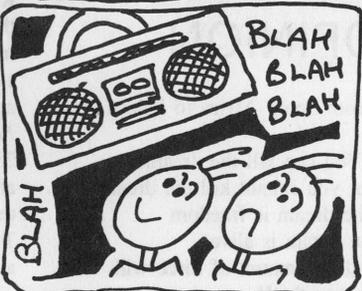
'Right,' declared Silly-Suit, 'I'm bored, I'm still the President, and what I say goes. So Sinisters out of here now, someone wheel the Baron back to Surefield, and everyone else to the bar.'

'We'll be back you slimy ball of pigs syphilis Silly-Suit' ranted Jock as she was dragged by her hair out of the office 'We'll get you for this.....'

Back in Surefield, the Baron was put to bed. He rested a while then called his ally John Secretary to his side.

'I've got to know...Stonyride...?' he spluttered.

'Everything's going fine,' assured Secretary.



'Will it be ready on time?'

'Don't worry, that place will certainly be your tomb.'

'And my staff?'

'We shall all be there, in the single rooms. Have no fear, there will be no one to disturb your peace.'

'Not even the new editor?'

'Badloser? Don't worry, we've fixed him...'

Largeamounts shone the arclight into Badloser's face.

'For the last time creep, do you know what a gestetner is?'

Badloser tried to hide inside his hat. He was beginning to wish his posters hadn't been so streetwise after all.



'Er...some sort of veneral disease? A formula one car?'

'It's a printer, weasel face!' she yelled and headbutted him to illustrate her point.

'Oh God, this is the best day of my Phallix career,' she suddenly beamed, 'The spirit lives!!!' and she kicked Badloser in the groin to make herself feel even happier.

'Please don't' groaned Badloser, 'I'll resign my post, I'll leave and join the Carpies. Just stop torturing me. I can't stand it any longer.'

'And what about Silly-Suit?' asked a coughing Baron of Secretary.

'I'm going to deal with him myself...' was the reply.

Silly-Suit was busy restructuring the whole of Cheap skate admin when Secretary walked in.

'I think there's something you should know, Sindy...' he said gravely.

Sindy was all ears (and he looked a real pillock with it). 'Tell me the worse John.'

'I've heard there's this little university union in outer Guatemala that's having trouble with its rulers. They need someone with dedication, devotion to duty, a strong will and lousy dress sense. They need YOU, Sindy. Whaddayasay?'

Sindy stood up and pushed his chest out. Eyes glaring with a burning intensity he began...

'Wherever there is injustice in this world. I shall be there. Whenever students need someone, I shall go to them. I....AM....SUPER-SJNDY!'

And with that he ripped off his pink Chino trousers to reveal some bright red boxers with S-S inscribed. Then sniffing his armpit as he punched the air, he rushed out of the office and was never heard of again. The only clue to his whereabouts came from a dodgy report about him being eaten alive by an insane female Sinister missionary in the Phillipines, but this was never substantiated.

'I think it's time,' said the Baron 'Call in the priest for the last writings.'

John Secretary did so solemnly. It was a sad moment. Outside, the citizens of Cheap skate were going about their pillage and rape with the usual apathy. They would never understand how great the Baron had been, never be able to understand the true wit involved.

'Right, I'll be off then' said the old man. 'See you at Stonyride.' And with that he coughed once and died.

'Not bloody likely, pal,' said Secretary standing up. Christ, all that sympathy had been hard work. But now HE was in charge. A new dictator had arrived. The Baron was dead. Long live the Dragon.....

*Will the Dragon ever breathe fire?*

*Will Jackie Jock ever return?*

*Will I ever get my sweatshirt?*



## Six months of a lifetime

As those who know me well will realise, I have now spent the last six months working full time for Norman's, the Union Snack Bar. I had a slack moment the other day, during which I had a mental play with some figures; the results quite surprised me. The figures in question relate to my use of time in those six months, and here they are:

I estimate that I have made in excess of twenty thousand cups of coffee. This would have used enough cups to make a stack three hundred metres high, weighing twenty kilogrammes. In making those cups, I clocked up a total of more than a hundred kilometres just walking from the till to the coffee machine and back, and used about three hundred pounds weight of coffee granules.

I have made about five thousand cups of tea, adding seventy-five metres to the stack of cups and twenty kilometres to my walking total.

I have smoked—arrgh—six thousand cigarettes, shouted at Norman Jardine two hundred times, and had a furious row with Captain Braincell. I have spent a total of four and a half hours arguing with Simon Boshier about gay rights, worn provocative tee-shirts, and leched at most of the Life Sciences department, including one member of staff.

I have emerged with a great liking for the raving Jock ned who runs the place, and guess what? I'd do it all again.

See you all soon,  
Andrew Bannister LP  
(Leftie Poofster)



## Flash in the pan?

Last October I was dragged along to the Gate Theatre in Notting Hill Gate to see a new comedy trio curiously named *Flash Haddock*. After appearing in numerous Electrical Engineering revues and Beit Hall parties I was assured they were worth a try. The show was a huge success; although their acting was useless, the material was well thought out and the audience were behind them all the way.

On the strength of their success that night, *Flash Haddock* were contracted to appear at the Gate in February this year and my curiosity forced me to find out how they had progressed. The change was very noticeable. The script, as before, was hilarious but now they could act. No longer were

they just an unprofessional comedy trio hoping for a break in the entertainments world, they showed authenticity and professionalism.

Enticed by the odd name and their fantastic scriptwriting I chatted to them recently about their work in comedy revue.

*Flash Haddock* are not a wacky band of surrealists. 'Don't even mention the words wacky or zany in this,' they said 'that's just the kind of humour we're not'. So I did. The three present members of *Flash Haddock*, Josh (James O'Shea), Douglas Earl and Malcolm Busby are all ex-IC students from Electrical Engineering. Directed by Ashid Hilne, they have just finished a three week stint at the Gate Theatre and

three weeks at the Canal Cafe Theatre, Little Venice and are currently writing material for *News Review*, the largest running revue show in London. They have been hailed as 'the best new scriptwriters in years', by Ian Christensen, who took them on for *News Review* and are presently trying for work with BBC Radio.

*Flash Haddock* describe their humour as a cross between *Monty Python* and *Not the 9 O'Clock News*. Made up of short sketches, their act stands out from the run of the mill stand-up comedy, most of which has little variation. They pride themselves on their rapid turnover of material, even their favourite sketches are continually being revamped.

If you fancy the idea of Ronald Reagan fooling the world into thinking he's thick or a very tongue in cheek view of American TV evangelists, *Flash Haddock* are appearing, with a new revue, *Robocod* at IC on Wednesday March 23 at 9pm in the Lounge. At £1 for advance tickets or £1.50 on the door, they are well worth a trip to see. Tickets are available from Soc Reps and Normans.

But why *Flash Haddock*? 'Fish are essentially funny and we were flicking through an old Queen LP at the time, we were very nearly *A Night at the Haddock*.

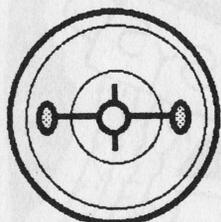
## OPINION

From South Africa to Palestine

"You can kill the dreamer but you cannot kill the dream  
The dream is freedom  
the dream is alive  
and no amount of force will change that"

*The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cape Town (Feb 88)*

Submitted by S Alami,  
Chem Eng PG.



**City & Guilds  
College Union  
RAG CASINO**

**Thursday 24th March 7.30pm  
Union Building Cost £1=50**

## KENSINGTON GORE SW7

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

● **LINSTEAD** and Tizard Halls of Residence don't seem to be hitting it off at the moment. Linstead celebrated its birthday last week with a party and a large message across the windows of the hall reading 'Happy Birthday Linstead'. This was soon followed by a message on Tizard's gallery level window saying 'We hate Linstead'. Linstead retaliated by invading Tizard and, in the process, flooded a landing, removed all the lavatory chains from one staircase and pinched all the toilet paper in Southside.

All wacky stuff, but my spies tell me that it was not the residents of Tizard who wrote the offending message. It was, in fact, a subversive Falmouth-Keogh group, known as B\*st\*rdSoc, that has reaped havoc around Southside for several weeks now.

But why did Tizard not remove the message when they saw what BSoc had done? Answers on windows please.

● **MORE STORIES** of wacky goings on in the halls of residence reached me this week. Apparently the latest rage in one of the halls is stealing people's door handles. A more advanced version of this is to unscrew the handle and take out the bar connecting the inner and outer handles and refit the handle. The lock, therefore, looks untouched but is rendered inoperative, trapping the owner either inside or outside.

One unfortunate 'victim' of this was a female postgraduate who had her bar removed at midnight on Saturday. She didn't discover it until the next morning.

● **WHO IS** the Phantom Electrician of the Union Building? This strange poltergeist has been nicking the light bulbs from the lift as fast as the Union can replace them. STOIC Technical Manager 'Axeman' Jon Denham thought that he could get the better of this ghost. He fitted a 200W bulb which was so bright it gave lift passengers a suntan, and so hot that no mortal could have removed it. However, the Phantom struck again, and within two days the remains of the bulb were seen scattered all over level four of the Union Building.

● **THE FUNNIEST** thing to reach my ears this week was the tale of the IC Radio elections. A tough campaign was fought between 'naughty' Nigel Whitfield, final year chemist Richard Fincher and Judith Hackney, who needs something to do next year. Richard was elected after the reallocation of Judith's votes and admitted that he was somewhat surprised by the outcome. 'I voted Judith 1 and me 2, actually,' he said later!

● **THERE WERE** cheers in every part of the College two weeks ago when Syd Harbour Bridge (née Howgate) threw a tantrum and withdrew from the race for UGM Chairman when the Results UGM decided not to let the new Constitution and Policy Officer (CPO) through. He seems to have taken the loss of his chosen post next year to heart. He was recently seen in the Bar shouting after winner Paul 'Shan' Shanley, 'I'll be watching you every step of the way next year'.

My sources close to the great Bridge tell me that he has contingency plans. He believes that he will *definitely* be the next subwarden of Southwell House, Evelyn Gardens when the post is advertised next term. Why? Because great friend, and one time presidential proposer, Ken Young is the Warden there and has promised him the job.

If this plan falls through, or even if it doesn't, he will be watching for any slips that Shan makes so that he can 'No Confidence' him and reinstate the CPO.

Mr Harbour Bridge has also confided to his close friends that he intends to run for a second term as ICU President. Niggly Nigel Baker is just 'keeping his seat warm'!

● **IF MR SHB** does stand for President next year, he will certainly have some stiff opposition. We've only just got rid of this year's sabbatical elections and potential candidates for the 1989/90 session are already making statements of intent. Those in the running so far are Neil McCluskey, current Recreational Clubs Committee Chairman, who is becoming increasingly vocal on all the important Union committees he can get himself on, also several Beans Club candidates and a hamster. The FELIX Office is running a bet on whether SHB will manage a 'Ronald Reagan' or just fade into obscurity.

● **WHY IS THERE** so much interest in the drongo post of Union Publicity Officer for next year? For the last few years no-one has come forward to do this thankless job, but there will be as many as five candidates this year. Is this because a certain well-known ICU President made it clear that he would stand for this post as a last resort if he didn't get CPO?

● **TOY BOY** Paul 'Ego' Shanley has been leading poor, impressionable FELIX Editor Judith Hackney astray. Every since he became a regular fixture in the FELIX Office, she has been seen drinking alcohol, betting on the nags and indulging in indecent interviewing techniques. Staff are

becoming increasingly concerned by this abnormal behaviour and were outraged to find the two watching the Cheltenham Gold Cup on a television in the FELIX Office especially imported for the occasion last Thursday. Miss Hackney, 22, denies everything.

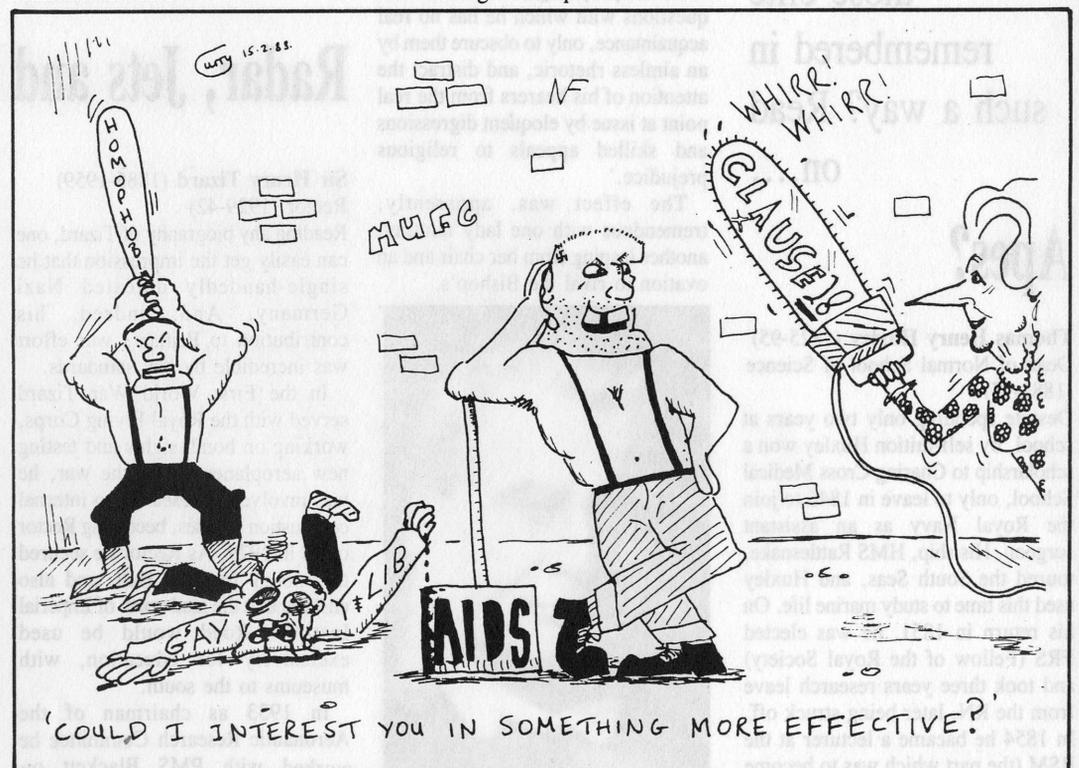
● **FAILED HON SEC** candidate Rodger Houghton has gone into deep depression since being defeated. He has been sighted getting paralytic in Southside Bar in the company of several young ladies. This came to a head last week when, after losing his glasses, he turned up at a house he no longer resides in, wearing only one shoe. Fellow residents at Lexham Gardens have taken to calling him 'Cinderella'. But will Rodger ever find his prince?

● **WHAT DOES** a warden do with five free hours?

New Holbein Warden Chris Toumazou might know. Recently he decided to emulate his residents by doing some serious sharking at a party in Linstead Hall. He was cornered by a fellow (female) warden and then disappeared at midnight. He was next seen when he interrupted a Holbein all-night poker school at 5.00am. My spies described his condition as 'well under the influence, but well over the moon'.

● **THAT'S ALL** for now folks!

Chris Jones



## HistorIC—the names and the places

BY MARTIN COLE

IC's history, dating back to before the 1907 Charter of Incorporation, has been dominated by great scientists and leaders. Their contribution to the College's present form is recognised in the names of the buildings around College. But why in particular are those elite remembered in such a way? Read On....

### Apes?

**Thomas Henry Huxley (1825-95)**  
Dean of Normal School of Science (1881-95)

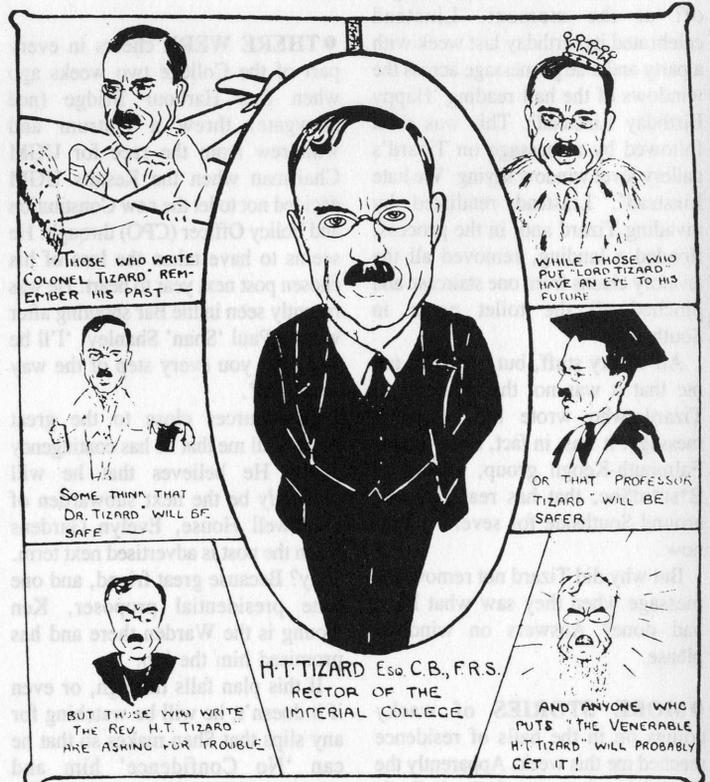
Despite spending only two years at school, by self-tuition Huxley won a scholarship to Charing Cross Medical School, only to leave in 1846 to join the Royal Navy as an assistant surgeon. His ship, HMS Rattlesnake, toured the South Seas, and Huxley used this time to study marine life. On his return in 1851, he was elected FRS (Fellow of the Royal Society) and took three years research leave from the RN, later being struck off. In 1854 he became a lecturer at the RSM (the part which was to become

the RCS). During his life he published some 150 research papers of a largely zoological nature.

But Huxley is probably best remembered for his support of Darwin's theory of evolution and in particular a famous clash with Bishop Wilberforce at the British Association Oxford. The Bishop, nicknamed 'Soapy Sam' on account of his verbal skills, addressed the audience first using eloquent arguments to dismiss Darwin's *The Origin of Species*. Despite winning the audience over, he could not, however, resist a direct attack at Huxley, asking, 'Is it on his grandfather's or his grandmother's side that the ape ancestry comes in?'

While this may have served to ridicule Huxley it also justified 'the severest retort' that Huxley could devise. After waiting for quiet, Huxley began to speak. In closing he launched his counter-attack, 'No man should be ashamed of having an ape for his grandfather. If there were an ancestor whom I should feel shame in recalling it would rather be a *man*—a man of restless and versatile intellect—who, not content with an equivocal success in his own sphere of activity, plunges into scientific questions with which he has no real acquaintance, only to obscure them by an aimless rhetoric, and distract the attention of his hearers from the real point at issue by eloquent digressions and skilled appeals to religious prejudice.'

The effect was, apparently, tremendous with one lady fainting, another leaping from her chair and an ovation to rival the Bishop's.



### Radar, Jets and Bouncing Bomb

**Sir Henry Tizard (1885-1959)**  
Rector (1929-42)

Reading any biography of Tizard, one can easily get the impression that he single-handedly defeated Nazi Germany. And, indeed, his contribution to Britain's war effort was incredible by any standards.

In the First World War Tizard served with the Royal Flying Corps, working on bomb sights and testing new aeroplanes. After the war, he was involved in research on internal combustion engines, becoming Rector of IC in 1929. As Rector he secured the money for Beit Hall, and also ensured that the land north of Imperial Institute Road would be used exclusively for education, with museums to the south.

In 1933 as chairman of the Aeronautic Research Committee he worked with PMS Blackett on

detecting enemy aircraft with radio beams and tracking them to allow fighters to intercept. By 1939 Britain had a network of radar stations that was to prove crucial to her defence in the war. Also in this year, Tizard secured uranium ore for British research into a nuclear weapon and some for Prof G P Thomson (son of J J Thomson) at IC. His other outstanding achievements of this period included his support of Sir Frank Whittle in developing the jet engine; his efforts in winning American sympathy and, more importantly, technical support in 1940, and his encouragement of Sir Barnes Wallis' dam-busting bomb. Tizard later described Wallis' bouncing bomb as the 'finest individual technical achievement of the war'.

## IC Rector in 'a Dead End Job'

**Lord William George Penney**  
(b. 1909)

Rector (1967-73)

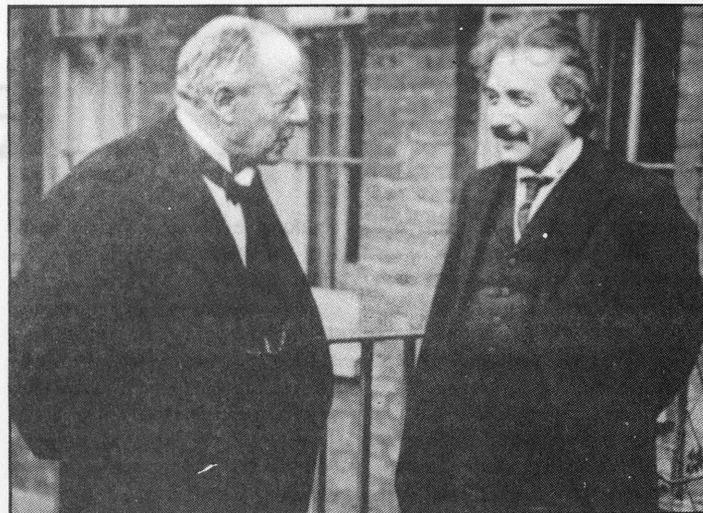
Penney studied Maths at IC, returning as an Assistant Professor at only 27 years old. In 1940, he started scientific work with the Government, largely involved with the effects of explosions. With this experience he went to America to work on the Manhattan Project. He witnessed the Alamogordo test and distinguished himself at the Bikini Atoll tests where he analysed the blast by its effect on carefully arranged sea-water filled petrol cans, while the more sophisticated American monitoring equipment was destroyed by the explosion. Penney was an observer on the Superfortress bomber that delivered the Nagasaki bomb and this experience made him determined to safeguard British cities by developing a British bomb as a deterrent.

So when the US severed atomic relations with Britain by the 1946

McMahon Act, Penney was the natural choice to lead the British bomb programme. Despite persistent staff shortages he was able to achieve in six years, what had taken the Soviets fourteen years and the Americans seventeen years (though obviously not quite a fair comparison!) with Britain's first test on the Monte Bello islands in 1952. Followed by the H-bomb test on Christmas Island in 1957—the 'Penney Banger'.

From the creation, in 1945, of the UK Atomic Energy Authority Penney was closely involved, and led the inquiry into the fire at Windscale in 1957, of which the report was recently made public under the thirty year-rule.

Penney was Rector of IC from 1967-73, and on retiring described it as 'A dead end job; there is nowhere to go and at the end of it, you are dead.'



## Metaphysical Education

**Richard Burdon Haldane, Viscount Haldane of Cloan** (1856-1928)

On committee responsible for IC's Charter of Incorporation. Interestingly Haldane was not a scientist; he studied philosophy and later law at Edinburgh and Göttingen Universities. He was a Liberal MP, 1885-1911, serving as War Minister 1905-12, and Lord Chancellor 1912-15 and again, in the first Labour Government, in 1924. In his seven years at the War Office he set up the Expeditionary Force (later to play an important part in the Great War), the Territorial Army and the Officers' Training Corps.

In early 1912, he visited Germany in an unsuccessful attempt to stop the naval arms race, this and his otherwise close ties with Germany led to pro-German accusations from the sensationalist press. And in 1915 he

was forced out of public life.

Haldane maintained an active interest in higher education throughout his life, founding the LSE in 1895, and he was Birbeck College president (1919-28). In 1904 he sat on the committee that created the University Grants Committee, and later, the committee responsible for IC's constitution.

In 1921, Haldane published a book on the philosophical implications of Einstein's Theory of Relativity. Later that same year Einstein stayed with Haldane while visiting England, though he was sceptical of any moral application of his theory, considering it to be 'purely abstract-science'.

Haldane was not a particularly popular figure, often clouding political issues with his metaphysical erudition.

## A Tall, Gangling Man

**Lord Sherfield formerly Sir Roger Makins** (b 1904)  
Chairman of the Governing Body (1962-74)

After a brief career in law, Sherfield entered the Foreign Office, in 1928, serving in Washington, Oslo and London. During the Second World War, he acted as advisor to Lord Swinton and later Harold Macmillan in their work as Resident Minister to Allied forces HQ, Algiers.

In 1945 he was posted to the British Embassy, Washington and was connected with the Tube Alloys Project—part of the atomic bomb programme—but was unable to prevent the US from not sharing atom secrets after the war.

Following a five-year spell at the Foreign Office in London, Sherfield returned to the United States as

ambassador. Throughout this time he was invariably involved with atomic energy, and it was, therefore, of little surprise that he became Chairman of the UK Atomic Energy Authority for four years from 1959-63. He was Chairman of IC's Governing Body 1962-74, being created Baron Sherfield (after his home village Sherfield-on-Loddon) in 1963.

More recently he chaired the Lord's Select Committee on Science and Technology in 1987, recommending that Mrs Thatcher should appoint a cabinet minister for Science and Technology and chair a council on the same subject.

In his prime, Sherfield was described in the Financial Times as 'a tall gangling man who constantly gesticulates with large hands'.

## Tube Station Laboratory



**Patrick Maynard Stuart Blackett, Baron Blackett of Chelsea**  
(1897-1974)

Pro-Rector (1961-64) and Dean (RCS) (1955-60)

Following his father into the Navy, Blackett saw action in the Falklands in 1914, and at Jutland, the principal naval battle of the First World War that gave the Royal Navy control of the North Sea.

After the war, Blackett studied physics at Cambridge under Lord Rutherford, carrying out research on improving Wilson's cloud chamber. In 1933 while studying cosmic rays he was able to confirm Anderson's discovery of the positron (positive electron). Much of his cosmic ray penetration research was conducted 100 feet below London's pavements, on a disused platform at Holborn station. It was not until 1948 that Blackett received the Nobel Prize for his work in these fields.

In 1939, Blackett, as advisor to Anti-Aircraft Command, helped in reducing the number of rounds required to bring down enemy aircraft from 20,000 to 4,000. He was also involved with tactical submarine warfare, and RAF bomb sights. But Blackett was a scientist with a strong social conscience, as his controversial paper the 'Military and Political Consequences of Atomic Energy' revealed. In this work he argued that the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs had been dropped for political reasons and not, as President Truman had claimed, 'to shorten the agony of war'. At the time his views were held as being pro-communist though they are now accepted as platitudinous.

In 1953, he became Professor of Physics at IC, pursuing research into rock magnetism. He was honoured by many institutions and received a life peerage in 1969.

## OPINION

# A Question of Faith

It can hardly have escaped your notice, on reading the last few issues of FELIX, that the Christian Union (CU) has been having a 'spot of bother'. But why, after over sixty years, have the Union decided not to recognise the CU.

The Union by-laws state that full ICU members 'shall be entitled to the use of all facilities and amenities provided by the Union'. This has been interpreted to mean that any student may join any club or society. The CU asks members to sign a statement of faith, and committee members to sign a doctrinal basis (the belief on which the CU is founded) thus the CU's constitution is seen as unconstitutional and the CU was expelled from the Union. (The ambiguous clause regarding speakers (FELIX 798) will be changed at the forthcoming EGM.)

Perhaps the CU is badly named. It appears to give the impression that we believe we represent all Christians. However we are fully aware of the diversities within the Christian faith. We encourage those who do not fit comfortably into our society to find a society in which they feel more at home. Our own individuality from other Christian societies is protected by our doctrinal basis. This ensures that there is always a society in which individuals can find a group of Christians with whom they feel

comfortable. For some this will be the CU, for others the Chaplaincy, for others Cathsoc or Methsoc. And we do not presume to judge those who do not feel their place is with us.

There are a number of reasons why I feel that an exception to the by-laws should have been made in the case of the CU (or the by-laws changed). Firstly, the CU is not a 'closed society'. Everyone is welcome to come and listen to and discuss what has been said (hence the 50 posters distributed around College to advertise each event). So, in this sense, the CU is open to all ICU members. I made many friends, and had an active part in the CU Physics Bible Study Group for nearly a year before becoming a CU member. This year membership cards weren't distributed until nearly three weeks into the Autumn term, by which time students had seen what we were about, and could decide whether or not they wanted to join. Interaction with other Christian societies in College is high, many members of the CU are members of other groups and the CU president meets once a term with the student leaders of the other Christian societies.

So why the membership clause? It ensures continuity, thus preserving the character of the CU; and is necessary for affiliation to our

### STATEMENT OF FAITH

I believe in:

1. The unity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead.
2. Jesus Christ as my Saviour, my Lord and my God.
3. The divine inspiration of Holy Scripture as originally given, and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

maternal body, the Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF), which provides us with many (non-financial) resources, without which (or whom) we could not function effectively.

Each year new students join, and a new committee is elected—without a membership clause or a doctrinal basis, it is easy to see how the CU could move away from the aims on which it is based. So in this sense, the doctrinal basis provides continuity through the years in the same way as the Chaplains do within the chaplaincies. Also, without them, in extreme (but admittedly unlikely) circumstances, students opposed to the Christian Union could swamp membership and radically change or disband the society. I believe this has happened in the past to Gay Soc, with committee members being elected who are unsympathetic to gay rights.

A further analogy can be drawn between the CU and the orchestra. Anyone can join the orchestra; in the same way anyone can come to CU meetings. However, only those who can play an instrument to the required standard will be allowed to perform, thus retaining the characteristically high standard of the orchestra's performances. Likewise by restricting the voting membership and those eligible for the Committee the character of the CU is retained. Voting rights are the only difference between a member and a non-member, all meetings and social activities, as previously stated, remain open to everyone.

Our affiliation to UCCF is very important. It provides support for our student leaders, with advice, training and practical help etc, in the same way as the student leaders of Methsoc, Cathsoc and the WLC are assisted by their chaplains.

I suppose that leaves the question 'Does IC need a CU?'. I'd say yes—there has been a CU at Imperial since at least 1922; the CU has always had a large membership (this year 50,

with many non-members also actively involved; mainly through departmental Bible study groups). So there is a call for it.

But the Union fears an exception in the case of the CU would give clubs, with their self-elected membership, a 'carte blanche' to become part of ICU (FELIX 796). However, drawing parallels between religious societies and clubs is hardly plausible, even on the grounds of membership clauses. But maybe the relevant ICU by-laws could be changed so that at least committee members of religious societies could be required to state their belief in the views the society aims to promote.

Whatever happens to the CU in the long run, the Union will have to review its position or the C&G Motor Club will also be out as it excludes those potential members who belong to any motoring organisation other than the RAC. This is to retain their affiliation to their national body. An affiliation which presumably is as necessary to the Motor Club, as affiliation to UCCF is for the CU.

Finally, could the CU survive on its own? I think yes, although it will be much more difficult. One third of CU's nationally do not belong to their students' unions. It doesn't seem to affect their size, just the students' pockets (at the University of Sussex each CU member gives £10 a term to CU funds. At Imperial with our membership, this would have to be £15).

Within the objects of ICU is 'the encouragement of interest by students in matters outside the College curriculum, especially cultural and athletic interests'. If there is a need for a CU, which I believe there is, then surely the Union should support it.

If you would like to discuss any of the issues raised in this article with me, then don't hesitate to get in contact.

*Sam Lee, Physics 3.*

### Clause 4. THE DOCTRINAL BASIS

The doctrinal basis of the Union shall be the fundamental truths of Christianity as revealed in Holy Scripture, including:

- a) The unity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Godhead.
- b) The sovereignty of God in creation, revelation, redemption and final judgement.
- c) The divine inspiration and infallibility of Holy Scripture as originally given, and its supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
- d) The universal sinfulness and guilt of human nature since the fall, rendering mankind subject to God's wrath and condemnation.
- e) The full deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God, his virgin birth and his real and sinless humanity; his death on the cross, his bodily resurrection and his present reign in heaven and earth.
- f) Redemption from the guilt, penalty and power of sin only through the sacrificial death once and for all time of our representative and substitute, Jesus Christ, the only mediator between God and man.
- g) Justification as God's act of undeserved mercy, in which the sinner is pardoned all his sins, and accepted as righteous in God's sight, only because of the righteousness of Christ imputed to him, this justification being received by faith alone.

# NEWS

# REVIEW

● This term started off with a cracker of a story about Linstead's ill-fated basement sale in December. What had been thought as an obvious way to re-organise the storage area in the Hall, turned out to be an insurers nightmare when several angry students tried to reclaim their belongings which had been sold several weeks beforehand.

It all began when Linstead Hall Convenor Martin Whitfield suggested that the basement area should be cleared and any unwanted property sold for charity and to raise funds for the Hall's twentieth birthday party. The Hall committee put up posters and several small ads in FELIX to announce the clearout and sale. Only unmarked packages were opened, with all the old clothes being donated



to Oxfam and valuable goods put aside for sale. They found three televisions, three stereos, ski boots, a windsurfing outfit, a computer and three bicycles which were all sold and raised over a thousand pounds in the process.

This was all very well for the Hall committee and its party but several other students were none to pleased with the sale of *their* goods. It was claimed that the organisers had opened marked packages, as well as those that were not marked, and not put enough effort into finding the original owners.

The outcome was that an enquiry was held to stop such incidents happening again, the party was a great success and the College insurers are still arguing about who should pay.

● Student accommodation has been in the news several times this term. Despite gaining Fisher Hall in Evelyn Gardens, College administration will not be able to guarantee all next year's intake a room in a hall or house. The situation was caused by the loss of Rayleigh House, a house in Lexham Gardens and a large chunk of Hamlet Gardens residences. Rayleigh was lost to provided the furnishing of the new Evelyn Gardens hall, 54 Lexham Gardens was found to be overcrowded and not suitable accommodation. Hamlet was the same.

Fisher Hall may have been able to

take the loss if it were not for the fact that College administration had pushed Registry into providing more places for overseas students to cover the £3m deficit the College had acquired.

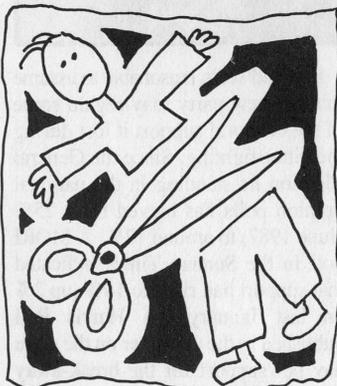
The Union and, in particular, President Ian Howgate felt that they had been misled by College when they agreed to allow increased rents to cover the purchase of Fisher. It was easy to see that the students were being asked to cover the cost just so that admin could reduce its debt.

Things came to a head mid-term when College asked the Union to accepted bar increases of up to 10p on a pint to cover the cost of refectory refurbishment. If they didn't, College said that the money would have to come from another rent increase.

It was an impossible situation brought on by the overlap of three College accounts. Money could be moved from the Residents Account to the Conferences Account by allowing Conferences re-let Summer accommodation at a big profit. Any money made by Conferences did not go back to the Residents but was used by the Catering Account. College wanted to provide better facilities such as the QT Burger outlet and Belushis in Southside but the initial investment had to be a large one. The Union, concerned that so much money was being spent on refurbishment of the bars and food outlets and not being ploughed back into accommodation, felt trapped. At the College's Bar Committee they argued that savings could be made in other areas.

The Union wanted more information before allowing such an increase. The plan was shelved.

● It is clear that most students will be worse off after April 1st. Kenneth Baker announced a 4% increase in the grants next year and Nigel Lawson reorganised the covenant system in his March budget. The Conservative



Government said that they were still considering bringing in student loans. Most students said that they had loans already.

● It was announced that Weeks Hall

would be a postgraduate only hall following bitter ranglings between the halls around Princes Gardens. It seemed that Weeks was the ideal choice until Vickers, the engineering company who had provided the funding for the Hall, expressed their displeasure at the decision.

● The College was trying to raise money in other ways. Administration decided that money could be saved if they de-centralised the Central Stores. NALGO argued otherwise and a bitter battle has been fought by the CS staff to save the service.

● Meanwhile, IC Union and its music societies were fighting the decision to move the Music Room in 53 Princes Gate to a terminal room in the



Computing Department because the new Management School wanted the space. Despite noisy protests throughout the year, the move went ahead and the music societies have been told that if enough sponsorship can be raised, the College will build a new music block under the old Holland Club! This came as a shock to one or two people who had seen the plans submitted to the local council for that site. They consisted of a function hall with a bar. Interesting.

● Imperial College Union also went through great changes this term. Following a surprise restructuring of the Union management at the beginning of term, a new Union Manager has been head-hunted from ULU. The new Finance Officer also joined the team this term. Critics of the new organisation have said that the Union is becoming too introverted

and more concerned with its own running than with student issue. President Ian Howgate, meanwhile, believes it to be great step forward. He is convinced that better organisation will mean that more student will want to get involved with the Union and use its services.

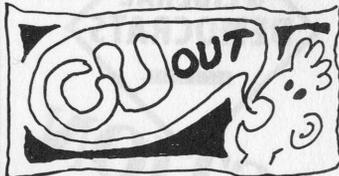
● The merger with St Mary's is due to take place in August. Their Union voted to become the fourth Constituent College Union of Imperial College Union but not a single ballot box for the sabbatical elections was taken over to Paddington.

● The elections came and went. The results were predictable and the anticlimax considerable. The whole thing bored us silly.

● Ian Howgate provided some light relief mid-term when he changed his name for charity to Sydney Harbour-Bridge. He even managed to get himself onto page 3 of The Sun. That's where they put all the tits.

● FELIX came under some heavy fire for being Howgatist.

● The Christian Union was thrown out of ICU because of its constitution. The CU demands that its members should sign a statement of faith. The Union demands that any ICU member should have the right to join any of its societies. They should not have to sign any statements. The debate is still going on as to whether exceptions



should be made in the case of religious societies.

● Finally, the Union and the GERBIL made the headlines at the beginning of March when Imperial College went on strike for a day. Over two thousand IC students didn't go to lectures on 1st March and a few even went to lobby their MPs about the Government's proposed Education Reform Bill. Everybody thought the whole exercise had been a great success and it just goes to show that the Union can be a political voice when it wants to be. God forbid.

## And now for something completely the same

After six months of intense, and often suicidal, negotiations, the Social and Liberal Democratic Party has been launched.

Who will be the leader of the new party? And how will it differ from the old Alliance parties? Andrew Waller, FELIX staff reporter, investigates.



To outsiders it would seem strange that two parties which had just fought a General Election on a joint platform of policies and looked as if merger in the long or short term was inevitable could come to blows about the question of a formal link up. On the whole the Liberal party has been enthusiastic about the merger, both assemblies voted by huge margins to accept the merger, and all seventeen MPs have joined the SLDP. Merger has split the SDP. Three of their tiny band of five MPs (not enough for their leader to lay a wreath at the cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday) have decided not to join the new party. Dr Owen and company have set up their own headquarters and have substantial financial backing. When Dr Owen suffered defeat in the SDP Ballot last year he resigned, and thus the unknown Robert MacLennan became leader. Initially 'Bob' had been against the merger; however the mood of the party changed most markedly at the Portsmouth conference last September when the merger motion (proposed by the only other pro-merger, MP Charles Kennedy) was passed. Since then the Owenites have largely concentrated their efforts on setting up their own party. They have always had a constitutional blocking vote as a 2/3 majority was needed in the Governing Council for Social Democracy. However, the Owenites commented that it would not do anyone any good to 'trap' people in the SDP and so refrained from voting at the Council for Social Democracy. The Owenites claim still to be the SDP. However, can the party be the same party as the SDP of the last general election when the majority of members and councillors have left? The question of the logo is a very contentious issue. Legally there seems to be little to stop the Owenites from continuing to use it.

So what of the future of the Social and Liberal Democrats? At the moment the party leaderless although the timetable for the leadership elections in which all party members will vote has been brought forward to this summer. David Steel is by far the most popular choice. However, he has indicated that he would like to see a new leader. Paddy Ashdown (MP for Yeovil) seems the next choice. A former member of the naval equivalent of the SAS, he has charisma and charm. He did mix with

The anti-nuclear elements of the Liberal Party but clearly supported



David Steel in the 1986 defence debate at Eastbourne. Apart from Paddy Ashdown there are several possibles including Alan Beith (MP for Berwick-upon-Tweed), former Liberal deputy leader Malcolm Bruce (MP for Gordon) and Alex Carlisle (Montgomery). Nothing rules out ex-SDP leader Robert MacLennan but he has taken too long to become even vaguely known to the electorate.



It would seem reasonable to assume that the new party may regain some of the electoral support it lost during the bitter fighting. Since the General Election its standing in the national opinion polls has halved from 25% (June 1987) to around 12%. A MORI poll in the Sunday Times indicated that support had risen to 14% (up 2% on last January). A Harris Poll published in the Observer on the same day put support for the break-away Owenites at 2%. At first sight 2% seems a pitiful amount for a party to hope to continue, however in 1951 the Liberal Party dipped to 2.5% yet still had six MPs. However four of these seats had no Conservative opposing

candidate—but there would be nothing to stop the Tories from 'assisting' the election of at least Dr Owen as it could be to their advantage.

In the months since the last set of District Elections in May 1987 the Alliance has lost 23 seats. However, it has in one form or another gained twenty seats and on the day the press launch was held, the new party—the SLDP—took a seat from the Conservatives on Avon County Council. Indeed the true potential of the SLDP will be tested in the next Parliamentary by-election (or possibly next May's District Elections). Relations between the SLDP and Owenite SDP will be sorely tested. Dr Owen is in danger of being seen as a spoiler; by putting up candidates against SLDP candidates he could wipe out any recovery. The chances of an electoral pact seem minimal given the intransigence on both sides.

Already Dr Owen, in a BBC interview, has accused the SLDP party of having no policies. However, policy leaflets for the new party have already been published, and all new members of the SLDP will receive a membership pack including brief policy statements which largely draw from the document used for the general election with commitments to NATO, devolution, (surprise, surprise) proportional representation, increased spending on the NHS and education, and increased industrial democracy. After the events surrounding the merger the general public will be less willing to sample something new than they were in 1981 when the SDP was formed. Defence will be a potential stumbling block, as the General Election commitment to scrapping Trident will have to be re-examined by 1991 (the likely date of the next general election). It will have been substantially paid for and will probably be ready to be deployed, and there may have been a shift in East-West relations.

The organisation of the new party will be based on parliamentary constituencies, nationally making up ten regions (excluding the Party in Scotland and Wales which will be separate). This resembles the former Liberal Party structure. However the federal assembly which is the governing body of the party will be more strictly regulated. Memories of the Eastbourne defence vote die hard.

## ELECTION FEVER

or, how to convince 5,000 students who couldn't care less that you ought to be working for them next year...



“

*Most fun are the loons, who suggest, totally seriously, that the whole IC Union grant should be put on the 2.30 at Newmarket. Ninety minutes later you escape, swearing at the God of Admissions Tutors—how do these people get in? Conclusive proof that common sense and intelligence are completely unrelated.*

”

Spring—that time of year when right-minded hacks of all descriptions survey the sabbatical horizon and think about their job next year, and that means—Elections.

“

*Watch out for the guy in Beit, who doesn't answer a knock at his door, and when you pop a leaflet into his room, opens the door about an inch, and throws your screwed up leaflet across the corridor. The door then slams. Obviously a quick reader, he has decided that it is all a load of crap and takes the appropriate action.*

”



Most important is to convince yourself that you actually want to do the job—and not just win the election. Ability isn't important at this stage. More excitement was added this year when in January the goalposts were moved at lightening speed: the sabbatical job descriptions were changed while ICU Council collectively yawned.

Once you've found out what the job will be (or, in some cases, have written it yourself), you're all set.

There then follows the crucial 'run-up', when the plan is to 'build your image'. There are two orthodox methods—either the 'blanket' system: 'my name was in FELIX fourteen times last week', or the more selective 'I saved IC Union £30,000 by recycling hot air' credibility. Avoid, at all costs any admission that you are even thinking about contemplating writing to your Auntie telling her you might be standing. This is the kiss of death.

The fun really starts when the papers go up on the noticeboard for the candidates. Again, there are two schools of thought. The first 'cocky bastard' method is to slap your name down within thirty seconds of the final drawing pin being pushed in, then get your proposer and twenty seconds queueing behind you. This 'blitzkrieg' technique is calculated to give you a psychological advantage over the opposition, lesser candidates, as the theory goes, scurry back to the woodwork. It had an added bonus this year, as the papers were arranged so that only the top ones were visible, and your name was the only one people saw when rushing for the Norman's queue.

The other method is the 'late rush'—lull the opponents into a false sense of security, then rush at the paper with your crowd just before the papers are down. With luck and the right rumours, you can leave your opponent flat-footed, with no publicity and no campaign, after two weeks of thinking they wouldn't even have an election.

Publicity is your next headache. You have to negotiate a FELIX Office full of sabbatical wanna-bes, all

convinced that they should have the office to themselves. This isn't possible, as you need it all yourself. As well as negotiating with a tired and increasingly emotional FELIX Editor, you also have to contend with tired and increasingly emotional FELIX equipment (it's part of the service contract that every bit must break down at least twice in election week). You also have to think of a witty slogan—something that will still be witty after a week's campaigning and plastering on every available brick in College. A silly gimmick is also useful—silly haircuts or hats are a definite plus. Anything to get the electorate to remember your name.

You also have to get your publicity approved by the all-powerful elections committee. This consists of a group of normally harmless randoms, who, for two weeks, have the power of life and death over all the candidates. It's amazing, like putting someone behind the wheel of a car. The most innocent insubstantial nobody suddenly becomes a power-crazed ego-maniac. They may only get this one chance at authority, and they're damned well going to use it. Pity the candidate that buys a packet of drawing pins without checking with them first. It's not even enough, sometimes, to get one of them to agree—the others may have another view. Apparently it's not even enough to get them all to agree—they change their minds later that afternoon. As I said, they're damned well going for it.

OK, so papers come down, you have reams of posters and handouts, pockets full of blu-tak, and have concealed all your irregularities from the authorities. All you do now is sell yourself to the punters. The problem with this is that they're not interested. The average student's attention span on anything non-alcoholic is about ten seconds—just enough time to say, 'Hi, I'm Margaret Thatcher, I'm standing in the sabbatical ele...' when they walk away, probably wondering what a sabbatical is.

Knocking on hall doors is fun—just walk in, take no notice of the couple disentangling themselves from each another on the bed, and give them a handout. Two votes in the bag.

Hustings is the time when you get a chance to speak to the masses(?). Stunts usually aren't a good idea, unless you can pack the house with your supporters. The idea is, obviously, to rubbish your opposition and look great yourself. However, it's said you can never win at a hustings—only lose one. Keep your head and don't, whatever you do, show anything of your true character. You'll get torn to pieces. At hustings you are 'Mr/Ms Nice Guy' and nothing else.

The questions are OK, as long as you aren't asked them first. This is because the Public Address is so loud that you could probably hear the questions in the Union Building, never mind the corridor off the Great Hall (where you're put so that you can't hear the questions). Going last is even better as you hear all the other candidates' answers as well. This especially helps on relevant questions such as 'What is 1037 minus 649'. That is the other feature of hustings, the asking of completely irrelevant questions like this to, I'm told, 'bring out your character'. Who are they kidding?

Come election day, you're either up, or you ain't, or you can't be bothered anymore anyway. One redeeming feature of IC elections, must be their complete unpredictability. It seems the average voter only decides who to vote for about ten seconds after they leave the ballot box. Complete outsiders, who have all but given up, have been known to be elected by landslides. There has never been any proof that a good campaign every got any votes, so you're in with a chance right up to the finish post.

Once the big day arrives, there's nothing for it but to get completely smashed out of your brains! Being sober is no good if you lose, and you can't stay sober that long if you win.

It's not very clear what's worse—winning or losing. It's great to win the election, but then you have to do the job...or you could always resign...and then there'll be another election.

You enjoyed it so much, you might even stand again!

## Community Action: Your Questions Answered...

### What kind of people get involved in Community Action?

Nothing could be more wrong than the image of imposing sanctimonious do-gooders interfering in other people's lives. Everyone I have ever met doing Community Action work, both within ICCAG and outside, has been friendly, thoughtful and aware of their position. Ask them why they do it, and they'll think, and after a short pause, tell you that they enjoy it.

Community Action, and ICCAG, is fun. Of course, not everybody is attracted to the idea of Community Work, but those that do tend to be friendly and incredibly easy to get on with. I was feeling at home with them within minutes of joining my first soup run. Part of it must be that there is always lots to do; there is nothing like a common project to bring people together.

It is very difficult to write down just what makes Community Work what it is; you never know what it's like until you've tried it.

### What can I do to get involved?

The best way to get involved is to go on a soup run. This is an experience in itself, and you meet the most unlikely of people sleeping rough. Again it's something you will never know about unless you go; you only need to go once and, believe me, it's a real surprise. Be prepared, however, to discover as much about your own attitudes as those of the people you meet.

### What do I get out of it?

Some of the community action schemes involve training; so you may acquire a new skill or two, but most just get involved for the sake of it. It's difficult to explain to someone who has never been involved just what it is like, and what makes you keep coming back to it. What you get out depends, I suppose, on what you put in.

### Does it take much time?

ICCAG is one of the few things you can be involved in as little, or as much, as you like. You can just take one evening out to go on the Soup Run, or commit yourself to work every week for a year. The time you put in is up to you.

### Any more questions?

Get in contact with any ICCAG member, or come along to one of the meetings...

# Who, Me?

## IC Community Action Group (ICCAG) offer the chance to every student to become involved...

### Soup Run

The College Soup Run, at its simplest level, exists to distribute soup, tea, sandwiches and biscuits to homeless people in London. It is much more than that though: it is an opportunity to see, understand and appreciate one of the largest social problems in London today—homelessness—and an opportunity to help alleviate some of the suffering and distress of those who are homeless.

Not everyone who sleeps rough is an alcoholic, dirty, rude old man. Many of the people we meet and talk



to are well educated, once had good jobs, homes and families but, for a variety of reasons, ended up on the streets. The reasons are as numerous as the people: nervous breakdowns, divorces, unemployment in their original homes and their drift to London to find work; young people turning away from home...

Once on the streets, it is nearly impossible to get off them. Council housing is rare; it's difficult to get a job without a permanent address; it's difficult to get together enough money to put a deposit on a private flat; landlords are reluctant to rent to people who look like they have been sleeping rough.

The College soup run is not a large commitment. It certainly doesn't mean coming along every week. Just come along once, to see a side of London that most people would rather ignore, but which certainly isn't going to go away.

### Rag Fête

ICCAG organises the hamburger/hot-dog stall on the Queen's Lawn and all proceeds go to Rag. Helpers are needed beforehand to organise, help and generally be about.



### Crisis at Christmas

Every year an organisation called Crisis at Christmas hires out a large hall somewhere in London, and plays host to up to 800 homeless men and women for the week around Christmas. They provide meals, simple but comfortable sleeping accommodation at night, new clothing, hair cuts, medical attention and perhaps more cheer and comfort than would otherwise be had by those homeless people at that time of year.

Crisis is a charity and depends on volunteers to do everything, from setting up the hall, doing the cooking, serving meals, clearing up during the 'open' week and cleaning up afterwards. It certainly makes a difference to spend Christmas Day serving dinner to 800 instead of the usual family get-togethers at home—and the conversation tends to more varied and interesting.

The 'open' is not the only activity carried out by the charity Crisis. Throughout the year they hold fundraising events like sponsored walks and they also support work in hostels for the homeless, and for rehabilitation. Open Christmasses do not only happen just in London but also in most of the other large cities in Britain, so you don't have to be in London over Christmas to be involved.

### Jobsquad

Jobsquad is run by Kensington Town Hall for the local community, which, believe it or not, does exist outside Imperial, and ICCAG can put you in touch with the relevant people.

If you're interested in teaching, counselling, prison visiting or similar, there are about 20 schemes you can take part in. Essential training is provided free, so you aren't thrown in the deep end, but you need to be able to offer a regular commitment (often once a week) for at least a year.

If you are interested, but haven't this amount of time free, there does exist a separate programme of 'one-off' jobs. These jobs are available whenever you have the time (although they ask you to do at least one every three weeks).

As well as getting out of the IC 'rat race', you get a chance to experience the real world and learn some invaluable skills into the bargain. Contact ICCAG for more details (while stocks last!).

### Playscheme

If you're interested in working with 5-10 year olds, both able bodied and handicapped, there is a fortnightly playgroup in Acton. Everything from baking cakes to going swimming!



### Hospital Visiting

ICCAG can put you in touch with St Pancras Hospital if you are interested in hospital visiting. After a short interview at the Hospital, you can spend as much or as little time as you like visiting patients without relatives of their own.

### Travelling Funds

ICCAG are sometimes able to assist with funds towards travelling for students wishing to pursue Community Action work on their own initiative over the summer vacation. Recently, they provided funds enabling someone to travel to Northern Ireland to help look after handicapped children and give them holidays out of the cities. Only limited funds are available, however.

### Contacts

Either pop a note in the IC Union Office, or contact: Liz Warren (Chem Eng 2), Alistair Goodall (DoC 1), Kate Cox (DoC 1), or Margaret Poole (Physics 2).

Alternatively, just turn up for the Soup Run, which starts in Weeks Hall Basement at 9.15pm tomorrow and every Thursday, including over the Easter break.

## Skeletons in the closet

Tracing your family tree can be a rewarding pastime and can be likened to doing a jigsaw puzzle. So is it worth the time and effort to check through pages of records just to find out when Great Aunt so-and-so got married.



Have you ever wondered who your ancestors were and what they did? It is possible to find out a great deal of information, and it is an interesting insight into the recent past. Starting from scratch can be quite daunting, yet with persistence slowly but surely the branches can be found and the roots dug up.

To start with it is best to gather as much information as you can from living relatives, and family documents (there may be a family bible, so dig out the loft). After doing this construct the best family tree you can, even with just approximate dates.

To proceed further you will need to consult external records. There are several sources of genealogical information including church registers, census returns and the public records. From July 1837 all births, marriages and deaths in England and Wales have been registered; Scottish civil registration began in 1855 and Irish in 1864. Church records are usually the most easily reached as most have been deposited in your local county or district archives which are usually free to visit. Almost all denominations are covered, although it does complicate matters if your forebears changed church, or were married, baptised or buried in their local church or chapel.

Most of the older records suffer from bad handwriting and horribly ornate copper plate scrawls, so patience is needed to look slowly through the records. This way it is possible, when armed with only a

JC 910426

CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY OF DEATH  
ISSUED AT THE SPECIAL REQUEST OF AN APPLICANT IN CERTAIN STATUTORY CASES

This Certificate is issued for the Purposes of Admission to Burial and for **NO OTHER USE OR PURPOSES WHATSOEVER.**

Registration District: London in the County of York & C.

No.	When and where registered	Name and Surname	Sex	Age	Race or Profession	Cause of Death	Signature of Registrar	When Registered	Signature of Registrar
1	23rd March 1945	John William	Male	65	Retired	Stroke of a S. Cerebrum	John W. Williams	23rd March 1945	John W. Williams
2	24th March 1945	Elizabeth	Female	62	Wife of John W. Williams	Stroke of a S. Cerebrum	John W. Williams	24th March 1945	John W. Williams

I solemnly declare that the above is a true copy of an Entry of Death in a Register Book in my custody.

Witness my hand this 23rd day of March 1945.

*John W. Williams*

Note.—All the Certificates are issued for the purposes of the Registrar's Register Book and unless of adult age, the certificate does not extend back to 1845. It is not to be used for the purposes of the Registrar's Register Book.

**CAUTION.—Any person who falsifies any of the particulars on this Certificate or uses it as true, knowing it to be false, is liable for prosecution.**

small amount of information, to find your ancestors. Be prepared for surprises—there are almost bound to be a few skeletons in the cupboard, and you may be surprised at how recently people were still unable to sign their own names on documents.

Along the way you will meet other people doing the same thing as you are, and often they have tips from many years' experience. There are no such things as hard and fast rules in this game, but beware of short cuts and be as accurate as you can, for it is easy to get lost down a false track. However, eventually you may hit a dead-end, for instance if a person moved into an area from an unknown origin. In this case it is worth checking the public records. The English and Welsh ones are now held in St Catherine's House, Kingsway WC2. The general public can check the indices which give approximate dates and places of events. To obtain actual copies of the certificates you have to pay (£5 if you go there, look in the relevant index and fill out the form yourself; it is much more if you send in requests by post). Thus to build up the family tree this way could prove to be very expensive, hence it should be used more as a last resort. The Scottish records are held in the General Register House, Princes Street, Edinburgh.

Other sources of information include copies held by the Mormons which can be consulted free of charge in their Chapel on Exhibition Road.

The ten yearly censuses can provide useful evidence and these can be examined at your county or district archives (but only for your area) or, for the whole of Great Britain, at the Land Registry Building in Portugal Street—just round the corner from St Catherine's House. The staff are very helpful and photocopies of the records held on microfilm can be obtained at 70p a time. This way approximate ages, professions and approximate places of birth can be obtained. It is difficult to check the censuses taken after 1881 due to the 100 year rule of confidentiality, although direct descendants can obtain information from the 1891 and 1901 censuses from St Catherine's House for a fee.

Other possible records worth checking out, although not as useful, are the register of (post 1858) wills held at Somerset House, Electoral registers (although universal suffrage is only comparatively recent so only a few (rich) ancestors can be found this way), court proceedings and Hearth Tax returns. Also worth checking are the records of mines, or companies where your forebears worked.

After a while a pattern will emerge and you will begin to pick up detective-like techniques which will increase your efficiency. It is often useful to regard each find with suspicion and ask yourself whether the person has exactly the right name, is about the right age and comes from the region you expect.

There are numerous books printed about the subject and there is bound to be a local group, possibly at your local library, so it could be something to do to prevent boredom this Summer.



BAPTISMS solemnized in the PARISH OF SAINT ANDREW, in PLYMOUTH, in the County of DEVON, in the Year 1845

When	Child's Christian Name	Parents' Names	Abode	Quality, Trade, or Profession	By whom the Ceremony was performed
18th Nov 45	Henry King	Thomas King & Ann King	St Andrew's	Book	W. Williams
2nd Dec 45	John Henry	Richard King & Ann King	St Andrew's	Book	W. Williams
2nd Dec 45	George	Henry King & Ann King	St Andrew's	Book	W. Williams

# Graphology

Handwritten signatures have long been accepted as unique to each individual. Most people can recognise, and distinguish between, the handwriting of various friends and relations. So it is hardly surprising that as far back as Roman-times people have tried to deduce personality from the appearance of handwriting.



Graphology is still a hotly debated topic. Many people find it hard to believe in—after all, writing is produced by the movement of the hand, and it seems that all it can reveal would be skill or routine of the hand muscles. And as most people will have noticed, one's handwriting can vary considerably from time to time—how can anything so variable show fundamental character traits? Graphologists argue that even when people use either hand, their toes, or any other technique, their writing shows the same recognisable characteristics.

Whatever you may feel about the way specific letter forms are said to be linked to specific traits, graphology is firmly believed in by numerous people, some companies go as far as hiring a graphologist to analyse the handwriting of prospective employees. Handwriting experts are regularly called upon to determine whether signatures and handwritten documents are genuine or forced. And there does seem to be definite evidence linking the state of one's handwriting with the state of one's mind. The classic example of this is seen in the signatures of President Nixon during the Watergate scandal, which gradually became more and more like a straight line as the crisis worsened.

As happens even in more established sciences, there are as many theories in graphology as there are practitioners. Scanning through the various books written about the subject shows that though many basic ideas are common to them all, the details vary. To complicate matters further, the same characteristics have different meanings depending on what other features the writing shows. A deteriorating signature, for example, may show increasing stress, or simply that the person has had to sign his/her name so often that he/she has become increasingly casual about it.

The first book dealing with the relationship between handwriting and the character of the writer was published by a Halion Professor of Theoretic Medicine, Cavillo Baldi, in 1622. From this time the number of treatises about the subject increased steadily, until in the early nineteenth century the systematic study of

handwriting was taken up by a group of French clergy. One of these men became the teacher of the French abbot and novelist, Jean Hippolyte Michan, who is acknowledged as the founder of graphology as a science. He worked from experience and observation, comparing the handwriting of people whose characters he was familiar with and determining common features. His book, published in 1875, describes almost all the signs and rules on which graphology is still based. However, he did not attempt to explain the reasons for the production of these signs.

The theory of graphology was refined by a group of German academics. In 1897 a graphological periodical and a society for graphological research were founded by Hans Busse. Dr Ludwig Klages, a major contributor to the periodical, was the first to create a complete and systematic theory of graphology, based on the idea that writing is a conflict between mental discipline and natural rhythms. By analysing changeable and unchangeable elements of handwriting, he also found a way to unravel disguised writing. But his efforts had their faults—for one thing his prejudices about character left their stamp on his theories, and he tended to look down on the empirical work of French graphologists so that the study became based purely on theory.

It was left to two other men to fill the main gaps in Klages' theory. Robert Saudek, originally from Czechoslovakia, specialised in the effects of the various national styles of handwriting. He was particularly concerned with the study of English handwriting and one of the most important factors, speed. This allowed for the first time all the European graphological work to be applied in England. The second important idea, the link between graphology and modern views on the psychology of the unconscious, was first worked on by Max Pulver, of Switzerland. He emphasised the problem of what the writing space symbolises in the writer's mind.

Besides the general study of writing, several more specialised fields have been investigated. These

include the identification of handwriting, the expression of sexual character in handwriting, and the effect of illness in handwriting. Studies of graphology have not been limited to Europe, or to serious researchers. Among these English 'amateurs' who have added their small contribution to the science, or art, are the Brownings, Byron, Gainsborough (the painter) and Disraeli.

## The Meanings

There are several basic tendencies which are studied by graphologists: the size and width of writing, the form and degree of connection, the regularity and speed, the fullness and pressure, the angle of writing and any right or left tendencies. It is essential that if you try to analyse anybody's handwriting, you must analyse all tendencies and not just one. As with body language, no general tendency in handwriting, and no single sign, is by itself adequate to judge a quality in a man's character. Each tendency has many meanings.

## Size & Width

(important to any man)

The size of a person's writing is often an indicator as to how much space a person is satisfied with. Large handwriting is taken to mean that the writer needs more space in his life; small means that the writer can satisfy himself in the space available to him: *Large*:- objectivity, ambition, self-confidence, enthusiasm, leadership, desire to lead a good life, lack of

modesty, lack of tact, megalomania, lack of accuracy, tendency to be a poseur.

*Small*:- inferiority complexes, obedience, accuracy, reliability,

# Features

intentional understatement, realism, intolerance, hypochondria and melancholy.

Exaggerated uplengths indicate a tendency towards the intellectual and spiritual spheres, ideals and illusions.

Exaggerated underlengths symbolise realism, the qualities of an organiser.

The underlengths also reveal the writer's attitude to his unconscious impulses and sexual life. Sexual tendencies in handwriting are a study in themselves; the precision with which all the varieties of sexual inclination and perversities are sometimes mirrored in handwriting is really astonishing.

Broad handwriting originates from an unrestricted movement of the hand whereas narrow writing is an obviously restricted sign.

*Broad*:- lack of restriction, likes travel, spends lavishly on himself,

speaks about himself and doesn't really care whether his audience is interested or not, self-assured, indiscrete, vain, very social.

*Narrow*:- inhibited, economical,

mean and distrustful, narrow-minded, shy.

## Form & Degree of Connection

*Angular connection*:- prefers firmness

to compromise, persistent, sulky, cruel, reliable.

*Rounded connection*:- amiable,

openly friendly, kind, soft.

*Arcade connection*:- diplomatic,

calm, calculated, hypocrite.  
*Wavy connection*:- intelligent.

Degenerating connections that make the word look like a single thread and partially illegible is the main sign of hysteria.

The degree of a person's handwriting is very difficult to change. Connected handwriting shows that the writer is logical and

not easily distracted. If the connection continues through the whole sentence it shows an excessive desire for relationships which are remote. Disconnected writing shows that the writer has many different ideas. This style can be found in the writing of people of unusual imagination and

intuitive genius. If you find both frequent and large intervals in words this is a sign of serious overstrain of the mind.

## Regularity

Regular handwriting is a sign of a regular mind. If regularity is just a version of copy book writing then it

indicates a lack of vitality, personality and imagination.

Irregular writing shows many-sided

interests, excitability, nervousness, lack of steadiness.

## Speed

Quick writing is a sign of a person who is spontaneous, objective and pertinent. Slow writing is calculated writing.

*Quick*:- intelligence, enthusiasm, neglect of details.

*Slow*:- artistic, aesthetic, poseur, laziness.

## Fullness

Fullness is achieved by the arcs, slopes and circles that cover a person's handwriting. Full writing means

imagination, vision and a creative mind. Lean writing discloses abstract thinking, lack of imagination and soberness.

## Pressure

*Strong*:- energy and vitality, pessimist.

*Slight*:- weak or skilled.

## Angles

If you watch someone stand up straight, you know that he is an independent individual. If he leans

forward, he seems to be longing for other people. If he leans backwards, he seems to be afraid of people. So it is with that person's handwriting:

*Upright*:- independence, cool, calm.

*Slanting to the right*:- extraversion, social, excitable, passionate, successful.

*Slanting to the left*:- introversion, isolation, forced, affected.

The person who writes to the right is capable of strong sentiments such as love, hate and self-sacrifice. Any exaggeration towards the right is a sign of giving. Any exaggeration towards the left is a sign of retiring or commonsense.

## What to Look for

*Vitality*:- quick writing, strong pressure, large and rhythmic writing.

*Bad health*:- weak writing, small writing, breaks or trembling features.

*Energy and willpower*:- Regular writing, those of vitality:

*Artistic*:- pasty writing, full writing.

*Imagination*:- full writing.

*Suicidal tendencies*:- Crossing out one's signature with a final stroke placed to the extreme left.

*Megalomania*:- over-large handwriting.

*Intelligence*:- good layout, clear spacing, simplification, quick writing.

*Self-confidence*:- large, broad, quick writing.

*Egotistic*:- left tendencies, very large, very broad.

*Sexual tendencies*:- Exaggeration of underlengths.

This has been a very brief look at the basic tendencies in people's handwriting. Treat the 'facts' with a pinch of salt as it's all meant to be just a bit of fun anyway. The only time this will ever be of use to you is when you are asked to fill in a job application in your own handwriting—because there's certainly some well-paid graphologist just dying to tell your possible employer how lazy/intelligent/sexually aware you are!

# FELIX

All these words are hidden somewhere in this grid. Entries to the FELIX Office by April 27th marked 'Wordsearch'. Prizes include FELIX ultra-trendy T-shirt!

STOIC	UNION
ICRADIO	FELIX
SYDNEY	ST
HARBOUR	MARYS
BRIDGE	REGGIE
ERIC	NORM
ASH	BOAT
SOUTHSIDE	CLUB
HAMLET	TEST
GARDENS	EXAM
BEIT	RCS
HUXLEY	RCM
LYON	LEARN
PLAYFAIR	KQC
QUEENS	TAIT
TOWER	SET
PRINCE	KENT
CONSORT	TON
ROAD	TEN
SOUTH	PAGE
KENSINGTON	

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

# WORDSEARCH

## The Physicists —a review



The DramSoc production of *The Physicists* by Friedrich Dürrenmatt was not just disappointing but also embarrassing. Having seen many student productions in my time, including past DramSoc productions, I can think of few which were so lacking in direction and consistent interpretation of the text. One minute we were watching a farce, the next a black comedy, the next a straight

play. There was no cohesion whatsoever.

That is not to say that there were no acceptable performances from the cast. Vanessa Dodge, in particular, lit up the stage whenever she appeared, as did Steve Grabowski, though it was his chest and not his acting ability which had me transfixed.

Newton and Einstein made a passable double act, especially towards the end when they decided to ham it up.

Alex Snelling, who played the lead part of Mobius, kept it straight right to the end. His performance suggested that he could certainly act, but needed a straight play to do it properly.

I am not surprised that the director changed his name in the programme. Walter Eaves singularly failed to do any kind of justice to this play. He messed about the script, failed to impose any single interpretation of the play on the cast and so did both the cast, and more crucially the audience, a disservice.

*Sunny Bains*

**SOCIAL COLOURS**  
Nominations for ICU Social Colours will be accepted before Friday 29th April. Please write on one side of the paper only and hand it in to Chas Jackson.

## Mini-Quiz

1. Which hall of residence got into hot water about its clearout sale this term?
2. What name is the President of Imperial College now known as?
3. Who is next year's President going to be?
4. What is the name of the latest house to be added to the Evelyn Gardens residences?
5. What percentage rise did Kenneth Baker announce grants would go up by in January?
6. Whose favourite TV programme is 'Rainbow'?
7. Who called 'Quorum' in the middle of election for next year's UGM Chairman?
8. Why was this a very stupid thing to do?
9. Where is the College's new Kebab House going to be situated?
10. How much does a pint of Carlsberg cost in the Union Bar?
11. Who wanted to build a greenhouse in Linstead?
12. Who was no confided and then re-elected for the same post this term?
13. Why is the Union going to the dogs?
14. Why is the Union going to Kelso?
15. Answers on a postcard to the FELIX Office by the beginning of next term. Winner gets a sweatshirt!

## A peculiar puzzle

When my girlfriend and I went to an extraordinarily dull dinner party last week, we found ourselves in the company of four other couples. As not everyone knew everyone else, we were obliged to start the evening with the formal ritual of introductions which I'm sure you're familiar with.

'Do you know so-and-so?'

'How do you do?'

'Pleased to meet you.'

and so forth, accompanied by much shaking of hands and false smiles and offers of sherry.

There was then an embarrassing lull followed by everyone trying to make conversation at once:

'What do you do for a living?'

'Isn't the weather dreadful?'

'Who do you know here?'

Ad nauseam. It was this last question which interested me, though, as I discovered that, on previous occasions, each of the others had met a different number of those present.

Which left me the rest of the evening to work out how many new acquaintances my girlfriend made that evening. How many?

*Scaramouche*

## Who needs a budget?

Andrew Daghish, Chunderer of the Chesschequer, outlines his plans for the instant revival of the empire and economy.

A government somewhere has been radical, even revolutionary, but it lost power because it was not revolutionary enough and, trying to prevent the completion of the revolution, was crushed beneath the overwhelming forces it had unleashed. This fate is about to befall another government somewhere else. In order to spare the populace the revolting task of having to scrape so much politician jelly from beneath the wheel of progress I now present my economic masterpiece.

In essence it is quite simple. I will introduce social ownership to the Royal Mint. This privatisation will be open to every man, woman and child in the country, and one or two of the more upwardly mobile cats and dogs (puppies) too. Companies, institutions and anyone or anything else will not, repeat not, as in categorically banned, be able to take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime offer. Not unless they offer me something I want (are you listening, Aston Martin? A flame-red Vantage Volante with tan hide upholstery would do nicely, thank you). Money will not be something I want, as you will come to see.

Why should this be so advantageous to Mr and Mrs Joe and Josephine Public? What do they get for their money? And how much will that be?

As I have said, it is quite simple. For the price of a printing press, plus VAT, postage and packing, they will receive a printing press, instructions for use, plus plates of all current Bank of England notes. And before socialist parties of the world start trying to verbally castrate me because Joe and Josephine don't have the ready cash for a brand spanking (listening, Sydney?) new, all singing, all dancing printing press (currently in the order

of £10 million, excluding VAT, postage and packing), I am offering easy terms.

For a deposit of just £5 they (Joe and Josephine that is, not necessarily the socialist parties) will receive their new toy. The difference is payable on commencement of printing. What could be fairer?

"How will this effect the immediate recovery of the (or indeed any) economy?" I hear you cry (I've got very good hearing).

I think there are about 56 million people in a certain country. Admittedly, I haven't met them all, so I can't swear by this figure (well I could, but it would be asterisked out) but as a lot of other people whom I have met also believe there are that many people in a country then I am going to publish and be \*\*\*\*\* although we could be talking about a different countries.

So, having arrived at the conclusion, though not having rigorously proved it, that there are 56 million people in a country and also that most of them, -say about 560 million, are going to want to take advantage of the offer, this means that there is going to be one heck of a demand for these super-duper printing presses.

Not only that, but these have to be delivered, requiring rather more articulated lorries than currently exist on an utterly insignificant little blue-green planet orbiting a small yellow sun in the uncharted backwaters of the Galaxy at a distance of roughly ninety-two million miles (or more accurately, 92.6 million). (Thank you, Douglas).

Further, all 5600 million of them (allowing for multiple applications which will not be turned down) have to be installed, which will of course account for the working lives of everyone/thing (not wishing to be speciesist) qualified to do so, and many of those who are not, for rather a lot of generations to come, especially if they get themselves organised into a union and work to rule.

In addition, the roads to convey the vehicles at a sufficiently rapid rate have to be constructed, as do buildings in which to install the presses (it should be pointed out that these things cannot be shoved in the wash house/utility room, or even in

your average, or not so, two-up, two-down), which will in turn tie up most of the world's construction trade for most of the next two or so major civilisations.

The following industries will also be major beneficiaries of the offer:

a) The chemicals industry. They will have to supply the inks and dyes to print the notes. This should result in (i) this industry in this random country becoming the biggest in the world (ii) lonely housewives/husbands getting their daily quotas from inkmen.

b) Forestry and the white paper recycling industry. The latter on its own has shown its inability to cope with such demand following its lack of success in achieving greater than 150% yields on full scale operations. Hence we're going to have to plant lots more trees! Unfortunately, we're also going to have to cut them all down again. Ah, well, you win some, you lose some.

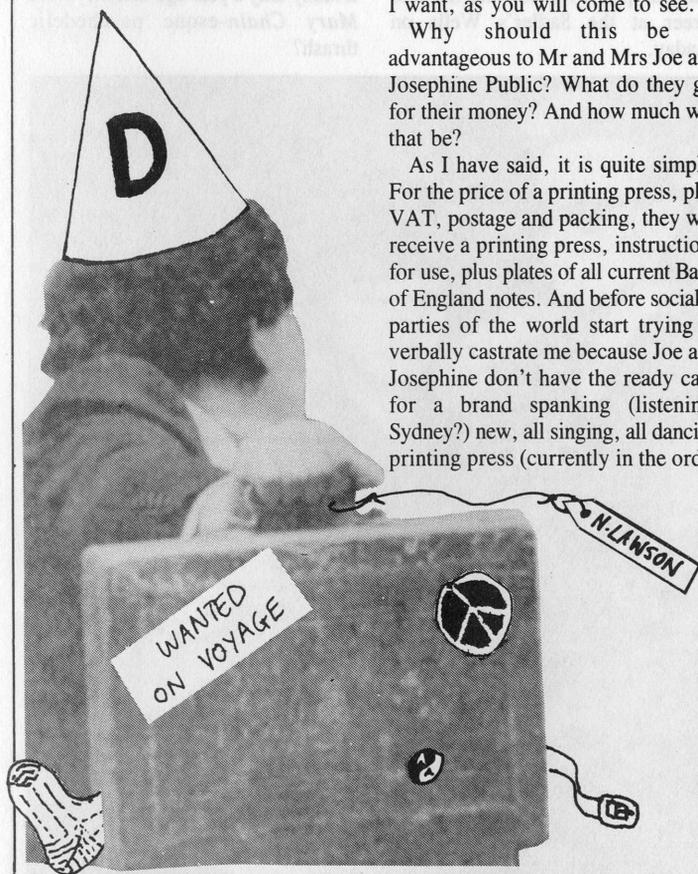
c) The power supply. Depending on where the recipients live, these will be the coal board, the CEBG, British Gas, BNF, SHE, your local whipper breeder or Hot Air Corp Inc (for residents in the vicinity of the seat of government only). This offer will provide unparalleled opportunities for research, development and sheer exploitation of the customer in these industries.

However, these will not be the only lucky winners. Just think of all the fun truck manufacturers will have as people move away from mere wallets! And what about safe-makers (and breakers) and bodyguard (and assault-troop) agencies? The possibilities are endless.

So much for economics, although these will sneak into the next section just a teeny-weeny whacking great bit. Having appealed to and satisfied the socialist-capitalist in you all (I'm one \*\*\*\* of a guy, and modest with it), and having in the process, created a uniformly rich and class-free society, I now wish to appeal to the patriotism of you random dwellers in a country somewhere.

I wish, nay, want to create the greatest empire in history as I (admittedly slightly biasedly) know it. But unlike previous emperors I do not want the lives of your sons and daughters. I just want some (and not a lot at that) of your new-found wealth.

You see, it all gets down to other countries' money-supply. Basically, we under-cut them. We can supply them with money cheaper than anyone else, on condition that they only use ours. Of course we can then flood their economies and destabilize their governments and Bingo! one world-wide empire.



# Previews

## What's On

### WEDNESDAY

**Ski Club AGM .....12.30pm.**  
Come and stand for next year's Exec. Meet outside Southside

**S.L.A.G.S. Meeting .....12.30pm.**  
Society for Lesbian and Gay Students meets in the Green Committee Room (top floor Union Building). Come along for a chat if you don't mind people thinking you're going to a Wargames Society meeting!

**Golf Meeting .....1.00pm.**  
Sudbury. Regular weekly meeting.

**Caving Club Meeting .....1.00pm.**  
Union Snack Bar.

**Wargames Meeting .....1.00pm.**  
Senior Common Room.

**Beginners Rock n Roll .....2.15m.**  
Union Dining Hall. 80p. See Dance Club.

**Shotokan Karate .....3.00pm.**  
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. £1.

**Offbeat Practice .....3.15pm.**  
Union Dining Hall. 80p. See Dance Club.

**ICSO Rehearsal .....7.00pm.**  
Great Hall. First rehearsal for next term's concert.

**ULU Meditation Group .....7.00pm.**  
Room 3A, University of London Union, Malet Street. Traditional breathing meditation. Everyone welcome. No charge.

**Riding Club .....7.30pm.**  
Brown Committee Room (Union Building). Polo—talk and video plus buffet. Free to members.

### THURSDAY

**ICYHA Meeting .....12.30pm.**  
Southside Upper Lounge.

**Socialist Society Meeting 12.45pm.**  
Brown Committee Room. All welcome. Contact Adrian Grainger (Maths 3).

**Ski Club .....12.45pm.**  
Above Southside Bar. Sign up for lessons, racing team.

**Newsbreak .....1.00pm.**  
STOIC. IC's own news programme.

**SFSOC Libary Meeting .....1.00pm.**  
Green Committee Room, Union Building. Borrow books from our vast library, help plan future events. Members only.

**Arabic Classes .....1.30pm.**  
Prayer Room. See Islamic Society.

**Gliding Club Meeting .....5.30pm.**  
Aero 254. Arrange trial flights, lifts to Lasham, talks and then to the bar.

**Orienteering Training .....5.30pm.**  
Union Gym. Social meeting held from 6.30pm onwards.

**Newsbreak .....6.00pm.**  
STOIC.

**Judo .....6.30pm.**  
Union Gym. Sorry—no more beginners.

**Film .....7.00pm.**  
Mech Eng 220. Woody Allen's 'Hannah and Her Sisters'. 50p to members, £1 to non-members.

**ULU Lesbian Gay Group ....7.30pm.**  
ULU Building, Malet Street (Russell Sq. tube). For speakers and booze and if you're feeling adventurous a trip out to nightclub or pub afterwards.

**ICCAG Soup Run .....9.15pm.**  
Weeks Basement Hall. Contact Liz Warren (Chem Eng 2).



### FRIDAY

**Rayleigh Residents Move .....all day**  
Queensbury Place, Evelyn Gardens and Linstead Hall.

**Rag Meeting .....12.35pm.**  
Every second Friday. Union Lounge. All Welcome.

**Circuit Training .....12.30pm.**  
Union Gym with Cross Country and Athletics Club. Everyone welcome. Free.

**Orienteering .....12.30pm.**  
Brown/Green Committee Room (top floor of Union Building). Arrangements for following Sunday's event.

**Islamic Prayer .....1.00pm.**  
The Union Building. See Islamic Society.

**Christian Union .....6.00pm.**  
OHC 308 Computing. Social evening. All welcome. Follow directions from Physics Foyer.

**Into the Night .....7.00pm.**  
STOIC. Films, videos, chat, 'Countdown'. On all the televisions in the Halls of Residence.

### SATURDAY

**Rayleigh Residents Move .....all day**  
Queensbury Place, Evelyn Gardens and Linstead Hall.

# M

## USIC

Gigs to look out for over Easter? Well, from the harmless world of pop, *Simply Red* are playing Wembley Arena until Friday, *T'pau* fill Hammersmith Odeon from March 31 to April 2, and *Lloyd Cole and the Commotions* do the same to Wembley Arena on April 17. Rockheads should have a good time if they have the money, with *Magnum* on Friday and Saturday at Hammy Odeon, and Wembley being ripped apart by *Alice Cooper* on April 7, *Def Leppard* on April 11 and 12, *AC/DC* on April 13 and *Frank Zappa* on April 18 and 19. Yet more from Hammy Odeon with *Hawkwind* on April 21 and 22.

Albums to seek and buy: Out last week is the first solo offering from *Morrissey*, 'Viva Hate', which isn't too far removed from a certain band named after *Patty Smith*, though some say with added sparkle. The second album from *James*, the jangly folk indie affair who have been likened to *The Smiths* but actually sound nothing like them (must have something to do with being from Manchester and on Rough Trade), but *Morrissey* loves them and what greater recommendation can I offer? Number three from *That Petrol Emotion*, Irish rockers whose every new piece of material sounds excitingly fresh, should be on the shelves in the coming weeks. And a must for all music lovers must be the long awaited *Primitives* album—was it really only a year ago that they were *Mary Chain*-esque psychedelic thrash?

The demise of *Bauhaus* and *The Sisters of Mercy* all those years ago left the serious aspect of the darker side of rock without a champion. *The Cult* briefly filled the gap, but when Ian Astbury's worse heavy metal infatuations took over, disillusioned fans turned to the half of the *Sisters* which had become *The Mission*, who continue to ride on this wave with no major challengers (Gene loves who?). They play the Astoria until Sunday, so make the most of the fact that this venue is small (and cheap) enough for you to fully appreciate the music. The latest challenger to the crown of the gothic world is one-time holder of that crown, *Peter Murphy*, ex-*Bauhaus* head vampire who launches his solo career at the Sadler's Wells on Sunday.



# MOTOR

The 1988 Grand Prix kicks off on Easter Sunday (April 3) with Round One of the Formula One World Championships, the Brazilian Grand Prix at Rio de Janeiro.

New drivers, new teams, new engines and new rules make this the

most potentially exciting year for a long time.

The most important rule changes are the second phase of the plans to reduce the power of the turbo-charged engines before they are banned totally in 1989. The turbos will be restricted to a boost pressure of 2.5 bar and a fuel allowance of 150 litres per race.

World champion Nelson Piquet leaves Cannon-Williams for Camel-Lotus but retains Honda Turbo power. His team-mate will be the Japanese driver *Satoru Nakajima*, who should again carry the miniature TV camera that gives such stunning pictures, particularly when *Naka* drives into the back of other cars!

*Nigel Mansell*, now fully recovered from his Japanese GP practice

accident, spearheads the atmospheric attack in his Cannon-Williams-Judd. The Judd is a new V8 by John Judd's engine development concern in Northampton, and will also be used by the March and Ligier teams.

Ferrari ended last season on a high with back-to-back wins in Japan and Australia. They retain the strong driver pairing of *Gerhard Berger* and *Michele Alboreto*, and also V6 turbo engines. The new chassis will, however, be the first Ferrari designed by an Englishman John Barnard from his R & D base in Guildford.

The strongest driver line up of all must be at Marlboro McLaren where twice world champion *Alain Prost* (who has won more Grand Prix (28) than any other driver) is joined by Brazilian *Ayrton Senna*. Having another superstar as a team-mate has never bothered Prost and I confidently expect him to consistently outrace Senna.

The only other possible winners that I can see are the Benetton, beautifully painted in the bright colours of the Italian knitwear manufacturer's garments. In *Thierry Boutsen* they have one of the most experienced but unlucky drivers around. The second half of last season showed that given mechanical reliability Thierry should win races and this year I expect him to break his duck. His team-mate is the talented but underrated Italian *Alessandro Nannini*. After two years with the small Minardi team *Sandro* has rightly earned a seat with a top team.

The Rio circuit is a flat, 3.1 mile collection of medium speed corners with a long back straight. Temperatures will be extremely high and most teams should be making mid-race pit stops for new tyres. Predictions—Ferrari have been setting the pace in pre-season testing so I'll go for a *Gerhard Berger* hat-trick with *Thierry Boutsen* the best placed of the atmospheric. Highlights will be on BBC TV's *Grand Prix* programme in the evening. Check press for exact time.

The Easter holiday sees the start of the two major European championships.

F3000 International is the training ground for future Formula One drivers, with single seater Grand Prix-like cars with three litre engines. Hopes for a British champion are realistic with *Russell Spence* in a works Ralt, *Mark Blundell* in a works Lola, *Gary Evans* and *Andy Wallace* in GEM Ralts and *Johnny Herbert* in an EJR Reynard. The first round is at Jerez in Spain on April 17th and the series will visit three British circuits (Silverstone, Brands Hatch and Birmingham) during the summer.

The European Touring Car Championship (ETC) starts at Monza, Italy this Sunday (27th) with round two at Donington Park (on the A453 near East Midlands Airport) on April 17th. This is saloon car racing at its best and is well worth a visit, particularly if you've never watched motor racing before. The cars look like road cars, the crowds aren't claustrophobic like a Grand Prix and Donington is a beautiful circuit. Expect the pacesetters to be the works Texaco Ford Sierra Cosworths of the Eggenberger team and the works BMW M3's of the Schnitzer and Linder teams. Also worth watching is the Bigazzi BMW M3 of former Grand Prix driver *Jacques Laffite* and Prime Minister's son *Mark Thatcher*.

The main rally of the holiday is the Rothman's Circuit of Ireland, round two of the Shell Oil RAC Open Championship. After the surprise win by *Penti Airikkala* on the Cartel International, the Ford Sierra Cosworths should win this all tarmac event. Favourite is *Jimmy McRae* with *Phil Collins* an outside bet to score his first international win in his disgusting pink car.

If you see any motorsport on TV and think that you'd like to try it, then don't go and be a loony on the roads but come and see the City & Guilds College Motor Club (open to all IC students) about our programme of rallies, circuit trips, racing schools and skidpan visits.

# RACING



This has been one of my saddest weeks in my time as FELIX racing

correspondent. I stuck all my money on a pig—a bloody three-legged pig. *Playschool* lost the Gold Cup. He didn't just lose it—he was obliterated. Having told everyone in the College, from the Rector right down to the very lowest form of life (FELIX Editor) to back *Playschool*, I now realise that I couldn't pick my nose, never mind a winner.

I attended the Cheltenham Festival last Tuesday. There was a heavy Irish contingent present noticeably in the Guinness tent. They gave a mighty

roar when their selections romped home.

I witnessed a lot of money changing hands, particularly in the fifth race.

*Cats Eyes* was heavily backed at the course, I saw several hundreds being handed over to trackside bookies. They must have breathed a heavy sigh of relief when it was narrowly beaten by a length or so.

Having advised everyone wrongly I am now going into hiding.

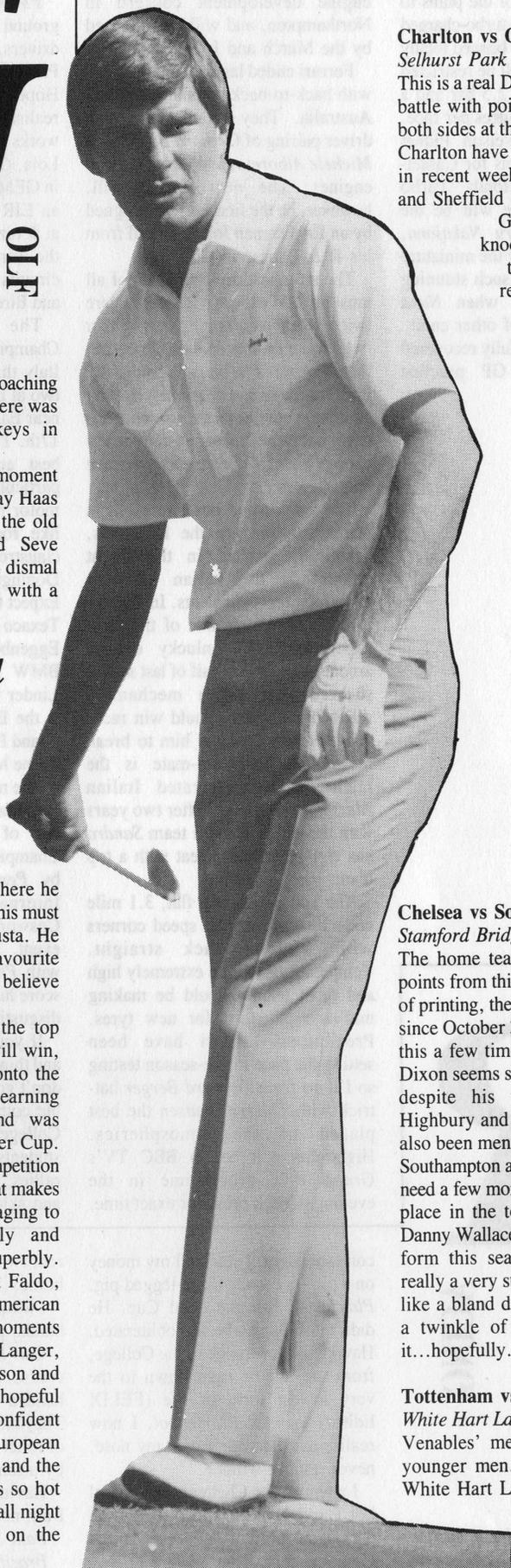
*Paul Shanley, Brazil.*

# Previews

# G

OLF

I am writing this nearly two weeks in advance of the games due to FELIX deadlines, so I can't refer to last week's games as usual. All games are on Saturday March 26 with 3pm kick offs.



With the US Masters fast approaching (April 7-10) it's about time there was something other than donkeys in FELIX.

Players in form at the moment include such new names as Jay Haas and Steve Jones, as well as the old favourites Sandy Lyle and Seve Ballesteros. Seve, who had a dismal season last year, started this with a

## Augusta Preview

bang in the Spanish PGA, where he broke the course record, and this must count for something in Augusta. He is quoted as being a joint favourite with Greg Norman, whom I believe to be grossly overrated.

The main danger for all the top players, the man I believe will win, is Ian Woosnam. He burst onto the scene in a big way last year, earning more than £1 million, and was inspirational during the Ryder Cup. It was his play during that competition in Muirfield Village, Ohio that makes him such a good hope, managing to find the greens accurately and cheaply, and holding them superbly.

Other candidates are Nick Faldo, the Open champion, whose American form is poor but prone to moments of brilliance and Bernhard Langer, who won in 1985. Tom Watson and Mark McNulty must also be hopeful of continuing success. I'm confident that 1988 will produce European winners to both the Masters and the US Open, the competition is so hot that it'll be worth staying up all night watching it live on BBC1 on the Friday and Saturday nights.

### Charlton vs Oxford

*Selhurst Park (Selhurst BR)*

This is a real Division One relegation battle with points absolutely vital to both sides at this stage of the season. Charlton have shown a slight revival in recent weeks, hitting West Ham and Sheffield Wednesday for three.

Garth Crooks has been knocking in the goals for the Reds and with the return to the Valley an almost certainty, things could still change for the better.

Oxford lost a recent Littlewoods Cup semi-final to Luton and must now concentrate on survival. To add to their trouble

Maurice Evans has resigned as manager. Their chorus of 'Yellow' seems forlorn. This will be a close one but I think that the home team will sneak it by the odd one in three.

### Chelsea vs Southampton

*Stamford Bridge (Fulham Bdy tube)*

The home team really do need the points from this one since, at the time of printing, they have had no victories since October 31 (I seem to have said this a few times since then!). Kerry Dixon seems set to stay at the Bridge despite his wishes to move to Highbury and Pat Nevin's name has also been mentioned in transfer talk. Southampton are in mid-table but still need a few more points to secure their place in the top flight next season. Danny Wallace has shown some good form this season but they are not really a very strong force. This looks like a bland draw but the team with a twinkle of initiative could steal it...hopefully.

### Tottenham vs Nottingham Forest

*White Hart Lane (Seven Sisters tube)*

Venables' men take on Cloughie's younger men. Since taking over at White Hart Lane, Venables (I hope

# F

OOTBALL

that he never takes over the England job) hasn't really done much with Spurs only in mid-table. A recent home defeat by Norwich only emphasised their problems, not to mention a 4-0 thrashing in a friendly against Monaco. Forest have made it to the FA Cup semi-final for Clough (like I predicted young man...) with his son Nigel proving a real chip off the old block. They have a good young side with a strong eye for the future. Brian still thinks they can win the league, who dares to argue? I think that they will win this one to complete a North London double.

### Brentford vs Brighton

*Griffin Park (Brentford Central)*

A third division game between two sides on the fringes of the promotion race should draw a decent crowd. The visitors, once a proud Division One team only five years ago, are beginning the long haul back from obscurity. Their star striker is Gary Nelson. He was bought for just £75,000 from Plymouth last summer and has nearly thirty goals to his name already this season. Argyl tried to buy him back recently, what a bunch of jokers! This game also has a draw written all over it.

### Leyton Orient vs Swansea

*Brisbane Road (Leyton tube)*

Orient are still in the promotion race and must win this to keep up with high flyers Wolves and Cardiff. Swansea were taken from the fourth to the first by John Toshack and even got into the UEFA Cup, but he has gone to Real Sociedad in Spain and the Welsh team have fallen to whence they came. They almost went out of existence last year and times are hard indeed. I expect the O's to take the points.

**Game of the day:** Spurs vs Forest.

## THEATRE MUSIC

### Waiting for Godot

(National Theatre)

Samual Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* was written in 1949 but not seen in Britain until six years later. In the subsequent years many different interpretations of the play have been suggested: waiting for the second coming of Christ; the futility of life; occupied France in the Second World War, to name but a few, it is, however, without doubt an astounding piece of Absurdist drama.

Michael Rudman's production at the National builds wonderfully upon the relationship of Vladimir and Estragon, the two tramps that just wait. We see Vladimir (Alex McCowen) portrayed as a mildly eccentric, wayward relation, who is optimistic, confident and certainly lovable. He twists and plays with the conversation to pass the time, often oblivious as to whether his scared and pitiful companion, Estragon, is joining in. John Alderton's Estragon is a debilitatingly nervous crack-pot, who's life has been narrowed down to here and to now. He has no knowledge of what he did yesterday or the day before, except that he was beaten again, but at times he just floats—a peaceful and happy escape from reality.

As this relationship grows we see the angst between these two unequal characters living in their shared environment. Estragon's glee at any and all manifestation of Vladimir's incontinence, his desperate need of something with which to fill his days and his double-sided faith in Vladimir to provide this. We find ourselves laughing with these tramps, enjoying the rhetoric, but the arrival of Pozzo and his servant, Lucky, over the delightful rough hemp set, causes the step to falter.

Pozzo (Terence Rigby) is loud, brash (a little to so, in my opinion) and sure of himself (with more than a passing resemblance to the National's Sir Peter Hall), whereas Lucky is a tired old servant, who doesn't speak and moves in the minimalistic fashion. The change when he enters into his speech, is sudden and sharp. Peter Wight's portrayal of Lucky's speech is unusually slow with pauses that could almost be mistaken for thoughtful! Unfortunately the repetitive nature of the interruptions by Vladimir and Estragon (all given too much time) produces an absurd, rather than 'absurdist' piece of drama.

### Morrissey—'Vive Hate'

Morrissey has joined with producer Stephen Street, who also wrote the music, for his first non-Smiths album. Stephen Street will inevitably be compared to Johnny Marr, and unfavourably by many. I think that the music has a quality very similar to that expressed in the words of the

songs.

Morrissey's view of England today reflects a country where people hopelessly yearn for qualities they can never possess, and those who have success are used then forgotten. *Margaret on the Guillotine* illustrates who he considers responsible and what their fate should be.

A wistful elegance pervades this whole record being most evident in *Late Night*, *Maudlin Street* and *Every Day is Like Sunday*. This could be considered a catalogue of whingeing from the the master of despair himself but I feel that would just be a blind

condemnation of a very articulate figure.

For those interested an excellent fanzine, *Smiths Indeed* is available from Mark Taylor, 132 Sylvia Avenue, Knowle, Bristol, BS3 5BZ for 70p and a s.a.e.

### The Fall

the FRENZ Experiment

The Fall are probably the only band who could get away with releasing this record with its dead Northern vocals and rambling guitar/keyboard backing. However in a world of *Rick Astleys* and *Tiffanys* with their sterile, mushy, overproduced crap the Fall are monumental. Mark E Smith's humour runs riot with tracks like *Frenz*, *Oswald Defence Lawyer*, and *Guest Informant*. If you hate the fall this record isn't for you; 'The miserable Scottish hotel resembled a 1970s Marillion or Genesis LP cover' is a line that will probably make your blood boil and cause you to rave about their lack of skill (instrumentally and vocally).

But if you count your friends on the fingers of one hand buy this record and increase your frenz.



## BOOKS

### The Enigma of Arrival

by V S Naipal (Penguin £3.95)

V S Naipal is an Indian, born in Trinidad, who came to England during the fifties. In *The Enigma of Arrival* he compares to his development as a writer with the changing aspects of England. Naipal can take the most ordinary and everyday happenings and relate them to his journey from birthplace to adopted country. This book is described as an important and powerful novel by one of the greatest novelists of our time.

The difference between absurd drama and absurdist drama obviously makes or breaks the production and Michael Rudman has been very careful to keep on the right side of the line (most of the time). He succeeds mainly because of two such strong performances by Messrs Alderton and McCowen, both of whom excel in their roles and also because *Waiting for Godot* is such a superb play.

Aidan Kershaw.

### The Green Man

by Kingsley Amis

The Green Man is a pub, and Maurice Allington is the publican. He is an alcoholic with a beautiful young wife and a stunning young mistress. He is also haunted by the spirit of Dr Thomas Underhill who died in the seventeenth century.

I started reading *The Green Man* thinking I would definitely not enjoy it: I normally prefer realistic subjects and I do not believe in ghosts. However I was not prepared for Kingsley Amis' uncanny knack for writing. His control of the English language makes the character of Maurice Allington a very true one, one that the reader can believe in and find very funny. This means there is no surprise when he casually comes across a ghost or two wandering around the pub. It is also very frightening. The fear arises as the other characters react to the alcoholic who is convinced he has seen a ghost as normal: cut back on the whisky; but we know it's not the drink, we know it really is a ghost, just that no one will believe it is.

Kingsley Amis keeps up an excellent balance for fear and humour throughout the book, making *The Green Man* a very fine novel indeed.

Thomas R M Greig.

## GIGS

*The Rhythm Sisters* are two identical looking sisters from Leeds. They sing in harmony over a single acoustic guitar which has the disadvantage that all their songs sound very similar. Overall the effect was just grating and monotonous. An album *Road to Roundbay Pier* is available.

Next on stage were the *James Taylor Quartet*, looking at these four men you could be excused for wondering what the fuss was about. They play instrumental tunes from 60s film/TV series such as 'Mission Impossible' and 'Blowup', which conjures up a really frenetic atmosphere. They headline at the Town & Country Club on March 26, and I can't think of a better reason to part with five pounds.

*Voice of the Beehive* are just frills and whirling dresses, try to touch them and you find nothing there. They play a mix of 50s-80s Rock and Rock of the same brand as the B-52s and the *Bangles*.

This was a good performance for the fans and I did quite enjoy it, except for the inane introductions they feel we need to appreciate their songs.

A final niggler, this gig finished at 10.30pm which I found ludicrously early.

F.A.B.

## FILM

### Throw Momma From The Train

Danny De Vito's last two films *Tin Men* and *Ruthless People* displayed two extremes of comedy. In *Ruthless People*, anything was allowed as long as it got a laugh, and it was quite brilliantly over-the-top. Barry Levinson's *Tin Men* was a much gentler comedy, which extracted its comedy from real people in real situations (in this case it was aluminium sidings salesmen in the fifties). *Throw Momma From The Train* is pitched somewhere in between the two, with a man's attempts to kill his mother, after having been inspired by a Hitchcock movie, supplying the unreal element, while De Vito and Billy Crystal (better known as Joey out of *Soap*) play real people.

De Vito plays Owen Lift, a man as emotionally stunted as he is physically, since he is still looking after his witch of a mother (a terrifying performance from Anne Ramsey). The gargoyle-like mother still bosses and hits Owen like a child, and his only escape are the essays he writes for his weekly English class, in which he fantasises about murdering his mother, but he can never bring himself to do it.

His English teacher (Billy Crystal) also has someone he would like to murder. His ex-wife stole his first novel, which has turned out to be a best-seller and he's suffering from writer's block, while she's laughing all the way to the bank.

Crystal advises De Vito to go and see a Hitchcock film, in order to improve his attempt at thriller writing. De Vito sees *Stranger on a Train*, in which two men swap murders, and, knowing of Crystal's wishes, takes his suggestion too literally and goes off to murder his wife, hoping that Crystal will murder his mother.

De Vito's directorial debut is a

pleasing if not side-splitting, comedy, in which he shows some nice touches and a steady hand. The film, however is not quite consistently funny in order to keep the momentum going. The photography is well structured and neatly parodies some Hitchcock scenes, but the drabness of the colours sometimes makes the plot-line of matricide more morbid than comic. Billy Crystal is never quite satisfactory as the weak-willed teacher, despite some good scenes.

However, having said this, the film has some great gags and De Vito excellently plays the mild-mannered Owen, who, in his naivety, can't see what's wrong with murdering his mother. (But after seeing her in action, neither could I). The film is worth seeing for Ramsey's performance alone, which is a combination of all the faults of every mother. I initially thought that showing a preview of such a film on Mothers' Day was sublimely sick, but Owen's mother only made me appreciate mine all the more.

Noel Curry

### Baby Boom

*Baby Boom* is the kind of film you expect to hate and are embarrassed to admit that you actually enjoyed. It is the first of a clutch of films about babies soon to be released in this country and continues the trend towards the straight-forward, good clean fun type of romantic/domestic comedies which are appearing at an ever-increasing rate (a la *Roxanne*, *Nadine* and *Blind Date*)

It mixes a typically eighties issue, that of the career woman in the business of high finance, with the farcical potential of a 13 month old baby left on the proverbial doorstep. The result is similar in many ways to the Hollywood 'crazy comedies' of the thirties and forties which concerned the privileged classes doing crazy things. It's the kind of thing Cary Grant and Katherine Hepburn might have starred in.

At first the look of the film is classic, based heavily on the best of twentieth century fashion and design; J C Wiatt (Diane Keaton) works in New York in a skyscraper designed by the modernist Miers van der Raake and lives in a chic art deco apartment building with a Corbusier furniture suite and a Lichtenstein on the wall. The impression is of class and style with no warmth, just like JC's life (it takes her and her live-in lover just four minutes to make love. Enough time to boil an egg).

However, the texture changes when she decides to quit the New York rat race and move, with baby Elizabeth, into her dream country farmhouse in picturesque Vermont, all patchwork quilts and Mom's applie pie type stuff. Here the style is quite different; JC has been brought down to earth from her skyscrapers to a cozy kind of snow covered existence in the country, reminding one of *White Christmas* and other such sentimental old films.

The cast are excellent, giving their characters the warmth and humanity to elevate this from an embarrassment of a film into something quite watchable. They comprise oscar winner Diane Keaton, Pulitzer prize winning playwright Sam Shepard, Harold Ramis who co-wrote *National Lampoon's Animal House* and *Ghostbusters*, and Sam Wanamaker whose project to recreate Shakespeare's Globe Theatre is currently under construction.

The plot can be predicted before the opening credits have finished. Nevertheless *Baby Boom* does have a kind of message, outlined by Keaton in a meeting: 'It's possible for someone to have a fulfilling career as well as a satisfying family life'.

Steve Roberts.



### Orphans

*Orphans* is a beautiful film dealing with themes of parentage, family love, anger and the control of aggression. Director Alan J Pakula flicks between moods of hilarity, despair, affection and fear effortlessly. Treat (Matthew Modine) and Philip (Kevin Anderson) are a couple of dead-end kids living in Newark in a shack of a house resembling Bate's motel. Philip is housebound for fear of the outdoors and Treat supports them by stealing (an occupation for which he has a flair). Treat is master over his younger brother, treating him like a

pet dog. Philip seems to emphasize this; he is like a frightened animal, crawling like a monkey.

Their world is changed irrevocably by the appearance of drunken gangster Harold (Albert Finney) who Treat hopes to hold for ransom. The tables are swiftly turned and Harold sets about taming the two brothers.

Harold represents different things to each of them. There are tender moments when he gives Philip the encouragement he has always needed; he hugs his shoulders, lets him feel the rain for the first time on his face and watches him venture for the first

time into the outside world clutching a map of Newark. To Treat he is a teacher, showing him how to behave and how to control his violent temper. But to both of them he is a father who they love and for whom they express grief when he is gone.

Albert Finney is superb, bringing out the range in Harold's character believably. Matthew Modine is a suitably angry young man with an innocent streak and Kevin Anderson makes the transition from caged pet to independence a joy to watch.

Steve Roberts.

## COMING SOON

### Empire of the Sun

World War II, China is the setting for this Steven Spielberg epic about the corruption of innocence in times of war; innocence being represented in true Spielberg style by a schoolboy who is separated from his parents. We see the war through the eyes of the youngster after Japanese forces take Shanghai following the bombing of Pearl Harbour. This film is an exercise in airing Spielberg's considerable talent as a film director, but, although it is brilliantly and skilfully shot, the film is overlong, the storytelling is convoluted and disjointed and our senses are battered with sentimentality. Ultimately we don't care what happens to the kid, but we leave applauding the majesty of it all.

Opens March 22.



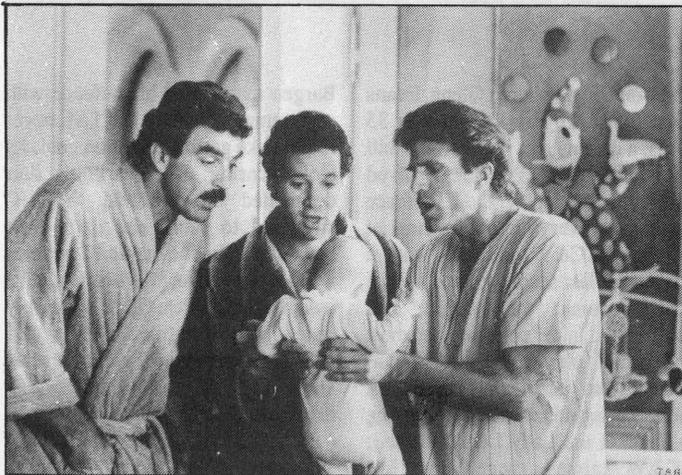
### Moonstruck

The daughter of a New York Italian family agrees to marry a staid bachelor and then falls madly and passionately in love with his tempestuous younger brother.

Cher stars in this fast-talking comedy, and is nominated for an Oscar for her performance, indicating that she is a lot better actress than she is a singer. Nicholas Cage is the drunken lout that Cher somehow falls for in a moon-induced fling.

A film for all you Italian New Yorkers out there.

Opens March 25



### Wall Street

Michael Douglas will almost definitely win the Best Actor Oscar for his portrayal of Gordon Gekko, a Wall Street corporate raider—the epitome of capitalist greed—a Manhattan carnivore at his most lethal...unscrupulous and morally bankrupt'. Charlie Sheen plays a character not unlike that he played in *Platoon*; that of a young man who doesn't realise what he's let himself in for when he enters the financial jungles of the Stock Market. An impressive support cast includes Daryl Hannah, Martin Sheen, Terence Stamp and Sean Young. But it is Michael Douglas who steals the show with a nine-minute speech declaring 'Greed is good'.

Opens April 29.



### Broadcast News

*Broadcast News* is described as a romantic comedy set in the world of network television news correspondents. It centres on a developing love triangle between a TV presenter (William Hurt), who has good looks but the brains of a turnip; a dedicated reporter (Albert Brooks), who has brains but the looks of a turnip; and a workaholic young news producer (Holly Hunter). All three leads have Oscar nominations. The film is a bright and witty account of the ins and outs of the TV biz, though it is made by the people who brought us the tedious *Terms of Endearment*.

Opens April 8.

### Three Men and a Baby

The three men in question are Tom Selleck, Ted Danson and Steve Guttenberg as fun-loving single men who are confronted with their two biggest fears: responsibility and fatherhood, when a baby girl is left on their doorstep.

The film is based on the excellent French farce *Three Men and a Cradle*. I dread to think what Hollywood could have transformed this into, but the film has been a massive hit in the States, although just how much of this is due to the pulling power of the stars is uncertain.

Leonard 'Mr Spock' Nimoy directs his first non-Star Trek feature film.

### The Believers

Martin Sheen plays a New York psychologist in this occult thriller dealing with rituals, powers and devotions, rooted in the mystic past, which have entered the main stream of modern America. The faith in question is the Santeria, which to its believers is a means of summoning supernatural forces to heal the sick, comfort the troubled and celebrate human joy. However, like any belief system, it is corrupted by people for their own ends. John Schlesinger directs this rarity—a horror film with a message.

Opens April 8.

Sumit Guha.

## FOOTBALL

### IC Fifths win Cup



*The victorious Fifths*

The changing room was strangely quiet. Everyone was simply sitting there, gazing in disbelief at their medals. No one at the club had expected the victory, and it was difficult for anyone to have even accepted that the fifths had got to the final, but we had won it...actually won the Cup...

Normally, the laughter and chirpy conversation would be ringing around the dressing room; win or lose, it never really mattered. Satisfaction was derived from playing as a team, for the team, and that was reward in itself. No wonder it felt so odd to have something tangible, to show our grandchildren, as one cynical member of the team pointed out.

It had been a long Cup run. When we kicked off at King's College Hospital all those months ago, no one had the slightest image of the Cup in their mind. We were without our goalkeeper, but we were used to setbacks. Jon Turner, almost nonchalantly donned the green jersey, and proceeded quite extraordinarily to make a series of outstanding saves. We won 2-1, albeit with a goal by Bassim Basma that could, and should have been disallowed. Ironic perhaps that this was our first victory of any sort in the season. The Charing Cross game was a different matter. 3-1 up at half-time and, apparently, sailing to victory. Yet, with seconds to go we found ourselves 4-3 down. Quite frankly, it felt like it was all over.

Then out of nowhere, Glenn Evans popped up with a shot from over 35 yards, a dream goal, and we were still alive after all. Penalties solved nothing. In the replay, the IC defence dominated everything. Cruising at 1-0, then CC&W equalised with a goal in the last seconds; hand ball as well. Fortune, we thought, had deserted us. In the penalties, the most consistent player, Mike Wilks, normally so unruffled, missed his kick. Yet again, as if merely trying to unnerve us, Lady Luck returned; CC&W missed twice, and Lee Roberts calmly placed the winner to grab his moment of glory. The quarter-final beckoned.

This was without doubt the hardest match, and for the script writers, they chose a day when IC were at their best. The tension at kick-off reached new heights, but it was to be IC's day, and Tanwir Ahmed's game. He chased, tackled and barged like a man knowing his destiny. Inimitably, he crowned the performance with a stunning goal. As if all this wasn't enough, IC somehow let Royal Free back into the game. We were not to be denied though, and minutes from the end, Pete Othen rose magnificently to score the winner; a choice occasion indeed for his only goal of the season. At last, it seemed that the team believed they could go all the way. The semi-final can only be described as being the most one-sided match imaginable. Steve Von

Bargen marshalled his defence with such remarkable ease that LSE never looked like getting a shot on goal, let alone scoring. Ian Charlton's flair dominated the midfield. Yet IC struggled to score and extra time beckoned. The inevitable IC winner, when it did arrive, was brilliant in its own simplicity. Pete Othen's superbly timed pass split the defence, and Bassim Basma obliged with a delicate chip, and IC fifths were now dreaming of Mootspur Park.

March 5th: IC's handful of supporters almost seemed in awe of UCL's coachload of fans. IC froze right at the start, UCL scored, 1-0. IC then took over. Mike Wilks stole in to equalise, and UCL struggled to put anything together. Then came John Bolger's goal. He'd waited a long time for this one, but when the chance came, his sweet volley into the corner was a delight, 2-1. UCL threw everything at IC in the second half, and a very dubious penalty allowed them to equalise. But IC were not to be denied. The ubiquitous Jon Turner played out of his skin, ably assisted by Basher Issa. Bah Tamanji's fresh legs rejuvenated the attack, and in extra-time the victory was sealed; Glenn Evans' scorching shot deserving to win any final, a stormer of a goal; 3-2...perhaps it was no wonder everyone was in a state of shock in the dressing room. This strange mix of extrovert jokers had actually won the Cup...

## SAILING

### A barrel of fun

One of the most important events in the Sailing Club calendar is the Bradford Barrel, which this year took place on March 11 to 13. Due to its importance Friday night included a weigh-in to sort out suitable crew/helm combinations. For the heavier members of the team this meant stripping down to the boxer shorts.

Sailing began early Saturday morning, in Enterprises and Larks, after a night of socialising with members of the other ten teams, as well as the compulsory Bradford curry.

The first race of the day was against our London rivals QMC. With some bad timing at the start, IC looked set to lose this grudge match. However, eventually the Lark in second place was one of IC's, giving a win with 2nd, 3rd and 4th positions.

Later, in the race against Edinburgh, there was active team racing before the start. One member of the Edinburgh team in particular was determined to take captain Richard Jarman out, but in a manoeuvre known as avoiding the sharks, he managed to get away. This meant another 2, 3, 4 win for IC.

Saturday night was again a riotous social occasion, with team racing tactics demonstrated in the night club. This meant the early Sunday morning start was hard for everyone except Richard to cope with.

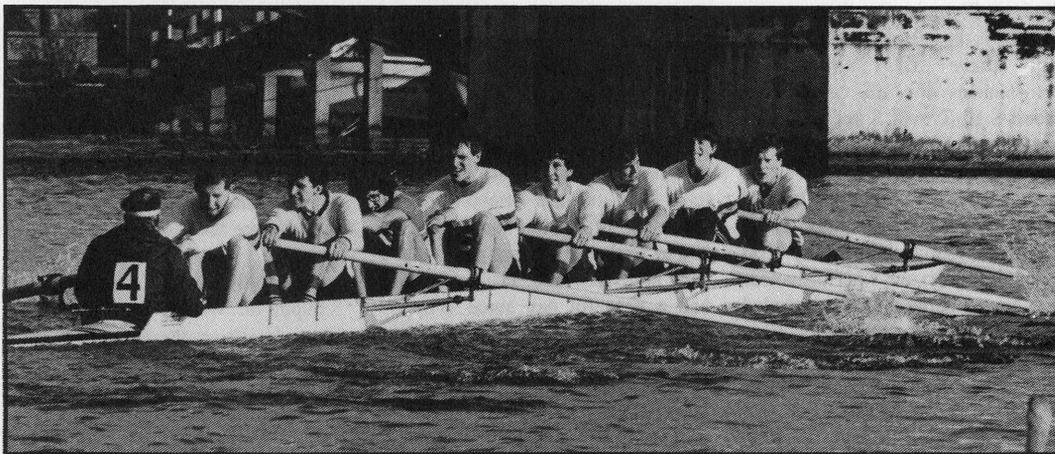
From Saturday's results, it emerged that TCD was the team to beat. IC had problems from the very beginning, due to an unexpected change in start time by the Bradford committee, which was to TCD's advantage. Bill rammed the start line buoy, and Sam followed this up by banging him after a few nasty gybes. Ape thought up the brilliant tactic of gybing on to port, unfortunately he collided with a boat which appeared from nowhere. Final result: 3, 5, 6.

Ape was again on form in the race against Manchester, when he hit the committee boat, started the race last, but excelled himself by finishing first. Apart from a win against Bradford, the rest of the day proved unsuccessful for IC. The Barrel was finally won by TCD and the home team Bradford, lost every race. Due to the distance to travel home, we were unable to see where we were placed.

## BOAT

### Unseated

Despite a major catastrophe, Sunday March 13 saw the IC Rowing Club novice eight easily thrash all other boats in the same class. Half-way through the University of London Head (which is the same course as the Oxbridge boat race, in the opposite direction) the bowmans seat gave way beneath him, and refused to be mended, making it impossible for him to row. With balance seriously impaired the crew had no chance of winning the whole race (though the final times suggest they could have done). They had to be content with winning their division by the convincing margin of 58 seconds.



### It's big

If you're still in London on Saturday morning, an event not to be missed is The Head of the River boat race. This is the biggest event in the rowing calendar, with more than 500 eights competing over a timed course from Mortlake to Putney. The fun starts at approximately 10.30pm and there will be at least 4 crews from Imperial needing your loud support.

### But not that big!

Compare this to the race on the following Saturday, April 2, when only two crews will be battling it out over a similar course. Oxford and Cambridge compete in 'The Boat Race'. Hot favourite to be stroking the Cambridge crew is ex-IC boy Guy Pooley. Why not go down, cheer them on and impress your friends by saying 'I know 'im'.

## FOOTBALL

### Crowd trouble

It must have been the last match of the season. Before the largest crowd of the season, the 6ths pulled off a magnificent victory. We turned up on time and marvelled at the heading prowess of Harshul Patel in the warm-up. Kings arrived minus a kit and half an hour late. Kings scored first, despite a brave attempt by Mike Potter in goal, but Andy Draine kept a clear head and slotted in the equaliser. The same superstar then crossed low for Alasdair Bamford to turn in the second. Then came the boring bit when Kings scored two very fortunate goals. No sign of Harshul's head yet!

After half-time came a flowing movement of one-touch football before Richard Miles slipped it home to make it 3-3. Andy Draine poked in the winner in a traditional goalmouth scramble, leaving the 6ths to desperately defend their slender lead until the pressure was relieved by two Kings players being carried off. We never touched them, honest ref!

Even this last ditch win leaves IC 6ths firmly rooted to the bottom of the worst league in the whole of London college football—so back to the bar ready for next season!

Attendance: Five and a fox.

## JUDO

### Desperate Dan

Last Saturday morning, IC hosted the UL Intercollegiate Judo Championships. This is an annual competition between 3, man/woman teams from UL College clubs with the restriction that all competitors must be below black-belt (Dan) grade.

IC entered one women's team—Yoke-Foong Tan, Julie Beasley and Beverly Moses, and two men's teams—Henry Young, Jonathan Lean and Steven Shorey in the 'A' team and Nicola Maffulli, Jon Bird and Stuart Wheaton in the 'B' team.

The men's competition was organised as two pools of four, followed by semi-finals and the final. IC 'A' lost to Royal Holloway 'A', but beat UCL 'B' and LSE in their pool, winning a place in the semi-finals. IC 'B' were less fortunate, losing to QMC and UCL 'A', but beating Royal Holloway 'B' 3-0. In the semi-final, IC 'A' came up against UCL 'A', but had to settle for bronze, losing 1-2, UCL 'A' went on to beat QMC in the final.

Although comparatively few teams were entered, the highlight of the day was the women's competition. IC fought through to the final convincingly, to face UCL. In a close-fought, nail-biting contest, IC finally won 2-1.

### Boat Club at the Reading Head

## HOCKEY

### Imperial smashes Charing X

Imperial College 1st XI—4  
Charing Cross 1st XI—0  
A mild afternoon at Paddington astroturf saw Imperial face league leaders Charing Cross. Only a win would keep IC's championship hopes alive.

The first half was dominated by IC but, although numerous chances were created, none were converted. Both Paul Skipworth and Michael Foxcroft forced saves from the Charing Cross goalkeeper and good work by Harry Vamadevan proved fruitless. In the brief moments that Charing Cross ventured into the IC half they were kept a bay by the solid performances of John Stonham and Jim Garside. However, a disappointing first half finished 0-0.

A more determined IC side came out after the interval and were soon

in the lead. A short corner was half-saved and Justin Brooking flicked the ball into the Charing Cross net. The second goal quickly followed. A short corner won by Andy Hall was converted by Skipworth with a powerful shot. The now rampaging IC side allowed Charing Cross few chances with Andy and Mark Lewis

controlling the opposition wingers. Colin Wright's under-cut into the foot of the Charing Cross goal made it 3-0 and another short corner conversion by Skipworth made it 4-0.

This was a promising performance by IC, and, with only two league games left, the chances of finalising on top look good.



## RUGBY

### Random

RCS A—2

Ealing College A—0

Thanks to last minute negotiations Dobson managed to get RCS Rugby a game against Ealing College. The game was started after a random without a whistle volunteered to referee.

RCS quickly took hold of the game dominating most of the loose ball. The first points were scored from a kicked penalty. The first try came from a back row linking move which left M Manning with a few yards to run to score. Much of the game RCS were hampered by deliberate blocking and offside tactics by their opponents. The resulting frustration only spurred the team on further. Dobson was quantum tunnelling his way through their pack and won much line out ball. The score did not progress further until the second half when when B Evans stumbled over the line. Many opportunities were not taken, the worst occurred when Manning tripped over his ego when clear. A much improved RCS side continued to put pressure on, not deterred when the extraordinary fat person had the ball.

## INDOOR CRICKET

### Calling pgs

I am interested in organising a limited-over knockout, or round robin, indoor cricket tournament for PGs during the Easter holidays in the Volleyball Courts.

#### Format:

1. 10-15 overs per side.
2. 6 persons per side.
3. Tennis ball instead of cricket ball.
4. Other rules affecting scoring will apply.
5. Enough equipment will be provided.

#### Possible dates for tournament:

- Wednesday March 30
- Wednesday April 6
- Wednesday April 13

If you can form a team of PGs from your department contact Yishu Nanda on int 4320 (leave a message if I'm not in).

Before you laugh, indoor cricket on the volleyball courts using a tennis ball is good fun; it has been tried and tested. PGs at IC do so very little together so I hope many of you will seize this opportunity.

## CROSS COUNTRY

### A term of running

Well folks, despite what you thought the Cross-Country Club didn't die at the end of last term. Gary Hart may have pulled out of the US presidential elections due to leg-over problems but we've had an injury-free season!

In a very active term so far we've been as far afield as Nottingham, three times (who's that girl Dil?), Leicester and just about everywhere in London. The highlight of the term was undoubtedly the Hyde Park Relays hosted by ourselves, and is the biggest student relay in Europe.

The first race of the term was a friendly against Hercules Wimbledon. The race was won by Phil O'Brien, who is an Olympic marathon runner, which begs the question what were we doing there? Even so notable performances for IC came from Hubert S H, Trevor S and Stuart B. Our first trip to Nottingham was for the British Universities championships. In a highly competitive race superstar Dave Knight only managed a top 200 placing but everyone's performances were up to scratch. This included Wimpey who added to his reputation gained at last year's Hyde Park Relays when he was again hospitalised after the race.

In the London Colleges League congratulations are in order as our first team kept up their good performances from last term to finish a strong third. We were in fact the first London College as the League was won by Thames Polytechnic with Oxford Polytechnic in second place. This creditable result was brought about by good performances and good turnouts at Trent Park, Parliament Hill Fields (and possibly Richmond Park). We would have taken third place one race earlier had Stuart B not decided to do an extra lap at Trent Park losing 50 places! Not even your umbrella could help this time Stuart!

The final position of our top six runners after six races and out of a total of 280 competitors were as follows:

- 11th Alex Gaskell
- 18th Dave Knight
- 22nd John H Porter
- 29th Hubert Schulte-Huxel
- 44th John Rowland
- 49th Ramin Dilmaghanian

The Richmond Park Race which is organised by us saw Tim Butler of Surrey winning his first and much deserved league race after many attempts. Hubert (our German import) and Alex led our forces home

finishing 20th and 24th. My heart bleeds for the lady runner who took a nose dive into one of the many puddles on the course. We fielded our strongest ladies team of the year. Alison Horrocks our lady orienteer was 24th and Pam Samson 28th.

The last race in the League was held at Parliament Hill on a surprisingly dry course. Trevor, despite trying to spike himself again stormed to a good 16th place. He was closely followed by Hubert and captain Hugh. Thanks to everyone who took part in the League.

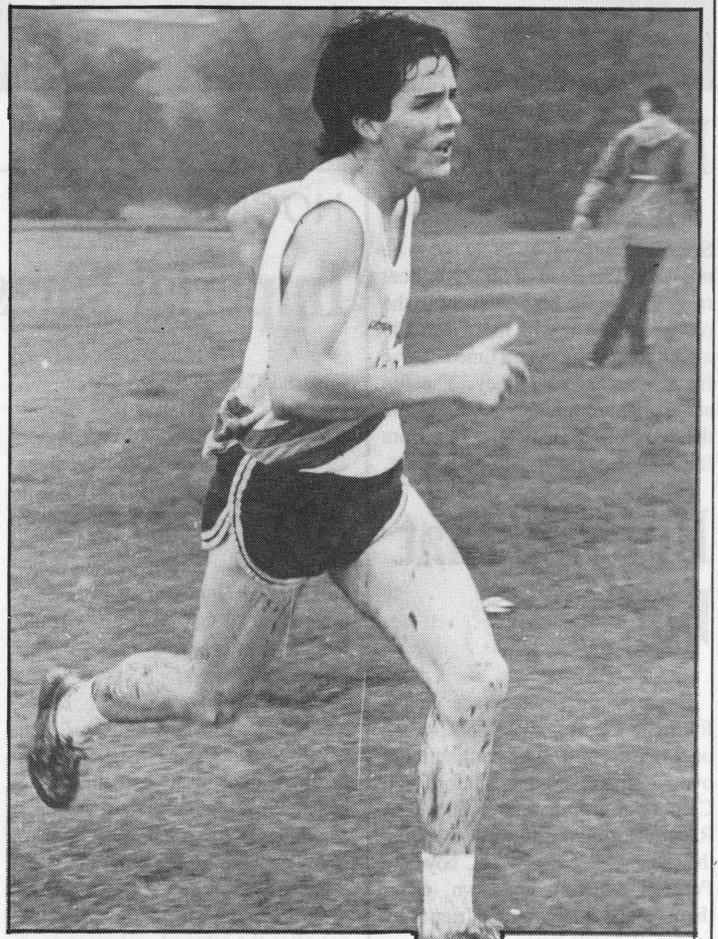
Our honour was at stake in the Hyde Park Relays. The orienteers threw down the gauntlet and challenged us to a private race within the race. I'm pleased to say that we saw off not only the orienteers but also the old boys team, led by our fitter-than-ever former secretary Gavin Waterson. Even our second team held off the orienteers! The ladies team fought courageously but had to settle for a lesser placing in a truly high class race. The paramedics had a peaceful day since Wimpey decided not to collapse this year. Our

star performer on the day was Hubert but everyone did well.

A few of us participated in the National Cross Country Championships, would you believe it, in Nottingham. The younger lads, Dave and Alex ran the junior race which was won convincingly by Simon Hugglestone. Dil ran the 9-mile senior race and easily won the contest for the muddiest appearance. Our finishing positions, withheld by request, may have been far down the list but it should be remembered that the cream of the English cross-country runners took part.

One week later Nottingham University staged their annual relay on a 2 mile plus course around the campus, with two gruelling hills. IC old boy Gavin ran a blinding leg in 13:14 but Hubert and Trevor were close behind. Energetic Hubert decided that one leg wasn't enough so ran another leg just for fun! The results were not known at the time of writing.

Finally the club AGM will be at 5.00pm on Wednesday March 23. More details on the noticeboard.



## £30,000 Debate Gliding

Should Imperial College join the National Union of Students? This will be the topic of debate tomorrow (Thursday) at 1pm in the Union Lounge. All Imperial students can attend this potentially lively meeting. Speaking in favour of IC joining the NUS should be Vicky Phillips (National President) or possibly another member of the National Executive and seconding will be a representative from IC's pro-NUS society. Opposing will be Imperial College Union President Ian/Sydney

Howgate/Harbour-Bridge, seconded by Alan Rose (Deputy President).

If ICU does join the NUS this could cost the Union in the region of £30,000, however, some students would like to see IC getting involved in the NUS's campaigns against student loans, poll tax, etc.

There will be opportunities to ask questions afterwards. Given the strong views of many students on the matter, this should be well worth going to.

## Healthy Democracy

Elections! Keep Fit needs a committee next year—papers have been up for about two weeks, in Southside Gym. The following posts are available—President, Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, Publicity Officer and Ordinary Member. There will be an Election AGM early next term, after one of the evening lessons. If you're interested or have any questions see Richard Bools, EE 2; Marika Duyver, Geol 2; Phil Chandy, Aero 2; Sophie Czuprinski, ME 2; Alison Seward, Geol 2; or Alan Betts, ME 2. Please

sign up—there's very little work involved.

Finally, Keep Fit continues over Easter. There is a two week break, and then the last two weeks, lessons are as normal.

Monday April 11 and 18, 5.30-6.30pm. Tuesday April 12 and 19, 6-7pm. Wednesday April 13 and 20, 12.30-2pm. Thursday April 14 and 21, 5.30-6.30pm.

Have a good holiday, and don't eat too much over Easter!

Cheers.

February 19 was the date of Imperial College Gliding Club's most auspicious event, the Annual Dinner, held at the Royal Aeronautical Society.

Both past and present student members attended. Among the invited guests were officials of Lasham Gliding Society including Mr Derek Piggot, recognised as the world's foremost gliding instructor, and a party from Surrey University Gliding Club.

The catering and service were excellent. The after-dinner speech was given by Mr Bill Kronfeld, an ex-IC student, who spoke of his father's major contribution to gliding this century, including the first cross-country flight and the first glider traverse of the English Channel.

The annual award presentations also took place. Of current students Steve Brooker was awarded the President's Cup for an 80km cross-country flight.

Apart from Surrey University being awarded the Brunt Trophy for the best height gain, a good time was had by all!

So if you're interested in getting the

Brunt Trophy back for IC, or would relish the chance of explaining to your bank manager why, on top of a £400 overdraft, you have a bill for £80 of wine then come along to Aero 254 at 5.30pm on Thursday.

## Greenpeace

There is now an active Greenpeace support group for West London and help is urgently needed with a variety of fund-raising events (if you can think of a use for a fifty foot inflatable whale then let us know).

The first major event is the Greenpeace Flag Day on April 9. If you are around and could spare any time to hassle people in High Street Kensington and the surrounding area please get in touch with me.

Greenpeace is a non-political organisation which carries out a lot of very worthwhile campaigns all of which need your support to continue. So if you can collect or just want to get in touch with the support group (which is nothing to do with Imperial and has been set up by Greenpeace supporters) then please contact me by phoning 373 1736 (Alistair Goodall in Flat 6) or via the Computing pigeonholes.

Thanks a lot.

Alistair Goodall (DoC 1)

## Summer in the Air?



Hi, there. It's that time of the year again when baskets are rigged, burners are turned on, envelopes are inflated and the skies are reached. Yes, despite the awful weather conditions so far this year, we have managed to find the odd couple of days to fly our hot-air balloon 'Second-Wind'.

A few weekends ago we took the balloon up to Loughborough University who also have an active balloon club. We drove up Friday evening with a newly bought right wing mirror sellotaped on (no thanks to the club who lost the previous one).

Arriving a bit late we headed straight for the nearest watering-hole where the next day's plans were carefully (?) laid out. Also having forgotten a complete set of air-maps, our old OS maps were hurriedly marked up with all the nearby air traffic zones (useful places to know about!). We all then crashed out at a friend's house (all twelve of us).

Next morning bright and early we arranged to meet at the university grounds. We eventually found the correct launch site, to be greeted by a number of other local balloonists. Soon all the balloons were up and ready to go except 'Primebang', the rather old and leaky Loughborough balloon which, even after much

burning sadly refused to get off the ground! In the end we managed to fly nearly everybody, using Nottingham University for the Sunday launch and I believe a great weekend was had by all.

A few of us also went flying last weekend down at Newbury. The weather was beautiful with the odd flurries of snow glittering in the sunshine at 2000 feet.

We passed nearby to a glider airfield and saw them being pulled up and then gracefully circled downwards. Our final landing was good but not very near to any access roads. A kind farmer came to our rescue in the form of a tractor which he used to get all our equipment out of the field. After a couple of frantic telephone calls, our retrieve crew eventually found us and then we all headed for tea and hot-chocolate fudge cake!

Interested in flying in the summer term and over summer? (It really isn't difficult—you just stand in the basket and let the pilot do the rest!) Come to one of our regular Thursday lunchtime meetings at 1pm in the Southside Upper Lounge (above the bar)—just ask around for the balloonists. Everybody's welcome.

Jan Vonka (DoC 2).

## JEWISH SOC

The Tuesday before last, March 8, the last day of International Women's Week, was specified as a day of solidarity with women refuseniks, who are unable to exercise their right to leave their country. As part of such a protest it was decided that at IC our concerns for Galina Pilmenstein ought to be relayed to the Soviet Embassy in London. Galina (and her family) have been refused exit visas from Russia due to military secrets that, it is claimed, her father knows, (from the Russian army, fifteen years ago) and might have relayed to her. So at Imperial, we decided that Galina's situation should be shared with the masses.

Armed with the symbol of all IC Soviet Jewry events, a plentiful supply of After Eights chocolates, a stall was set up in the JCR, attracting many a passer-by. The Student and Academic Campaign for Soviet Jewry had announced that, considering that many hundreds were fasting up and down the country in support of refuseniks, paper plates should be used as stationery on which to write to the Embassy. This went down very well with the students approached, and about seventy letters were written within a short period of time. (Thank goodness for After Eights!!)

The enthusiasm shown during this past event will certainly allow us to eagerly await an optimistic reply from the Embassy—failing that, next term will be seeing more eventful events.

If you feel you could help with the campaign, please contact J Goldstein (Chem 1).

## CV SOC

Now that ICU has Beetlesoc, why not societies to promote other classic cars? If anyone is interested in forming CVsoc, in honour of the Citroën 2CV and its many derivatives the please contact James Breach, Chemistry 2.

## S&G

The final S & G weekend of the Spring Term involved a party of twelve visiting the Lake District. We stayed in the Santon Bridge village hall near Wast Water.

Saturday saw two parties starting from Wasdale Head. The first climbed Yewbarrow, Steeple and Pillar. The second made their way up

## FILMSOC Sisterly lust



Term's nearly over so why not get demob happy with *Hannah and Her Sisters*?

Widely regarded as one of Woody Allen's best films, it's the story of a man's dilemma when he develops adulterous impulses towards his wife's sister. Combining deep poignancy and hilarious comedy, the film ranges from life to love to lust, bringing the humour from the human condition, making you laugh and cry. An all star cast includes Michael Caine who won an oscar for his performance, Carrie Fisher, Max Von Sydow and of course Woody Allen himself. So if you want to see seven of Mia Farrow's eight children and the inside of her apartment make a date for tomorrow. Thursday March 24 at 7pm in Mech Eng 220, only £1 to non members, 50p members. By the way, how would you like to choose next year's films and get into them all free? If you're interested in helping out running Filmsoc, however little or much, come along to any film and have a chat with one of the committee, we don't bite (we prefer to squeeze you to death).

to Scafell Pike, taking in a good scramble up Broad Crag. The cloud stayed above 3000 feet all day and conditions were acceptably dry. However, as we sat drinking in the pub that evening we were all asking where was the snow?

Returning to Wasdale Head on the Sunday revealed that the snow-line had fallen to 2000 feet. A small party had their scramble on Great Gable ruined by this snow. However, everyone else found excellent conditions underfoot as they climbed Scafell by Lord's Rake. Club ice-axes were used but the experienced and novice alike had an exhilarating day—and perfect slope for glissading was found on the top.

At last some decent snow was found to end a dismal winter—we are dreaming of a white one next year. See you all in the Southside Upper Lounge on any weekday lunchtime.

If you want to learn what S & G does why not come to Mines B303 on Thursday March 24 at 12.30pm to the Chairman's annual review, with slides?

## Dancing Days

## DANCE SOC

On Saturday March 12, a twenty strong team travelled up to Liverpool to compete in the biggest competition in the dance calendar—the Intervarsity Ball.

After a tiresome journey of five hours, the Imperial clan shook the fatigue from their legs and the hairspray from their lungs and donned their competition dress in readiness.

All couples danced well in their individual events but once again the mercy of the judges was not exactly on our side.

Hugh Hamilton and Shuko Noguchy (waltz) were unfortunately knocked out in the first round but the competition was particularly strong and so there was no great disgrace in this result.

Simon Denyer and Rachel Condor (quickstep) danced in a controlled and lively manner only to be robbed of a place in the final by dubious judging.

Neil McCluskey and Dinah Woodhurst (jive) came away with second place after yet another exciting performance of their routine.

The success story of the night was the second place that Thomas Puetz and Joanne Wade were awarded in the cha-cha-cha. The incredible facial technique of Thomas and his continuous winking to the judges worked in their favour, as did the expressive way in which they both danced.

Another pleasing result was the

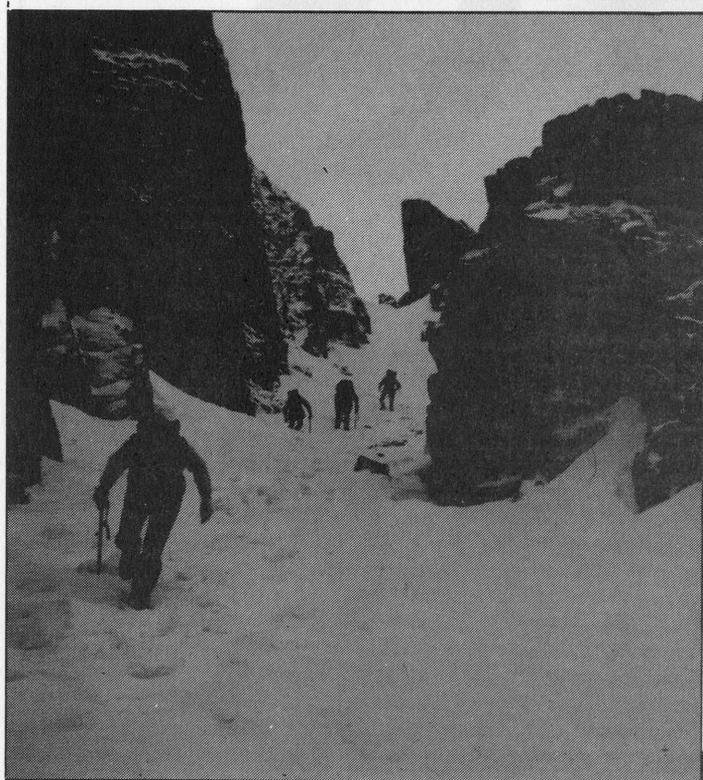
fifth place which Thomas Puetz and Rachel Condor got in the open samba after only two lessons in that particular dance. All that was missing from this performance was a timely slap around the face from Rachel, perhaps next time.

The end of the evening saw the offbeat entries performing to a new set of judges who obviously were either blind to dancing talent, or more likely, preferred to see suspender-clad girls rubbing themselves against chairs than a truly entertaining dance.

After winning convincingly at the Southern Ball three weeks earlier Imperial were not even placed in the first three. Unbelieving onlookers stood in stunned silence—a rather unexpected end to the evening.

But on the whole this year has been an enjoyable and successful one, and much of this success has been due to our wonderfully enthusiastic coach, Victoria Cunniffe, for the second year running she has been an inspiring force behind all our couples and many heart-felt thanks go out to her from everyone she has taught this year.

A special mention must also go to our president Gill Knowles who led us through the harder times by example and our wardrobe mistress Dawn Fletcher who spent hours in front of her sewing machine to make sure that all our competitors were immaculately turned out.



## TWERP takes a trip to the Fringe

The Edinburgh Festival is an annual arts festival which takes place over a span of three weeks during the month of August. It is a celebration of music, fine art, literature, film and theatre and is attended by people from all over the world.

The Imperial College Dramatic Society has taken part in the Festival for many years, the last six of which we have also administered our own venue in Edinburgh; Theatre West End. It is situated in a prime location, in Edinburgh's main shopping precinct. The Society performs three productions at the venue, under the name of Theatre West End Repertory Productions. Last year, the three shows included *Bent* by Martin Sherman, *Seascape* by Edward Albee, and *The Collection* and *The Lover*—a double bill by Harold Pinter. These were all very well received.

Auditions for the three plays which the Imperial College Dramatic Society will be presenting in Edinburgh this August will take place next term on Sunday May 1st, and Wednesday May 4th at 1pm. Further details about the meeting place for auditions, and the productions to be presented this summer will be posted around College (look out on the walkway!) and appear in FELIX at the beginning of next term.

Those people who are cast in the Theatre West End repertory productions would have to ensure that they are available in London during July (rehearsals are in the evenings), and would have to keep the month of August free for the Festival. It is a commitment, but the vast majority of those who have made that commitment in previous years would agree that it is worthwhile, as participating in the Festival is a rewarding and memorable experience.

So, if you are interested in taking part in the Edinburgh Festival this summer (as a performer, or otherwise), then make a note in your diary of May 1st and May 4th. And remember—these auditions are open to everybody: You don't have to be a member of Dramsoc. Everyone is welcome to audition and stands a fair chance of being cast.

Watch this space for further details.  
*Vanessa Dodge,*  
*Theatre West End Repertory*  
*Productions.*



## Rayleigh—rest in peace

At the end of this week the 26 residents of Rayleigh House will be moving out for the Easter vacation and for good.

The House which is situated in Queensbury Place, just opposite the Natural History Museum, has recently been sold by the College to pay for renovations to Fisher Hall, the new property in Evelyn Gardens, purchased last year from the Royal College of Art.

Rayleigh House was originally bought in 1968 and named after The Fourth Baron Lord Rayleigh FRS, the Chairman of the Governing Body of Imperial College (1936-47)

Being such a small community, the atmosphere within Rayleigh is one of the friendliest and warmest of all the College Houses and it is with great sadness and reluctance that the present residents are leaving. Many previous residents have also expressed their sorrow at the sale.

The House was originally to be sold

last summer, but this idea was shelved because the renovation work on Fisher Hall was taking longer than expected and there were not enough rooms ready for the 1987-88 intake. Consequently this has meant that the students in Rayleigh must move in the middle of the academic year, disrupting the third year re-applicants just before their finals.

Most of the residents of Rayleigh House will be moving to Fisher Hall but a few will be accommodated in other Houses and Halls. The Warden Mark Goldstone is moving to a flat in Evelyn Gardens and can be contacted during the day on internal extension 4772.

The House was to celebrate its 20th birthday this year, but this was cancelled because of the sale and it is now hoped that a formal event will be held next term to mark the closure of the House.

*Rachel Fowler (Civ Eng 3),*  
*Re-Applicant.*

## Cookery Club



### Shergar Stew

Serves 6 normal people or 4 pigs.

2 lb stewing beef  
 2 level tbs flour  
 3 oz butter  
 1 onion (finely chopped)  
 2 cloves garlic (crushed)  
 4 oz carrots (thick sliced)  
 2 oz celery (chopped)  
 2 oz turnips (cut into chunks)  
 Some grated nutmeg  
 ¼ tsp powdered allspice  
 4 pints Guinness  
 Salt and pepper

Pre-heat the oven to gas mark ½, 250°F, 130°C. Use a large, heavy frying pan and casserole dish.

Whack an ounce of butter in the casserole and over a gentle heat, sweat the onion and the garlic for 10 minutes. Open the first bottle of Guinness. Heat the frying pan and add another ounce of butter. Drink the first bottle of Guinness and open the second.

Meanwhile, toss the cubes of meat in the flour and brown them a few at a time in the frying pan in the hot butter. Transfer them into the casserole to join the onions and the garlic. Whilst doing this, drink the second bottle of Guinness. Open the third.

When the meat is all in, do the veg. Add a little more butter if you need it. Brown the veg a little at the corners and edges. Drink the third bottle of Guinness and open the fourth bottle of Guinness.

When all the veg has been doshed into the casserole, sprinkle the spices in, the salt and pepper and the last bottle of Guinness. Resist the temptation at this stage to drink it—you'll need it for the recipe.

Don't worry at this stage if it looks like you've overdone it on the Guinness. The slow cooking will take care of it. Next, bring it up to simmering point and whack it in the oven. Now comes the good bit. Leave it in the oven for six hours. If you've timed it right, it should now be 11 o'clock on a Saturday morning. Shoot down the pub and stay there until closing time. In the bookie, a few bets and then back home for a few pre-dinner drinks courtesy of the local offie. Sling together some mashed spuds and serve up this culinary delight whilst watching the A Team.

# Letters

## Challenging the intolerance

Dear FELIX,

I am writing to correct some of the inaccuracies I read in a recent letter by Matthew Huntbach in last week's FELIX (no 798).

I share Matthew's reservations about the UCCF statement of belief and I would not join the Christian Union at my last university for this reason. The reason for my reservations was that the statement effectively barred my Roman Catholic Christian friends from membership. My church allowed any one who claimed to love the Lord to take Communion and I saw no reason why the UCCF should be so dogmatic. St Paul argued long and hard with certain influential Jewish Christians, who insisted on circumcision of Gentile believers, and I feel that similar arguments apply here.

Having said this, I feel that Matthew displays a poor understanding and peculiar intolerance of evangelical Christianity, which must be challenged.

As an evangelical Christian myself I accept the Bible as the sole source of authority, but before I am condemned as a fundamentalist loony I must admit that in common with many other Christians, I have problems with the interpretation of biblical truth. There is plenty of scope for abuse here and many people (Matthew mentions three) have used the Bible to promote their own dubious and sometimes immoral views. It is in the search for a true understanding that the support and teaching of the Church (the whole Church) is necessary, although there is no substitute for sincere reflective study and prayer.

Matthew accuses the CU (and I presume evangelicals in general) of selectivity in their approach to the Bible, but he does not develop this argument. I must admit that I am surprised by his view of the CU as the British wing of the American 'televangelists' but again this argument is not developed.

The most inaccurate part of Matthew's letter is the bit on 'justification by faith'. This is not the place for discussion of this very old argument, and most Christians have to hold St Paul's teaching 'So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith'—Galatians 3:24; and James's teaching 'You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone'—James 2:24 in tension. A better understanding can be gained by reading the entire chapters from which these verses are taken and also Ephesians 2:8-10.

I doubt if anybody in the CU or even Matthew has inside information on Mother Theresa's destiny in the afterlife but I think it is safe to assume that she will go to heaven—not because she is a 'good person' but because of her relationship with God, and her salvation through the death of Christ.

Perhaps the heart of the Gospel is that we don't have to be like Mother Theresa to be saved (which is good news for most of us) but that we do need God's forgiveness and to be 'born again'.

On the matter of Christ's social teaching, this was not humanitarian advice about how to be a 'good person', but a command to love others as He loves us. It is not true that the Protestant Church has rejected Christ's radical social teaching—consider Lord Shaftesbury or Archbishop Tutu, but please don't judge the CU on the performance of a few right-wing charlatans from the US.

Finally Matthew, if you're reading this, if you really

want to stop the spread of sinister religions join me in condemning the Moonies whose letter was printed after yours in last week's FELIX.

*Yours sincerely,  
Richard Greenough (Robotics Centre).*

## Careful handling

The Editor of FELIX,

Under the terms of the constitution it is understandable that the Union has decided to expel the Christian Union. The membership clause is presumably unconstitutional.

The Union must now face the fact that some societies, by their very nature, require special status. It is necessary for instance that the Orchestra restricts who plays in their concerts. Societies which are affiliated to outside organisations (eg RAC) may be required to comply with the regulations of that organisation. I would suggest that the emotive nature of religions also requires careful handling.

Setting aside these considerations the letter, published last week (FELIX 798) by Matthew Huntbach deserves comment. It is not only bigotted but also grossly inaccurate.

I am not a member of the CU. I will not sign the doctrine of faith. I have never been made to feel unwelcome at any of the CU activities which I have attended.

To answer Mr Huntbach's first theological sortie, Christ sent his disciples to all men and left his spirit working in the whole world. Christianity is a product of his life. The CU does not claim it to be a product of the Bible.

For Mr Huntbach to suggest that a society which has a restriction on its membership claims to represent all Christians is patently rubbish. His later comment about the Gnostic gospels is, frankly, foolish beyond permission. The cases are entirely unconnected.

Equally sensible is the suggestion that all members of the CU must accept the Bible as 'The sole source of authority'. Surely that is God! The CU belief is that the Bible was written by people inspired by God and as such is the most authoritative text that we have. This belief can and does encompass an enormous range of opinions on the infallibility of the content.

Mr Huntbach then goes on to attack Protestantism in general. At this point the letter becomes incoherent, disconnected and mostly drivel. His claim about the connection between the CU and TV evangelists is rubbish. His point about Mother Theresa is untrue and irrelevant. He manifestly has no understanding of the concept of 'justification by faith'.

I would suggest that the major message of 'Christ's radical social teaching' is that to preserve slavishly the status quo is not sufficient, no matter how infallible one believes the tradition to be. Such things should be questioned and followed only if the individual's conscience finds them to be correct in all things. Some of Christ's strongest conflicts were with the traditions of established religion.

In his last paragraph Mr Huntbach exhorts all Christians not to tolerate the CU. I would suggest that such a blinkered attitude is far more sinister than anything the CU might produce.

*Yours faithfully,  
S J Locherbie, Physics 2.*

## Small Ads

● **Shoobedoobee** doobedoo ah (clap clap) (repeat if necessary). Penthouse Club jive squad.

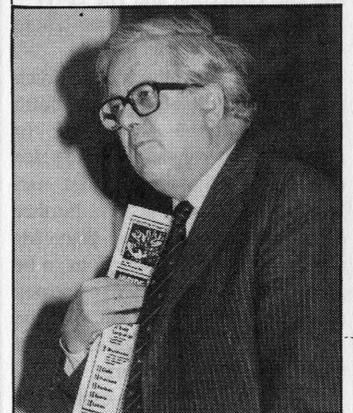
● **Wiggle** dive crash spin—breakdancing by PK.

● **Pead-Eye** PK can shoot a coat-hanger falling backwards over a wall downing a pint of whisky in one. Ask the Indian waiter! Penthouse Club.

● **Having** provided the RCS Office with its own all-weather independent multi-targetable nuclear deterrent, the Penthouse Club is considering proliferation.

● **Lost:** Gold bracelet in Southside on Wednesday evening. If found please, please contact Deda Ibikunle (Chem Eng 2). A lot of sentimental value—please get in touch if you know of its whereabouts.

● **LOST:** 22.3.88, Sports Centre, about 12.30pm. 1 gold ring with large bloodstone. Reward offered, any information please contact Russ Dark, Chem Eng 3.



**Should  
Imperial join  
the NUS?**

**Thursday 24th  
1.00pm**

**Union Lounge  
All welcome**



*starring  
Sydney Harbour-Bridge  
Vicky Phillips*



Editor  
FELIX

ERIAL COLLEGE, London, SW7 2AZ

# Letters

## Small Ads

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Friends** of Enoch Powell Society will be holding its first dinner at the South African Embassy next week. We welcome applications for membership—contact G Kennedy (Chem 3).
- **Tignes '88**—Anyone wanting a copy of the Christmas tour group come along to Southside one lunchtime next week—Skisoc.
- **Don't miss** Dark Star at the Jazz & Rock Club Hop, tonight.
- **Dark Star** wish to thank SFSoc for the free publicity!
- **Many thanks** to all the ICSSO Committee for a wonderful concert on Friday.
- **For all** those members of the Chamber Music Society who have not yet received a letter about the AGM it will be held on March 23. Election papers are up on the noticeboard along the walkway.

### ACCOMMODATION

- **A double** room flat in Herne Hill, ring Jaz on int 4033.
- **Urgently** required to share large modern house in Hounslow—all facilities—own large single room. £188 per month and bills. References required. Contact Kathy Tait on int 3500 or 570 2549 after 6pm.

### LOST & FOUND

- **Who** gave me a calculator at Camera 7 last Wed (March 9)? Claim it back at the Union Bar at lunchtime. Steve Killmurray.
- **Lost:** One box of ten Macintosh 3½ disks with 'keep music live' sticker on back. If found please return to Chas Breton, c/o Union. Reward £5.
- **Lost:** One brown leather shoe, size 10. Lost between Linstead Hall and Holbein House, Friday (March 11). Please return to Rodger Houghton (Maths 3) for mega reward.

### PERSONAL

- **The** Linstead Hall Flashers—flashing to the world (and Tizard).
- **Overheard** on a recent Diving Club trip: M: 'W, where are my underpants?'
- **Come in** No 37, your time is up!
- **5th** Airborne Brigade (wine boxes) are now fully kamikaze trained. The Penthouse Club.
- **A Poem:** Why use a nom de plume? Cowardly hiding behind a mask of anonymity, you pour forth verse as bitter as bile. You are nothing but the scum of the earth. I preach no enmity, but with you I must be terse—Be you a faggot, Be you a maiden, You can forget my bum, you little scum, you little maggot.—Yishu.
- **The spirit** of Rayleigh House will never die! Watch out Linstead and Fisher.

## Not misleading

Dear FELIX,

With reference to Matthew Huntbach's letter (FELIX 798) concerning his views on the Christian Union, I would like to make a few points which, I feel, might remove some misunderstanding:

1. The name 'Christian Union' is in no way misleading as it implies a group of Christians united in their belief and active in their relationship with God.
  2. Christianity, as practiced by the CU, is based truly and firmly on a belief in Jesus Christ. The Bible, not as 'some obscure jumble' but as the inspired word of God, is of immense importance in understanding Christ and following Him more effectively.
  3. The most important protestant belief is not exclusive and that is that salvation is available to all who acknowledge Christ as their Lord and Saviour and that, through Christ, we may enjoy a fulfilled relationship with God and Father.
  4. 'Justification of faith alone' is not a protestant belief. Justification by faith, however, is a widely held Christian view (Romans 5:1). This by no means does away with Christ's teaching on the poor, on morality etc. Indeed St Paul says: 'Do we then nullify the Law through faith? On the contrary, we establish the Law.' (Romans 3:31).
  5. No one I know would ever suggest Mother Theresa was predestined for Hell—the suggestion is quite preposterous.
- I make these points, not to attack personally views or beliefs held by Mr Huntbach, but merely to correct what I felt was a misrepresentation of the conduct of our Christian Union. I hope, and indeed pray, that Imperial College will see the value of this society and therefore treat them in a respectful way in the future.
- Yours sincerely,*  
Love and God Bless,  
Roger Morris (President of Methodist Society).

## Oh so vicious

Dear Judith,

I would like to ask you for an explanation for your unwarranted and vicious attack on Bill Goodwin (Editorial, FELIX 797). I congratulate you on your subtleness (for example, not even mentioning his name), but the fact remains that it was an unjustified and callous slur on Bill. As it is no secret that Bill was not your preferred candidate, this looks like yet another episode in the long-running saga of 'Judith-Hackney-using-her-editorial-to-slag-off-people-she-doesn't-like'.

For the benefit of those who don't know what I'm referring to, I am objecting first of all to the fact that Bill was not mentioned in your editorial as having been elected FELIX Editor. I know that you have told us all a million times that what you put in FELIX, and especially in your editorial, is completely up to you; however, it seems wrong to me to list all the winners except for the one you didn't like. More importantly, however, I'm objecting to the scurrilous accusations in the right-hand column of your editorial, under the subheading of FELIX. In it, you accuse Bill of standing for the post of FELIX Editor solely to further his own journalistic career. As if that wasn't enough, you then proclaim that, under his leadership, your so-called 'FELIX spirit' will be gone. To top it all off, you then announce that FELIX is dead. That may well

be so. However, you've still got one full term to resuscitate it, Judith, and even if you don't manage it I have every confidence that Bill Goodwin will.

*Yours sincerely,*  
Alastair Seymour, Assiduous FELIX reader.

**You seem to have read into my editorial all the things which I didn't say. You merely assume that your conclusions are what I intended to imply. As I said, unless you have worked on FELIX for several years, not just my year, you will not understand the spirit.**

**I must say, though, that I am looking forward to reading FELIX next year. It will be an amazing paper if Bill manages to carry out all his election promises.**

## Guilds' agony

Dear Judith 'Deidre' Hackney,

I really am very sorry to bother you with my problems, but there really is no one else I feel I can turn to. Over the last few months, I have become very close to this guy, and on a recent night out, we went a little too far, and before I knew what was happening, he took advantage of me. It was my first time, and I found it understandably difficult to walk the next day. Since that night, he has chosen to ignore me, and I feel so cheap and used. However, I still love him, but I imagined that sooner or later my feelings for him would fade. Unfortunately, we have now both been chosen as editors for Guildsheet, and I am afraid that my feelings will get in the way of my doing my job well. (After all, I know how hard Mr Tyler found it to work with Mr Baker.) What do you think I should do Judith? I am at my wits end and cry myself to sleep every night. Do you think that I should face him and tell him my feelings? Please, please help.

*Yours faithfully,*  
CP.

**Well, luvvy. I can understand what an unfortunate situation you have found yourself in. Men are callous, heartless b\*st\*rds, aren't they? I think you ought to confront you feelings and your man. Tell him everything and if he tells you where to go, castrate him.**

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23 MARCH UNION LOWER LOUNGE  
WITH  
THE GENTS  
SCHEUROEDINGER'S CAT  
MOCK DUCKS & SUPPORT  
1.50 ON THE DOOR : DOORS OPEN 7:30

# Letters

## Policy warning

Dear Judith,

I have read with interest the brief article on page 16 of FELIX 798 regarding the two 'con-women' operating in the Evelyn Gardens residences. It has since come to our notice that some of those approached are Mining House residents and so I've carried out certain investigations of my own.

The service being promoted is a life assurance policy with Premium Assurance Company and the company involved is Royston Financial Services (in association with Genn Financial Services Ltd.). This company has its headquarters in London and another office in Manchester. The women operating in Evelyn Gardens are apparently from the Manchester office.

After enquiries from students, I contacted the headquarters and spoke to one Ms Rosemary Genn. She outlined salient points of the agreement, but there seems to be a difference on two key issues. Firstly, contrary to what seems to have been advised to IC students, the policy is designed to run for **ten plus years** and not five plus years. Secondly, access to the investment is not possible after three years (as said by these women) but only after much longer. Ms Genn could only attribute this apparent disparity to some misunderstanding on the part of the Manchester office and has promised to check up on it. Also, when Royston Financial Services does notify clients from Evelyn Gardens about the receipt of their applications, Ms Genn has volunteered to include an additional note stating the actual conditions.

From further enquiries of another investment consultant, I gather that such an approach to selling insurance policies is not unique. However, it is difficult to say whether these policies are authentic or fakes. I can only suggest that all those who have applied consider seriously the implications of the investment being much more long term than was put to them. Ms Genn is expecting enquiries from Imperial College students on this topic and I recommend that anyone with doubts in their minds should contact her at the following address: Ms Rosemary Genn, Royston Financial Services, c/o GFS Ltd, Equity House, 65 Trinity Road, London N22 4XX (Tel: 01-889 9451); do remember to state that you are from IC.

Sincerely yours,

Bharat I Chaudhary, Subwarden, Mining House.

## Misrepresenting the facts?

Dear Judith,

Mr Nelkon's letter 'Answering the opinion' was, to say the least, interesting. Not only did the letter lack objectivity, logic and sensitivity to the plight of the Palestinians, but it contained a great deal of misrepresentation of facts.

Firstly, it is clear to any detached observer that Israel occupied, not entered as Mr Belkon wishes us to believe, the West Bank and Gaza strip in 1967. This 'benevolent' occupation has resulted in the imprisonment of tens of thousands of inhabitants, most of these being detained without trial, the deportation of over 2,000 Palestinians from their own land as a punishment for opposing Israel's

continued occupation, the destruction of, at least, 20,000 homes belonging to Palestinians and standing on land which is rightfully theirs, the illegal expropriation of thousands of acres of Arab land for the purpose of establishing illegal Jewish settlements. One must acknowledge however, that Israel has given a number of Palestinian families plots of land with 99 year leases, with no electricity, no roads, no mosques and certainly no schools.

Secondly, it is clear that Mr Nelkon ignores the Ribat, 1974, and the Fass, 1982, summits where the PLO chairman Arafat stated that he, as spokesman for the Palestinian people, will declare the right of the state of Israel to exist and will support the existence of a two state settlement, living in peace, provided Israel accepts the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, the right of the Palestinians to a state of their own in the occupied territories. This was categorically rejected by Israel. This policy of rejection has been most recently demonstrated by Mr Shamir's rebuffal of the Shultz 'land for peace' initiative.

Thirdly, Mr Nelkon's figure of '8,000 acts of terror' which he claims to have been carried out by the PLO seems a bit ludicrous. As Mr Nelkon surely knows the PLO was established in 1965 (ie 23 years ago) and for this organisation to carry out such a number of acts, this would entail at least six acts of terror every week. Mr Nelkon who are you kidding? No one could or would condone acts of terror were they carried out in the Middle East or elsewhere in the world. However would any person consider the massacre of 5000 civilians, including women, children and elderly people, an act of terror? The answer would surely be yes. As you well know, the Israeli army knowingly allowed such an abominable act to take place in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps (Lebanon 1982). Would you consider the bombing of civilians in several Lebanese cities, by the Israeli air force, resulting in the death of some 1,000 people and the injury of over 5,000 others an act of terror? Surely the answer would be yes again. These unrequited, unmitigated and unjustifiable acts were carried out over the period 1976-1982 and preceding Israel's invasion of the Lebanon, which resulted in the further deaths of thousands of innocent civilians. Or would one not consider the Deir Yassin massacre and the King David hotel bombing acts of terror? Thus Mr Nelkon I do not think your argument that the PLO is a terrorist organisation holds ground when faced with today's reality of Israeli politics, where members of past terrorist organisations, such as the Irgun Zwei Leumi, currently hold the highest positions in the Israeli-political structure.

Finally, Mr Nelkon's claim that the 'distressing cases of brutality by Israeli soldiers are breaches of and represent the antithesis of Israeli government policy' seems a bit odd in the face of Mr Rabin's declared policy of 'might, power and beatings', a policy which replaced an earlier, but not less brutal, 'shoot to kill' policy administered in the occupied territories.

Yours sincerely,  
M Bulbul, Mech Eng 2.

## Shocked

Dear Judith,

You can imagine my surprise when some of Mr Shanley's tips actually won this week, that is all except the one I backed which lost by a 'short neck'. Luckily, I saw the funny side of it!

Cheers,  
Not Paul Shanley.

● **Deaths:** Rayleigh House on Sat March 26. Will be greatly missed by everyone.

● **KM & AR?** Nearly?

● **Ann's** blue dressing gown is very revealing.

● **Q:** Which of next year's sabbaticals  
a) got arrested by the diplomatic police,  
b) woke up Southside with heavy rock until 1am, c) got pissed?

● **A:** 1, 2, all of them!

● **Amin** you lecherous b\*\*\*\*d! No, only joking!

● **Penthouse**—watch out your cards are marked—Bill.

● **Mark** Shillito is innocent!

● **Bum** been bitten by Albino Alligator? Call Albino Alligator Busters. We're here to save the world and your bum.

● **Matt** are you sure you want to have babies?

● **Congratulations** Kevin from all your fans in NH1.

● **How** do you pronounce dickhead in Greek? Yiannis Seglias—3Y Mad Gardeners.

● **The P D Williams** Guide to Suicide. Get yourself drunk and locked out on the balcony...34 MGs.

● **Look** for 'The 3Y MGs strike again'. Coming soon to a residence hall near you!!

● **Babies** saved, old ladies rescued, contact M Jones.

● **Guess again**—it's a ménage à trois.

● **R**—I've got a long way to catch up with you—W.

● **SK**—cute a cuddly—maybe, sweet and innocent—never.

● **To** her of the many men, do as you're told and take your trousers off—C.

● **What** is subtlety? On a postcard please to she of the many men and he who grovels at her feet (?).

● **Rayleigh** House is dead, long live the RHINO Club!

● **W&M**, lovers tiff?

● **Rachel**, Rachel, we must have Rachel!—RH.

● **It's** 12.30am. Can Mark go to bed now?

● **We love** Rayleigh House.

● **Who** will it be Wendy, a gnome or an elf?

● **Attractive** chemist (female) with spacious Putney flat, good knowledge of organic reaction mechanisms and chocolate fetish seeks Thomas D12 for meaningful but short-term relationship.

● **How** many times can you do it in two days?

● **XXXXX**—Breath, you make me so jealous when you fool around with Guys. Come tonight, wearing those figure-hugging swimming trunks, and I might forgive you.

● **Basil**, make sure the hamster is careful when he plays with the mouse.

● **Salad Run** DCO—next sortie a sundae run. The Penthouse Club.

- **N**—you're my hero. I'd paddle away with you any day! Love A.
- **Fiona's** looking backwards to another meal Simon.
- **Why** was it snowing in Savi's room?
- **Simon and Savi**—I know what a fork's for now—Emma.
- **Fiona** and Claire—you can't sue. The evidence has been destroyed.
- **What's** the 2nd loudest thing in College? 2nd floor 18 Ongar Road.
- **Emma**—shouldn't you invest in some more knicker elastic? (Beit Hall cocktail party).
- **Tim** and Dave and coffee machine=physical night of passion.
- **Yishu**—stop molesting Chem Eng 1.
- **Q:** Who wanted a certain nubile young American body?
- **A:** Nigel the frustrated Welshman of Physics 1.
- **Stutti**, Laura and Menage (a trois)?
- **T Bag**—the time of the great brew approaches.
- **Get Otto**; it's cheaper than toilet paper.
- **Book** your jelly and ice-cream party now! Free silly cake, silly banners and panda pop. Contact Cliquey Caterers Linstead—the specialists.
- **Tizard Hall**—the place to go for one can of beer and one ugly girl between twenty parties—B Bros Inc.
- **Desperate**, lonely or just downright ugly? Join the Tizard boys—B Bros Inc.
- **Underwear** throwing service: Apply Own and Ndo.
- **Owen**: You can have the whips back if you promise to show me how to use them properly—Giggles.
- **14**, 23½, 21, 7, 13, 67 and now 10!!
- **Q:** Is it possible for the 2nd Century to be better than the 1st?
- **A:** Yes!!
- **To our** bored housewife: Many thanks—may your milk bottles never be empty—The Dairy.
- **Did** you get the message Linstead? B Soc.
- **Wanted:** for sincere and loving relationship—bulldozer. Must be willing to share room. Apply D Tyler, Guilds Office.
- **IG loves** Vlad xxx.
- **How many** calories are there in sperm?
- **For sale:** squeaky bed (due to complaints from neighbours) or will exchange for non-squeaky model. Apply Showersoc, 216 HG.
- **What's** small, red-haired and doesn't live at 127 HG? Don't know, but it's noisy! Luv Chopper xxx.
- **Is it an** avalanche? Is it an earthquake? No, it's a Showersoc meeting.
- **Message** to Tony from showersoc: No we didn't use the soap.
- **The** Penthouse Club has annexed Westfield.

## Permit problem

Dear Judith,

Re. The Parking Situation at Imperial College

It has come to my attention that the parking situation in IC grounds, at present very far from ideal, could be improved by three simple methods:

1. Removing all burnt-out shells of cars in College wasting spaces, ie one white Hillman Imp to name but one.
2. Limit parking permits to students who live outside the Westminster and Kensington/Chelsea boroughs.
3. Have a more democratic allocation procedure whereby ordinary students ie non-Union hacks, have an equal chance to obtain a permit.

It is hoped that IC will meet the demand for parking permits because they cannot provide adequate accommodation services. Due to the lack of appropriate accommodation in Central London many people are forced to live further away, thus requiring transport to travel to and from College.

The present situation whereby several residents of Southside/Tizard etc, have permits, is ridiculous. Residents' parking permits can easily be obtained from the appropriate London borough and the few permits allocated to the Union could be distributed to those living further away.

*Yours sincerely,  
Names withheld by request.*

## College inferno

Dear Judith,

It is not only the Lyon-Playfair Library which is overheated and poorly ventilated (Letters, FELIX, March 11). Coming from Exhibition Road into the Mechanical Engineering Building every morning is like walking into a hothouse, regardless of the outside temperature. The lab in which I work, on the 4th floor of Mech Eng, is only bearable in shirtsleeves with the windows wide open.

Last winter I suffered this in silence, but a couple of weeks ago decided to contact the Energy Management Section to ask if they could turn down the heating. Admittedly they did send someone round to check the room temperature, but whoever had briefed him had said that I wanted the heating turned up! Having sorted out this misunderstanding I was hopeful of some improvement, but the heating still has not been noticeably turned down.

Apart from this profligate waste of energy, stuffy, overheated surroundings are more conducive to sleep than research work and are particularly uncomfortable for anyone suffering from one of the numerous cold viruses which stalk institutions during the winter months. As Julian Henson said, something must be done about it.

*Yours sincerely,  
K Taylor, R/A, CFDU.*

## Jaws 1

Dear Judith,

We nearly had a collective heart attack (v serious) when we read the letter from The Gauntlet Club last FELIX. Who are these amateurs?

We, at SharkSoc, began our prowl on Thursday night

(the early bird and all that!), then continue right through the weekend, without even coming up for air.

Don't forget boys, small-fry get eaten alive. 'May the Jaws be with you!'

*SharkSoc.*

## Jaws 2

Dear Gauntlet Club,

With regard to your challenge of Friday 11th March 1988, we should be delighted to take part in a competition in accordance with the following rules:

1. The contest to take place between 8pm and 8am on a weekday night to be nominated during next term.
2. Photographic evidence, including evidence of date, eg, that day's newspaper, to be taken during attack phase.
3. Points to be awarded per target with bonuses for multiple targetting, unusual objection, etc.
4. Teams to consist of two hand-picked sharks.
5. Fins optional.
6. No substitutes or support teams to be allowed—you're on your own!
7. Venue at discretion of individual teams.

We look forward to hearing from you next term.

*Yours sincerely,  
The Penthouse Club.*

## Another Vodka and tonic

Dear Judith Darling,

A funny thing happened to me the other day. Half way through a bottle of Smirnoff it suddenly struck me that the reason you had so many letters at the end of the term was because it was the perfect opportunity to slag someone off without giving them a chance to reply. Obviously I wished to grab such a rare opportunity with both hands, but unfortunately I couldn't think of anyone, so I threw up on my bed instead. Luckily, my duvet saw the funny side.

*Yours,  
Miss Kate McHughie.*

## SLAGging off

Dear Judith,

I am so pleased and happy that James Papa is at Imperial College.

I have for some time been contemplating coming out of the closet (where I am hiding with nearly four hundred of my close friends), and it is entirely due to him that I have decided:

1. Not to come out.
2. Not to attend any SLAGS meetings.
3. Not to be gay.

Nice try James.  
*Yours sincerely,  
Ex-gay IC student*

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