

Felix

THE NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

Caught 'blue-handed'

A member of Imperial's Conservative Society may face the Union Disciplinary Committee after tearing down posters put up by the Students Against Loans (SAL) Campaign.

The student concerned, Dylan James, a Maths first year, was discovered removing posters from the Physics Common Room on Tuesday night by two SAL supporters. When challenged, Mr James claimed that the posters contravened Union Publicity rules because they lacked the name of a Club or Society and said that 'Student Loans would benefit every one.'

Mr James had attended the SAL meeting earlier that day when he made suggestions on the way loans should be tackled and had taken a number of anti loans posters to pin up.

A Spokesman from the SAL group told FELIX that the posters contained the logo 'IC Union SCC Students Against Loans Month' and

were therefore in line with Union Publicity requirements. He went on to say that ninety SAL posters had disappeared over the past two weeks.

Julian Moore, acting chairman of the SAL Campaign commented 'Mr James is playing God with student politics. People not only have the right to freedom of speech; they have the right to advertise issues and meetings.'

FELIX received a letter from Mr James earlier in the week in which he condemned Socialist Worker Students' Society for allegedly removing Conservative Society's publicity. Later in the week he approached a member of the FELIX staff asking for the letter to be discreetly removed from the office. The letter is reproduced here.

Mr James was unwilling to comment on the incident, but ICU Honorary Secretary Ian Morris said that he was taking the matter 'seriously'.

Dear Bill,

There have been complaints in recent issues of FELIX about the Union tearing down SWSS posters. I wish to complain about SWSS tearing down ConSoc posters.

Last Monday (13.2.89) about 50 of our ConSoc posters were put up at 9am. By 10.30am almost all of them had been torn down, and many of them were replaced by SWSS posters. Surely it is too much of a coincidence that so many SWSS posters were put up where Consoc posters were.

The tearing down of ConSoc posters by SWSS has been witnessed by non-Conservative friends of mine. I hope those involved will realise the futility of their actions, and that this will stop.

Yours sincerely,

Dylan James, Maths 1.

Bristol bomb blast

Animal Liberation Societies have claimed responsibility for a bomb explosion at Bristol University yesterday morning. The incident has led to speculation that further attacks may be levelled at other Universities in the country.

The bomb, which exploded at 1 minute past midnight, wrecked the fourth floor of the main administration building and 'severely damaged' the third and fifth floors. The building was empty at the time of explosion.

The University received an anonymous phone call at 11.40 am warning of the bomb threat. The building was evacuated and

searched with sniffer dogs but no signs of explosives were found and the building was reopened at 3 pm.

Bristol University Students Union (BUSU) Vice President Russel Payne told FELIX that although a Union Society which was a branch of the 'Western Animal Alliance' existed last year, he is 'about as certain as possible' that the bombing had 'nothing to do with the students'. He commented that Bristol University has had a 'bad reputation for animal experimentation' in the past, but claimed that strong feelings against the medical and veterinary faculties have now 'died down'. Professor Pearson of the faculty of Veterinary Surgery

stressed that 'at present' his department undertakes 'no experiments that would give rise to any anger of any sort'.

In response to fears that the police failed to discover the bomb on their original search, a press conference was told yesterday that police are considering the possibility that the explosives were planted after the reopening of the building.

A major investigation involving 200 officers has been initiated and BUSU who described the event as 'fruitless and futile and a set-back to the issue of animal rights' are helping police with their enquiries.

March

The national Union of Students (NUS) will be marching tomorrow from Victoria Embankment to Kennington Park via Whitehall in protest at the introduction of student loans. The march is being supported by Imperial College Union. Over three hundred posters and several thousand of leaflets have been produced to advertise the event.

The NUS is taking steps to defend those arrested in the November demonstration, and are considering pressing charges against some members of the police.

They are working in conjunction with Bindman and Partners solicitors, gathering evidence from several videos of the incident on Westminster Bridge.

Another AIDS rant

Dear Bill,

It is my duty, I think, to react to the disgraceful accusations of my colleagues about my criticism of AIDS Day.

AIDS is certainly one of the most grave diseases of our time: everybody is a potential AIDS patient. I expected therefore a more scientific and less militant approach, that's what I meant by 'a shame for IC'.

As for the syringes being 'distributed free of charge' there is nothing to be so proud of. IC students shouldn't be encouraged to use syringes except for Biology labs, the number of drug addicts in IC must be tiny because drugs and hard work don't mix, the experts say.

When Mr Fisher writes: 'If (AIDS Day) stopped one unwanted child from being born (it is) well justified', he himself casts full light on the meaning of my exclamation 'Irrelevant!'.

As for their 'slogans': 'Free—no money' trumpeted in their letters, how about the posters which swamped IC? How about the hosting of the organisations?

As for a position in the 'Welfare Committee' Mr Fisher, thank you but 'You can include me out'!

As for the 'questionnaires', Mr Fisher's proud announcement that they will soon be publicised indicates that the Council didn't grasp the average IC student's reaction to the aforesaid, and that this fiasco might be repeated!

After all that, my dear colleagues, have pity upon me; as the French say: 'ceci est mon opinion et je partage'.

Truly yours,

Emmanuel Saridakis, Physics 1.

PS. I would like to congratulate, by the occasion, the Publication Board of FELIX, for its enlightened approach to College life and the ordinary students' views.

Are you on the Pill?

Dear Bill,

The four doctors at the Health Centre were all very upset to read the letter from Anna Roberts, and your editorial criticising us. No we're not obsessed with sex and 'personal problems', but it is true that we are all aware that personal problems, sexual problems, stresses and psychological problems can produce and/or aggravate physical symptoms. So we often open up this possibility by asking relevant questions. However we certainly don't intend to offend any of our patients and can we ask any and all patients who have been offended in the way you say has happened to come and discuss it with us (making an appointment to do so with whichever doctor they find most agreeable/least objectionable!).

Our only objective is to try to help our patients—sometimes, however, the real problem is quite different from the apparent problem, and if we're to be able to help we need to ask questions that may on occasion prove embarrassing.

Yours sincerely,

Raana Gillon, Director, Health Centre.

I am sorry that you found the Editorial offensive. I will be sending you the names of those students who are unhappy with the way they were treated and are prepared to discuss the matter with the Health Centre—Ed.

Letter lunacy

Dear Bill,

The Three Twits strike again! I read with a certain amount of disgust that Messrs Baker, Morris and Brereton were contemplating sending the Friends of Palestine and the Islamic Society letters concerning the anti-Jewish graffiti. Why just them? Why not every Society? Indeed, why not every student? I do hope that the Union is not trying to point fingers at the above societies, and if they are sending the letters, then this has to be clear discrimination and ever false allegation. Last year I saw the Star of David graffitied onto Islamic Society posters. Why weren't the Jewish and Christian societies sent similar letters by the Union?

Also in last week's FELIX, Mr Nelkon compared present day Israeli's with Nazi Germans. Looking at the systematic destruction of Palestinian villages and the subsequent removal of their occupants into appalling camps and the more recent Israeli policies in the Occupied Palestine, he doesn't seem to far off. The Israelis have always portrayed themselves as the oppressed, and one would think that they would remember their own past and put an end to the continued oppression in Palestine.

Naeem A Siddiqi, Civ Eng 2.

Chosen people

Dear Bill,

Last Friday, the UN Published a report condemning Israel for 'Killing children and torturing detainees'. It is easy to see why certain people tried to cloud the whole issue by using the anti-semitic graffiti incident.

I would like here to express my disgust at both the graffiti and the foundless accusations which I shall not bother to answer. It is, however, interesting to see why and how such an incident was used to launch an anti-Arab anti-Moslem campaign in College.

Taking on one fool at a time, let us start with the racist graffiti posing as a letter by Mr Nelkon. The understandable indignation and horror give way to some flawed and racist reasoning.

By first mentioning the Mufti of Jerusalem, Mr Nelkon seeks to land the guilt on the Friends of Palestine and the Islamic Society. He then proceeds to justify the very atrocities which set out to overshadow and dismiss. So, since

Palestinians 'bear the legacy' of the Mufti of Jerusalem then any act against them is justified as revenge for the Holocaust. The link is made through a Nazi madman and all of a sudden today's generation of Palestinians stands accused!

He also dismisses the comparison between the systematic killing of Jews and the 'treatment of Arab refugees' on the grounds of quality as much as quantity.

We are, all of us, God's chosen people Mr Nelkon. He loves us all. Two wrongs can never make a right and I am not willing to wait for the Israeli army to kill six million Palestinians so Mr Nelkon could be convinced.

As for the Exec, their letters of 'concern' targetted at FoP and Islamic Society, in the absence of any proof, are at best amusing, and at worst a clear demonstration of where their racial prejudices lie.

I am glad to see that FELIX is an open forum, and that it allows such unfounded accusations and smear campaigns to be answered.

Yours sincerely,

Amin El-Kholy, DoC 3.

A dose of Allums salts

Dear Bill,

Last week's edition of FELIX contained a letter written by Mr A Allum attacking the endeavour to fight effectively against loans. In response I feel compelled to oppose this somewhat petty vitriolic nonsense.

Mr Allum asserts that SWSS succeeded in hijacking the Water Polo Club for their 'own political ends'. I can only presume that there 'political ends' are a desire to stop student loans from being introduced because unfortunately for Mr Allum I also attended the first anti-loans meeting and do not remember the discussion veering off the subject of loans.

It is the threat of big marches through central London that can force the Tories to back down. Take the French student in December 1986: the 2.5 million strong student strike, and the massive demos that followed forced the Chirac government to back down over its proposals to restrict entry into higher education. Thankfully, there weren't many French students who thought that interviewing Jacques Chirac's education secretary on a French version of STOIC would change anything!

Mr Allum also writes highly of ICU's 'independent stance'. If the executive had 1) A genuine desire to fight loans, and 2) A little bit of insight, they would have realised that if the forces of argument could defeat loans, this issue would have been over long ago. Instead, Baker and Co indulged in the pointless lobby of Parliament and the equally pathetic 'piss up' in the Union Building on the 16th (apologies to Bernie Grant).

If this is the attitude of people like Mr Allum then I'm not surprised that many lefties complain because 'their causes' happen to be the causes affecting the well being of student life and unless concerted action is taken against loans now, students, especially those living in an expensive part of London, will be made to suffer immeasurably.

Ronan Banerjee, Materials Science.



Editorial

The mysterious disappearance of the Students Against Loans (SAL) publicity from around College over the past two weeks has aroused a good deal of speculation within the FELIX office. After much deliberation, deduction and elimination, we were able to attribute the following explanations...

1. SAL were using a cheap brand of blu-tak.
2. The posters were printed on rapidly bio-degradable paper.
3. They were printed in invisible ink.
4. The Physics department suffers from powerful and unexpected gusts of wind.

Imagine our surprise when we discovered that the posters had been deliberately taken down by a member of that fine and upstanding group of individuals, the IC Conservative Society.

Sabbatical Elections

The Hustings UGM will take place next Thursday in the Great Hall. There you will have a chance to listen to and ask questions of this year's Sabbatical candidates.

Do not underestimate the importance of electing the right candidates for the posts. In the past the College has shown no reluctance to walk all over weak sabbatical officers, as those who remember the College's manoeuvrings to build the QT burger bar in the Union's JCR, will testify.

Boring but true

Next week's FELIX is the manifestos issue. Manifestos should be submitted by Monday at 10.00am accompanied by a photograph if required. Late manifestos will not be accepted. Manifestos should be a maximum of 300 words including names and titles; overlong manifestos will be cut at the 300th word. Candidates will not be allowed to proof read their own manifestos but members of FELIX staff will ensure they are printed exactly as written.

Broken nose

If any more rude, arrogant, obnoxious prats from Dramsoc call into the office on a weekend and insist that I drop everything immediately to photocopy a script for them I will probably fly off the handle and give them a broken nose. The same can be said for those people who come into the office insisting that I print their small ads, letters, or complain when when their badly written articles are edited.

Let me point out - for the last time - that the job of an editor is to edit. Writing a letter into FELIX does not guarantee that it will be printed or edited to fit the space on the letters page. Similarly, given that we can only print a finite number of pages each week, although I try my best, I cannot guarantee that articles or clubs advertisements will appear in a given issue. Frequently lack of space means that articles have to be cut or carried over to another issue.

In this respect, FELIX policy is no different from any national newspaper.

Credits Its been a wacky and zany issue. Extra-terrestrial thanks to Andy Waller for being a hero, likewise Wendy Kite, Steve Easterbrook, Robin Davison & Dave Smedley, Doug King, Jason Lander, Adam Harrington, Noel Curry, Neil Motteram, Andy Clarke, Sumit Guha, Wouter Van Hulst, Anj Ahuja for proof reading everything, Simon Bradshaw, Dave Thomas, Ramin Nakisa (feeling tired ?), Andy Bannister, Liz Warren for distributing in the rain last week, the person who wrote the accommodation article, Sez Wilkinson, Doug King, Friends of Palestine, Rose Atkins, Dean Vaughan, the Overseas Student Committee and RCS Ents for collating last week. Staff meeting today at 12.30. Dungeons and Dragons and a drink in the FELIX office this evening.

Debits

To City and Guilds Union for not collating in spite of promising to do so in return for a free advert. You're black-listed boys!

Smallads

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Take a trip to Amsterdam. Only £50 from RCSU Office.

FOR SALE

- Audioline car radio and cassette player. Perfect condition, hardly used. £45 ono. See Sue Walker, Centre for Environmental Technology, 48, Prince's Gardens.
- Audi 80, V Reg. Good condition, MOT 6 months. £900 ono. Contact Yazy on int 5279 or 5149.
- Electric Guitar—Aria Diamond. Cost £400 sell for £250 ono. Excellent condition, 3 pick-ups and Floyd-Rose tremolo. Contact B Keane, Material 2 or phone 01-741 3209.
- Helmet—Nolan N31 fibre glass. Unused, boxed. £50. Contact M Afshar, Computing 1, Tizard ext 54.

LOST

- Black leather jacket removed from Union Snack Bar on Saturday 18th at 11pm. Return or information appreciated. Contact Sunny Ghaie, Physics 2.

PERSONAL

- Which train to Headcorn, Wendy?
- London to Headcorn: 2½ hours. How? Ask Wendy.
- Q. Why does David like Anke? A. Because she's into ecology.
- Phallixword 2—Carol for President! What a sex machine—The Last Main Block.
- Phallixword—Charcoal! Want

to go for a walk on Sunday?—The Last Main Block.

●Phallixword 3—Twelve bar—got the bucket? I'll bottle up. The time is nearing.

●Fix!!!—Nat

●Amy Funbun: Go on, wear that teddy again.

●Phallixword—I used to be a necrophiliac until some rotten 'RIP?(Soc)' split on me—The Last Main Block.

●We want the Rugby Team!—AS (LS1) & RIP(?) Soc.

●The word is peccary, not peckary. From the man who forgot the rotting lines and the last (ever?) Clubs Editor.

●Q. How many Union sabbaticals does it take to screw in a light bulb? A. One—but he has to be mandated by a UGM.

●Could the person who borrowed my loans info. please return it to the FELIX Office. Julian Moore.

●To 'Irate Boyfriend' (Drunk) she denies all knowledge!

●Too late for what's on—ICSF. Hitchhikers Guide Video Night: 7pm in ME220, 28th.

●ICSF HHGTTG Videos—'Why stop, just when I'm hating it.'

●Wanted: One Ayatollah: £1,000,000 ono. Recognisable remains accepted.

●Coming soon to a degree near you, 'The Imperial College of Science, Technology, Medicine, Business Studies, Law, English, Accounting, Sociology, and pretty much anything else you can think of.

●Wanted: Copy of the Satanic Papers, will swap copy of Spycatcher in good condition.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE ACADEMIC STAFF ASSEMBLY

A.S.A.

THE RECTOR

will address the

Annual General Meeting

of the

Academic Staff Assembly

at 1.30pm

on Wednesday 1st March

in Pippard Lecture Theatre
Sherfield Building

SCIENCE

Ψ

Scientists at Imperial College are now adapting one of the simplest and oldest optical instruments, the pinhole camera, for use in holography. Their experiments may eventually lead to optical computers. Sunny Bains investigates.

Points of light

Making a pinhole camera out of a shoe box is a standard experiment done in science classes all over the world. Scientists in the Optics Section of the Physics Department have extended this simple device and made pinhole holograms: holograms which may have applications in optical computing and information processing.

An ordinary hologram is recorded using a laser beam which is split into two. One half, the 'object beam', is reflected off the object and onto a photo-sensitive plate. The rest of the beam is directed onto the plate unaltered. This is known as the 'reference beam'.

The object and reference beams interfere as they hit the photographic plate to produce a pattern. When light is shone on the developed plate, it is unevenly reflected in such a way that it appears to have been reflected off the original object. In effect, it seems that the object is there.

The Imperial scientists have placed a pinhole between the object and the recording plate. This effectively becomes part of the object and when the hologram is reconstructed, all the light from it passes through this point, as if the real pinhole were still there. Other devices can be placed at this point to manipulate the image.

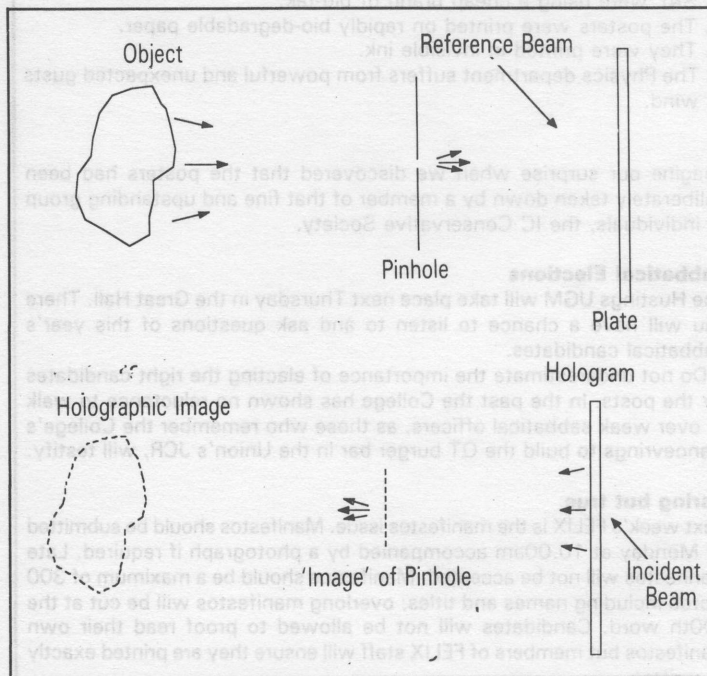
One of the experiments carried out by Shenchu Xu, Geraldo Mendes, Stephen Hart and Chris Dainty was to make two holograms of different objects on the same holographic plate, moving the pinhole slightly each time. They could then block out one of the images by putting a small object (they used a knife edge) at the position of the appropriate pinhole, leaving the other image to reconstruct normally.

In this way it is possible to make a hologram containing many different images, each with its own pinhole in an array. Shutters placed in front of the pinholes can be open and closed to give any combination of these images.

It would also be possible to replace the shutters with a liquid crystal device which, instead of simply allowing an image to be 'off' or 'on', could give gradual changes in intensity. In either case, it would allow the image, and hence the way the light is reflected, to be changed. It would be programmable.

Another experiment carried out at Imperial College involved putting a diffraction grating in the way of the pinhole. This gives many images side by side. Other optical elements could be used in a similar way to manipulate the image.

If each point of light in the image



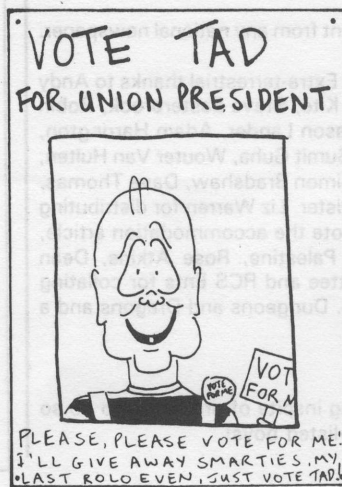
Recording and reconstructing a pinhole hologram

activates its own detector, then a device consisting of a pinhole hologram and a shutter or optical system could act as an optical 'interconnect' or switch and so could be used in optical computing.

So far, researchers have used arrays of 273 points, each 50 microns

in diameter and separated by 250 microns, in their experiments giving an image only a few millimetres across. This is only slightly larger than would be needed for an optical computer, and the researchers believe this work can be scaled down.

Southkenders



Union Rat Norman

Dear Bill,

I've just managed to find a safe hide-out, so I thought I'd write a note to tell you what I've been up to for the past few weeks. Someone called in the rat-catchers, so a low profile has been essential. The safest place to hide is STOIC, especially now that their camera has been stolen leaving them with a Kodak Brownie. This does not mean that they have been idle; on the contrary, they seem to have found a brand new image for STOIC as can be seen from the following events (which never happened).

Two shadowy figures in dirty raincoats and dark glasses sneak up the stairs to the STOIC studio and, looking over their shoulders, knock on the door. The first figure stands like a man that screws a lot of nurses, and the second looks like Chas Brereton, Union Deputy President. Both look very nervous. "I want to see the Boss," said the nurse-molester. "Who is it?" asked a gruff voice from within. "It's the Blue Movie Brothers."

A random menial opens the door and leads the Blue Movie Brothers to a room overflowing with wires and uselessly expensive equipment. In the middle of the room sits an amorphous figure with a pimp's hat and crocodile boots - it's Johnny D., the Boss. "Have you got the stuff?" "Yeah, six hours of sizzling, sticky stimulation. Slippery Susan simpering slurpily..." "We'll take it!" snaps the figure who looked like Chas Brereton, Union Deputy President. The Dynamic Duo grab the goods and hurry off to a grimy room in Beit Hall to study Slippery Susan.

Chas seems to be a little disoriented by the things he's been seeing on the television. An enterprising student had the misfortune to fling himself from the Aero building and came up against the age-old enemy of flight, the ground, and was in need of an ambulance. Chas, stirred by the commotion from his devotions in his "bedroom", rushed to the scene and started putting change in the meter next to the ambulance. All the time he muttered under his breath "Susan, oh Susan..." People like Chas need to go to places like the Medical Centre where doctors understand their problems. EEEK! The rat-catchers have found me. Must scuttle.

All my Love,

Norman (The Ex-Union Rat)

St Mary's No Thanks

by Neil Motteram

One of the most telling things said at the Union General Meeting on January 31 was by Phil Drew, President of St Mary's Union. During the count of the UGM abolition vote. UGM Chairman Dave Burns asked if Mr Drew would like to make a report '...because you're part of us now'. The reply was 'Mary's don't like IC UGMs'.

Mary's don't like IC UGMs. They object to our method of self-government so much that when they had the opportunity to get it removed and power shifted up the ladder to a Council with a disproportionate weighting in favour of Mary's, they were willing to cancel afternoon lectures and

bring 200 students across the park in a concerted attempt to change ICU policy. I salute the 300 IC students who, perhaps foreseeing this or merely concerned about the danger of the proposed changes, turned up en masse, stayed through tedious debate over affairs in which they had little interest, and put a stop to the attempt to restrict their right of democracy.

I fear this is not the end. The University Grants Committee (UGC) have set a deadline of four years from now for the new Imperial College to become completely integrated at every level financially. The 'informal working group' which proposed the abolition of UGMs are working under pressure to get the two Unions merged quickly and this, I fear, is bringing far too many concessions from the IC side.

St Mary's have a definite fixed identity, a strong and deliberately maintained independence which they will not wish to part with. Imperial College Union is a much larger body. We have 5000 students to represent, most of which are scientists or engineers. We have a solid identity and a fierce independence.

Should we really be giving so many concessions to SMHMSSU during the merger negotiations? They may be determined that their independence should not be lost, fair enough. But the body that represents 5000 students should not be falling over to give everything we prize about the Union away (a free media, a democratically elected, accountable and dismissable leadership, the right of any member of the Union to have their say in an open regular meeting about the direction in which we should be heading) just for the sake of 500 students.

Let SMHMSSU merge with us if they want to, but under our terms. South Kensington, with ten times the population, has to dominate. Demands for a third of the seats on Council, the restriction of FELIX, half the UGMs to be held in Paddington; these should be laughed at. If they don't want to join us then let them come begging for a grant to UFC every year, give them two (at the most) delegates to ULU, then send them packing across the park. This is democracy, we are the majority and we will not be dictated to.

Palestine strikes back!

In the land of Palestine, a new state was created in 1948. Most of the original inhabitants were expelled. Their country and their lands had been usurped by an alien people. It is these facts which have created the Palestine question.

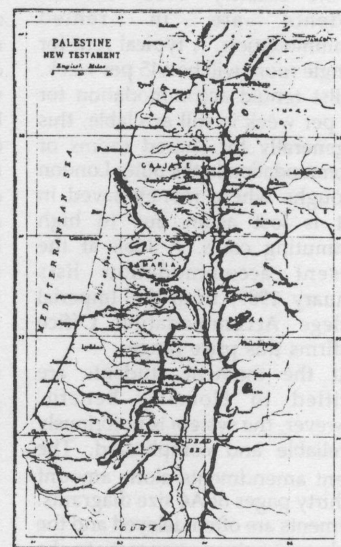
The unique nature of the Arab-Israeli conflict, its aggravation by five wars and its complication by the interests and ambitions of the great powers, have made the Palestine question one of the most explosive in the world today. Five wars have already occurred between the Arabs and the Israelis and hostilities continue despite the Armistice agreements of 1949 and the Security Council's cease-fire orders of 1967, with no end or peace yet in sight.

The first step towards peace is to remove the smoke-screen that has been laid by Zionist propaganda, and to lay bare the injustice to the people of Palestine which is at the root of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Without an understanding of the essence of the conflict, world public opinion will remain in ignorance and will continue to extend its sympathy and support to Israel which has caused so much havoc and destruction in the Middle East.

Contrary to Israel's expectations, the war which it launched on June 5th 1967 did not solve the problems

they created nor did it enable it to impose its 'diktat' upon the Palestinians by occupying approximately 20% of Palestine they had not yet seized. In fact, the numerous Israeli oppressions released the Palestinian forces of resistance which had been contained by illusions in the UN and its resolutions. The power of the Israeli army (very heavily funded by the US) ruled in all conflicts and the Palestinians come to realise that even in our era of civilisation what is lost by force can be regained only by force. But the force that the Palestinians want to exert upon Israel is not that of sophisticated aircraft, missiles, chemical and nuclear weapons (which Israel possesses, unlike the Palestinians), but that of negotiation. That is the one weapon that the Israeli government is the most frightened of, because it is concerned with talk of 'human rights' and 'international laws', which Israel openly contravened and still contravenes.

The sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinians, the PLO, wants the Palestinians to have their human rights back, including self-determination, and the right of expelled refugees to return to their motherland. Such an initiative is possible in the



framework of an international conference on Middle East peace in order for the outcome to be implemented under UN supervision.

All who care for peace, justice and human rights, and also the future of the Jewish people, must hope that Zionism, with its connotations to racism, gives way to a wiser and more human view of the indigenous inhabitants of Palestine: the Palestinian people.

A life in the city

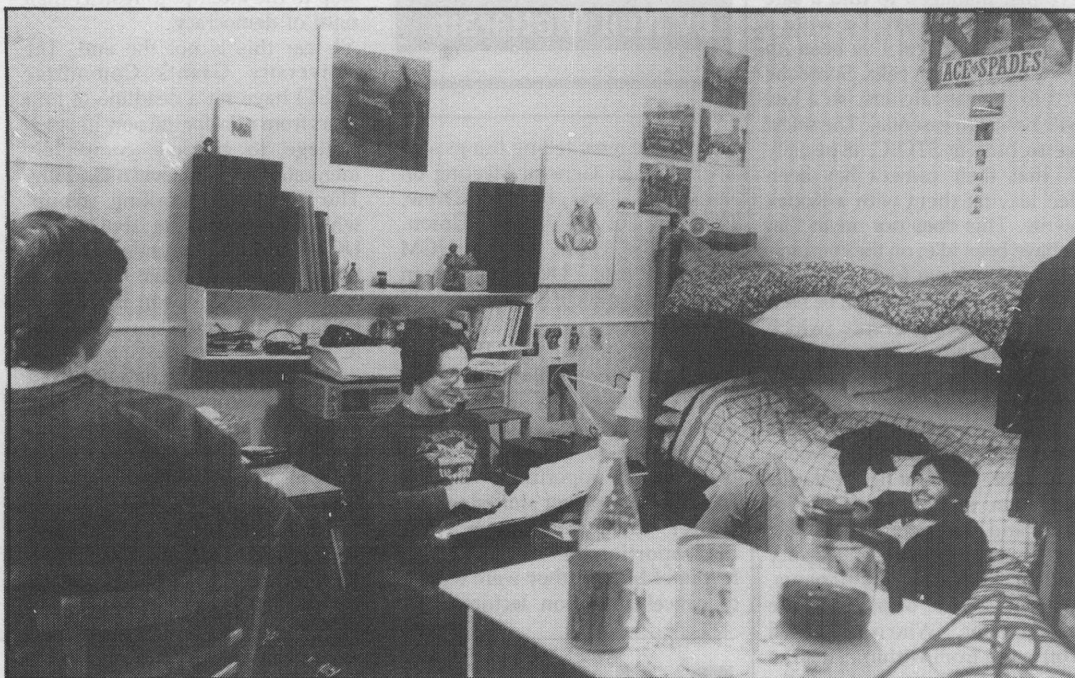
The alternative guide to finding somewhere to live in London.

Students in London already face a severe accommodation problem, and it's going to get worse. This article is intended to inform and motivate anyone currently looking for accommodation, when faced with high rents and poor conditions, to think about the alternatives. It provides a guide to the main options available, short-life housing in housing cooperatives and squatting, and attempts to assess their relative advantages and disadvantages over normal rented accommodation. Low-cost accommodation in London is still available, it's just a matter of getting informed and organised. The financial savings possible should provide enough motivation to overcome the difficulties involved.

Rented accommodation in London is, as everyone knows, expensive in comparison to the rest of the country. Most London students are in rented accommodation. A typical rent for a single room will be £45 per week. Whilst rented accommodation for £30 per week is still available, this is generally for shared rooms or accommodation in the outer London boroughs where money saved in rent is lost again due to high commuting costs. A look at the present accommodation lists (January 1989) from the Imperial College Accommodation Office confirms this price range.

At the moment students are entitled to Housing Benefit. However, the system is notoriously unreliable and complicated. The recent amendments alone amount to thirty pages of A4 size diagrams. Payments are often delayed and the final sum given appears to be decided more on how generous the local authority is rather than any actual financial considerations. The Housing Benefit system can also create a poverty trap, where the student is unable to earn money as this might lead to a reduction of the benefit given. There have even been cases where not only has the benefit been stopped but the student has been asked to pay back that already received.

The Housing Benefit system,



You can find shared accommodation for £30 per week

despite all its faults, does provide an essential subsidy to the cost of rented accommodation. In some cases this can amount to £20 per week or more. With Housing Benefit considered, rented accommodation is still cheaper than the limited College and inter-collegiate hall accommodation available in London. (Incidentally Imperial College halls are some of the most expensive in London, rents being set near the maximum that the students will tolerate.)

Although the financial cost of being a student in London is high already, very soon it may get a lot worse. In the near future several factors may come together to make studying in London extremely difficult financially. These factors include the introduction of the Poll Tax, the changes in the grant system in the Government's white paper 'Top-up loans for students' and changes in the Housing Benefit system.

Briefly these proposals are still in the planning stage so it is possible that they will never be put into action or if they are, then in a diluted form. However, at the moment it is proposed that students will have to pay 20% of the Poll Tax when it is introduced. Simultaneously the White Paper

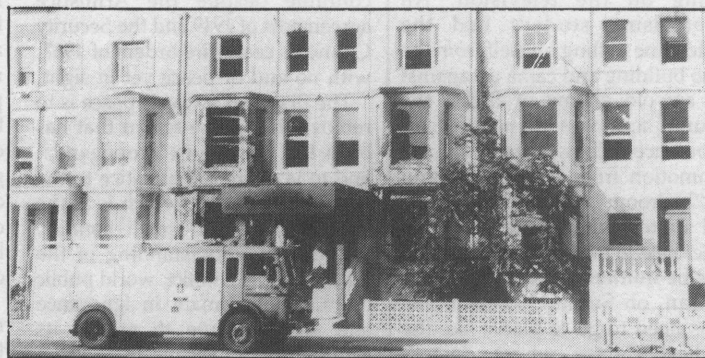
proposes that the level of grant and parental contribution be frozen from 1990 onwards whilst at the same time removing students from the benefit system so that they are no longer able to claim Housing Benefit, Income Support or Unemployment Benefit during the Summer Vacation.

The changes to Housing Benefit, in itself, are a serious threat. They are contained in a separate White Paper from 1985. It is now very likely Housing Benefit will be stopped for students in 1990. What will replace it, if anything, remains to be seen but it is hardly likely to

be an improvement.

Other important changes have already taken place, although their effects have not yet been felt fully. Until recently most students received their parental contribution in the form of a covenant for which they could claim tax back. Now this is no longer possible following changes in the law.

An extremely important change affecting rented accommodation has come into effect just last month (January 1989), with very little publicity. The Government has deregulated rent, thus relaxing its controls on rent increases. The



Imperial's Fremantle Hotel is rumoured to have been burned down for insurance reasons.

theory behind this move is to encourage the letting of more living accommodation by allowing landlords to charge even higher rents. Its immediate effect is probably going to be an increase in the present rents. According to some sources rents in certain parts of London are predicted to rise dramatically. When one considers what has happened to house prices in central London over recent years, similar rises in rents can only be expected now that regulation no longer controls rent increases. The rights of the tenant to appeal against rises, which might be unfair, has also been reduced. The law has swung from protecting the tenant to favouring the landlord.

If rents in central London do rise dramatically many people will move outwards and rely on commuting long distances. Apart from the time and inconvenience this involves, the cost of commuting is also rising. The latest tube fare increases at the beginning of this year were up to 16% more on some tickets. A journey involving night buses that previously cost £2, using a one-day travel card, more than doubled due to the changes in ticket conditions. London Transport has indicated its willingness to increase its ticket prices even further in the future. The Government has said that any of the improvements needed to relieve present overcrowding on the public transport system will also have to be partly funded by fare increases.

The future may look bleak...but what can be done?

It is essential for students to become more aware of the changes which are threatening their own and future students chances of education. Already, prospective applicants for London colleges are reconsidering whether the cost is worth it. Many parents will not be able to afford the increased cost of subsidising their children through higher education. The time of political apathy should be over. The threatened changes are imminent and if students do not

respond now by demonstrating their opposition then very soon it is likely to be too late.

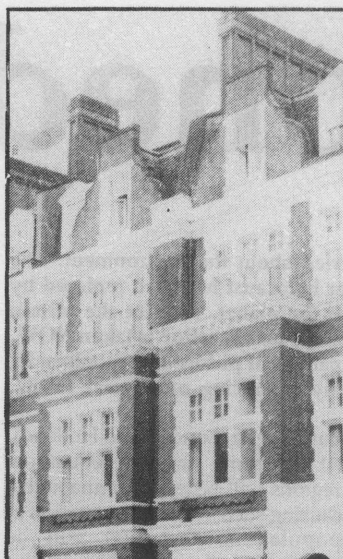
Whilst the Government could be persuaded to reconsider some of its proposals by mass lobbying and demonstrations it is extremely likely that at least some of the proposed changes will come to pass. London students must start planning now to face the harsher economic environment, especially when it comes to accommodation. A very large proportion of the average student's budget goes directly into paying accommodation expenses. Rented accommodation is little more than living in a long stay hotel. At the end of your stay you have nothing to show for the rent paid.

The financial benefits of finding low cost accommodation at the present are large and, as has been pointed out, will probably become much larger in the future. If you can; start buying your own home. If you can't; read on!

There are really two main options when considering low cost accommodation. They are short-life housing usually through housing cooperatives and squatting. Rents for short-life housing can be as low as £10 per week. The cost of squatting can vary tremendously depending on a variety of factors but the financial incentive is obvious. At its best, squatting can provide an extended period of rent-free accommodation. So what are the drawbacks? We shall consider each of the options in turn.

Short-Life Housing

The term 'short-life housing' is used to describe property which is being borrowed for temporary accommodation. Usually the properties involved are owned by the local authority or another public body. Often the local authority is in the process of applying for planning permission and it is either waiting for this to be granted or it is waiting for money to become available to allow development to start. In the meantime the property is lent to a local housing association or cooperative to manage. These



groups may also own permanent housing stock that may be any size from 1-2 houses to a few hundred spread over several boroughs.

As its name suggests, short-life housing is only available for a short period, from as little as six months to five years. However some short-life properties do get extensions for even longer. The conditions of lease state that at the end of the agreed life the property must be handed back vacant, to the original owners. In some cases, the owner can take back the property earlier by giving a months notice to the occupiers to vacate. Fortunately most short-life groups will do their best to re-house you, should your house be taken back.

Short-life housing varies in standard but don't expect conditions to be too good initially. Depending on the short-life group managing the property, repairs will be made to make the house adequate. You will usually be expected to decorate and furnish the property yourself. On the other hand the rent is extremely low varying between £10-£20 per week. Westminster, one of the most expensive boroughs, has short-life property available between £15-25 per week.

'A Guide to Short-Life Housing in London' is published by the EPU (the Empty Property Unit, a national advisory service for short-life groups), price £1. It lists all major short-life groups in London, and gives a brief account of the present situation in each London borough. It is an essential aid to anyone looking for short-life accommodation.

Several of the London colleges have accommodation offices dealing with short-life housing groups, but as is the case at Imperial College, spaces are limited and so applications are often restricted to families, overseas students and postgraduates, all of whom face

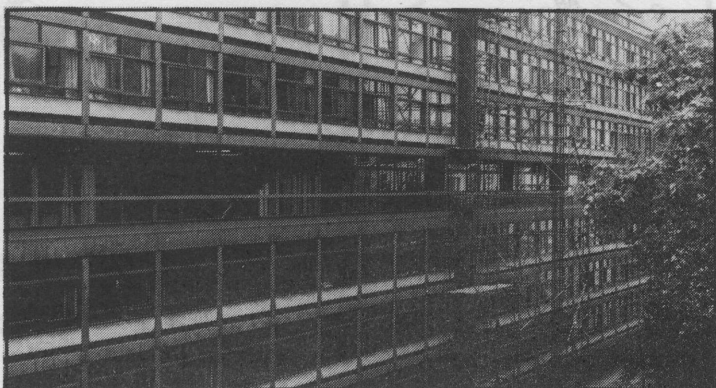
particular financial problems over accommodation. An exception is Chelsea College, now part of Kings, which has about 70 short-life properties in Kensington and Chelsea and elsewhere, housing about 200 students. They are in fact the only short-life group in the borough able to obtain property from the local council. It is unlikely that non-Kings College students would be allowed to apply.

The main difficulty in short-life housing is actually getting onto a waiting list. Due to the housing shortage and the many homeless people in London, local authorities are no longer releasing so many properties to short-life housing groups. Instead they are using them for temporary accommodation to fulfill their statutory requirements to house the homeless, especially homeless families. Consequently many groups are running out of new properties and have closed their waiting lists. Instead they are trying to re-house their existing members. Those with waiting lists still open are taking much smaller numbers with the lists re-opening irregularly.

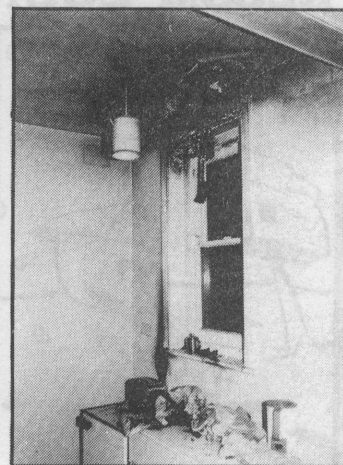
When applying to get on a short-life waiting list check that there are no restrictions that will affect your application. Many groups will only deal with the homeless. Often you will be given priority if you apply in a borough where you have previously been resident. It is sometimes a good idea to get onto the local council waiting list for a council house, before applying for a short-life house. If possible put your name on the local electoral register. A connection with the area which you apply for, such as a job, relatives or the college where you study can also help a successful applicant.

Single people are easier to house than groups. In general, if you apply as a group then the best size is from 4-6, preferably mixed. Persistence counts....

NEXT WEEK: SQUATTING



IC Halls - amongst the most expensive in London



Poisoned planet?

Suddenly, everyone seems to be worried about the environment. The perennial sixties worry about a nuclear holocaust has been replaced by concerns about the slow poisoning of the planet. We face the certain destruction of life on Earth within a century unless action is taken NOW. Where once ecology meant saving little patches of picturesque countryside, we now face a global problem rapidly advancing on several fronts.

Decades of disregard for the effects of our civilisation upon the planet have led to an accumulation of pollution, now accelerating the greenhouse effect, causing ozone holes, acid rain, the poisoning of rivers and seas, and the progressive loss of fertile land. As if this weren't enough, our constant desire for more living space means that forests, and in particular the valuable tropical rainforests, are still being destroyed at an alarming rate, leading to soil erosion, desertification, river silting, and flooding. We are using up the Earth's natural resources as if there were no tomorrow, burying the waste, or dumping it at sea, hoping it will go away.

Any one of these factors, taken by itself will radically alter the face of the Earth within our lifetimes. The vast increase in Carbon Dioxide in the atmosphere caused by burning fossil fuels and abetted by the destruction of the rain forests prevents heat absorbed by the atmosphere being reflected back into space.

Even the most conservative models of this 'Greenhouse' process predict a global warming of around three degrees within 50 years. That may sound pleasant until you consider what effect this will have. The polar caps will recede and the seas expand causing flooding of most low land areas (that's all of

East Anglia, London and Holland). At the same time the equatorial regions will become uninhabitable causing such a massive migration of populations that war will be inevitable. (Imagine the entire

No wonder 'green' issues are set to become the hottest political topic of the next decade. All over the world people are talking urgently about protecting the environment.

However, global problems need global solutions, and international co-operation is vital. To restrict further damage to the ozone layer, every country must drastically cut its production of chloro-fluorocarbons (CFCs) for use in aerosol propellents.



What goes up must come down.

population of Africa pouring northwards into Europe). All within our lifetimes.

So, this is all only conjecture, eh? Wrong. It is happening now. The recurring famines in Ethiopia are man-made. So are the floods in India. All these areas were once covered in forest which regulated the weather.

There is a widespread feeling that the environment is someone else's problem, but what is really needed is for everyone to stop demanding ever more comfortable lifestyles and to start living in harmony with the planet.

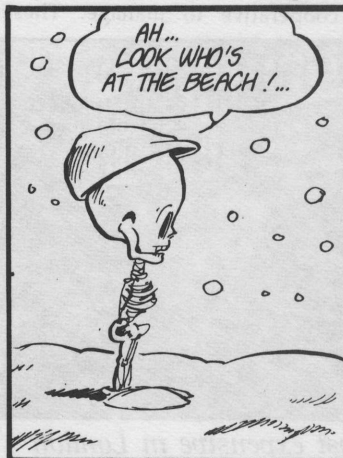
Our culture needs nothing short of a revolution in attitudes. Everyone must understand exactly

what irreplaceable resources they are using up, how exactly things are produced, and how pollution is caused.

Every time you buy or use something, ask yourself is it necessary? Is it made from irreplaceable materials? Will you make full use of it? When you discard something, ask yourself if it could be reused. Or, failing that, recycled. Could you use less energy? After all, it's far easier to conserve than to try and find clean ways to produce ever more electricity.

Once you have grasped these basic changes in attitude, it's time to inform those in power about how you feel. In our democratic system, politicians are only interested in popularity and votes. Whilst they believe that everyone wants a more affluent society, and that everyone wants to consume more, they will continue to ignore long term problems in favour of saving public money and improving the economy. Any MP will tell you that there is not enough money to do all that the environmentalists demand as necessary to safeguard the planet. However, this is definitely not true. What they mean is that there is not enough money left over after they have satisfied other priorities, such as stimulating economic growth, and winning votes by reducing taxes. Economic growth is only necessary to continue improving the standard of living if you assume that the only way to improve your standard of living is to have more money to spend. This extra money will only be spent on more consumer goods, accelerating the

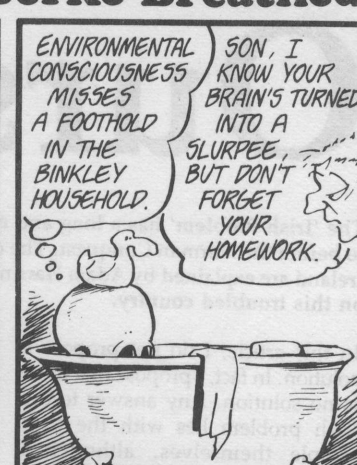
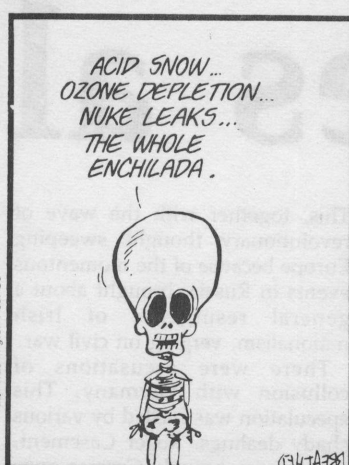
BLOOM COUNTY



by Berke Breathed

BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



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use of non-renewable resources, and the production of pollution.

I could cite that this government's record on pollution is the worst of any in Europe. I could go on about how it is dragging its heels on every EEC directive concerning the environment. I could even point out that the only reason the Government has accepted that coal fired power stations contribute to acid rain is to further its war with the mine workers now that the economic arguments for nuclear power have failed.

Instead I want to explode the myth that market forces can regulate pollution levels. I recently read a note from a US colleague saying 'In free society people will choose the level of pollution they desire, and regulate it, and the efficiency of the free market will ensure the fastest and most cost effective solution to achieve those pollution levels'.

Unfortunately, this opinion, shared by the British government, is dangerously complacent. A 'free' society may try to choose the level of pollution it desires, but several factors make control impossible in practice.

There is a delay between the use of something and the evidence of the pollution it causes. It takes time for the pollution to cause environmental damage. It takes something like twenty years for the CFCs produced at any point in time to fully filter up to the ozone layer. This means that even if we stop all use of CFCs immediately, it may be too late to prevent serious effects over the next few decades.

Research into the environmental effects of substances always lags behind their exploitation. This is exacerbated in society by the desire to fully exploit the benefits (usually financial) of use as fast as possible. Occasionally this has even led to falsification of laboratory reports, which further delays proper research into the effects.

Finally, there's the NIMBY (not in

my backyard) principle. Societies quite happily control pollution of their own areas, whilst exporting pollution elsewhere.

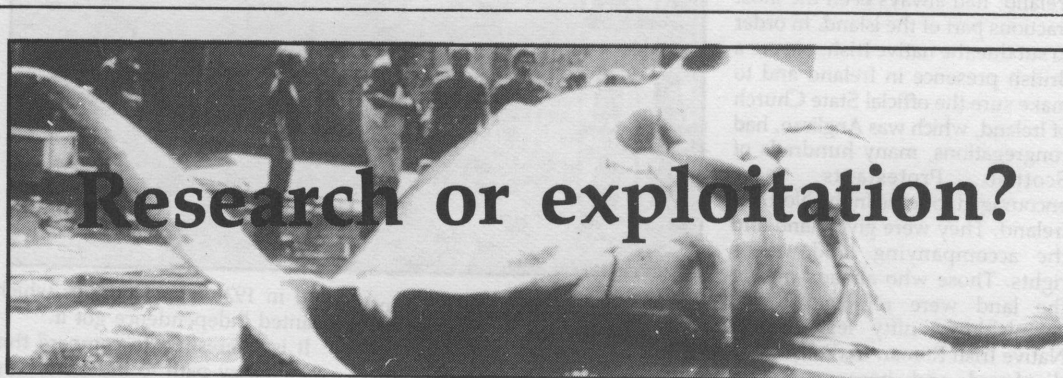
In North America and Northern Europe, acid rain is damaging forests in countries other than the ones in which the chemicals which cause it originate. The usual response of the government of the producer country is to deny the causal link, and delay proper investigation, simply because it is not under pressure from its own citizens to do something about it.

Whilst a piecemeal approach can tackle the most urgent problems facing the planet, the key to long term change is individual action based on a revolution in attitudes. Every person must understand his or her impact on the environment, and adapt to reduce the detrimental effects. Every one of us should think about our lifestyles and consider how to become less wasteful, less polluting and less materialistic.

Any one interested in finding out more can drop in to the Centre for

Environmental Technology at 48 Princes Gardens. The Centre carries out research in many areas of environmental science and policy and runs an MSc in Environmental Technology. Also look out for the Environmental and Appropriate Technology's Society's collection of books in the Haldane library.

Steve Easterbrook



Scientists have spent a great deal of time trying to understand exactly why the great dinosaurs became extinct a hundred-million years ago but they are ignoring a problem of even greater magnitude which is occurring today.

Under the ice of Antarctica is a diversity of oil and minerals that many countries are squabbling over. In their greed, they are not willing to spend money on the sophisticated research vital to predict the results of such exploitation on the continent's complex and fragile environment.

We know that about 90% of the world's fresh water is contained in the ice cap and that this ice plays an important role in global climates. Dust from mining or an oil spill (which in Antarctica is impossible to clear up) lowers ice reflectance of the

sun and this imbalance could change weather patterns and alter sea levels to an extent that would threaten global cities worldwide.

It has been estimated that an accident in which one tanker cargo spilt in the Ross Sea would affect one million square kilometres of ocean.

A large oil leakage would have disastrous effects on the declining whale population of the Antarctic. In 1981 scientists from the International Whaling Commission reported that whaling had reduced Bluv Whales to less than 5% of their original population and humpback whales to 3%; the few remaining great whales would easily be killed by the interference of an oil slick with their feeding, breathing, migration and communication methods.

There would also be drastic

consequences for shore breeding birds and seals. They inhabit scarce ice-free coastal regions and already many breeding sites have been lost to scientific research stations.

Not only do these stations encroach on important habitats but they pollute the sea by pumping waste directly into it. Indeed at one site many tonnes of earth had to be excavated after a nuclear reactor leakage. This conflict between science and the ecosystem will only increase if oil companies are allowed use of the shoreline.

Unless immediate steps are taken to control actions in Antarctica we will not only destroy a beautiful and isolated continent but we will jeopardize the whole of human civilisation.

Ourselves alone

The 'Irish Problem' has a long and convoluted history, stretching back to before the Norman Conquest. The events and politics that have shaped Ireland are explained by Adam Harrington, who also offers his own views on this troubled country.

In this article, I do not propose a solution. In fact, I propose that there is no solution. Any answer to the Irish problem lies with the Irish people themselves, although I believe that as Northern Ireland is a part of the United Kingdom, mainland Britain cannot wash its hands of the problem.

Ireland, along with Wales and Scotland, was the last retreat westwards of the Celts from the Anglo-Saxon invaders. There was always a certain hostility towards the English. By 1500, only a small area around Dublin, comprising four counties called 'the Pale', could be considered to be under secure English control. The phrase 'beyond the pale' comes from this.

Ulster, an area extending beyond the limits of modern Northern Ireland, had always been the most fractious part of the island. In order to subdue the native Irish, ensure a British presence in Ireland and to make sure the official State Church of Ireland, which was Anglican, had congregations, many hundreds of Scottish Protestants were encouraged to settle in the North of Ireland. They were given land and the accompanying landowner's rights. Those who already owned the land were removed in an astonishingly nifty legal move. Native Irish Roman Catholics were displaced and became merely tenants. It is ironic that the Scottish settlers were of the same ancestry as the Irish they displaced. Also around this time, the early part of the seventeenth century, the town of Derry was granted to the City of London.

This Protestant plantation was so successful at subduing the native population that it was repeated elsewhere in the world. Though Roman Catholics were increasingly excluded from positions of power within the state and judiciary, there followed a period of prosperity and stability, if indiscriminate massacres to break Irish resistance can be considered stable.

The 'glorious revolution' of 1688 ousted James II of England, a Catholic, and replaced him with the Dutch Protestants William and Mary of Orange. To this reallocation of the monarchy was tied a contract which

required all future British monarchs to be Protestants, and gave more power to Parliament. James II eventually went to Ireland and tried to found a Roman Catholic parliament in Dublin. Supported by the Irish Roman Catholics, he polarised Irish society, as the Protestants immediately gravitated towards William. Ultimately the Catholics were defeated, James retreated to the Continent and the



Protestants deified William, becoming known as 'Orangemen' or 'Billy Boys'. William, to his credit, did try to establish better relations between the two factions. This initiative was easily crushed by the new, more powerful Parliament, who intended to keep a strong British presence in Ireland, enforced by the Protestants, for a long time.

Over the next two centuries, there were repeated famines leading to mass emigrations. Bills to enact Home Rule were introduced to Parliament and crushed by the House of Lords and in 1900, a national republican party was founded: Sinn Féin, which means 'Ourselves Alone'. The next ten years saw more unsuccessful attempts to introduce Home rule. At about this time it became clear that Ulster was demanding different treatment from the rest of Ireland.

With the outbreak of the First World War, British troops were withdrawn from Ireland to be massacred in Gallipoli and Ypres.

This, together with the wave of revolutionary thought sweeping Europe because of the momentous events in Russia, brought about a general resurgence of Irish nationalism, verging on civil war.

There were accusations of collusion with Germany. This speculation was fuelled by various shady dealings. Roger Casement, for instance, brought German guns to supply the insurgents and was hanged for it. Dublin became a centre for riots and street fighting, out of which the Irish Republican Army (IRA) was born. The USA also brought pressure to bear on Britain,

Catholic (Northern Ireland was still predominantly Protestant) and also much poorer economically than the UK.

Eire objected to this political division of a geographic and cultural unit and has never really accepted that Northern Ireland is part of a different country. During the Second World War Eire, which was neutral, protested to Berlin about the bombing of US bases in Northern Ireland, and to London about the presence of a foreign army (the US) on 'neutral' soil and the introduction of conscription. Northern Ireland was, of course, not neutral as far as the United Kingdom and Germany were concerned.

In Northern Ireland, the authorities sought to encourage the division between Protestants and Roman Catholics and the Catholic minority became the underclass, experiencing persecution and occupational discrimination. The Catholics reciprocated this animosity: the IRA became a form of anti-Protestant harassment. The IRA were also irritating Eire and the Dail (the Dublin Parliament) began a programme of internment of terrorist suspects in 1940 which was adopted in Northern Ireland thirty years later.

By 1969 the Catholics were so intimidated by their Protestant neighbours that they invited the British Army in to avoid what Ed Koch, Mayor of New York, described as 'the possibility of what would, against a Jewish minority, be called a pogrom.'

Subsequently the Catholics saw the Army presence, in itself, intimidating. Possibly adopting it as a symbol of British (Protestant) supremacy.

The Army started to bear the brunt of civilian violence. Armies are not noted for diplomacy when attacked and they, quite unforgivably, responded in kind. They could manage to maintain the

and in 1921 those counties which wanted independence got it.

It is interesting to compare this very messy path to independence with that of India, which achieved its independence under similar circumstances after the Second World War. Both affairs, with hindsight, were horribly mismanaged, mainly by the British Government.

The six counties that wished to remain part of the United Kingdom occupied approximately the area called Ulster. They stayed with the UK because Eire was Roman



British troops. Dublin, 1920.

violence to a level where society could function, but were also the catalysts for that violence. Probably because of this, the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) was formed, semi-military police who were supposed to act as a peace keeping force. Since its members were almost exclusively Protestant, it did not act to ease the situation. Given the state of other parts of the world, the United Nations (UN) does not seem to have Northern Ireland high on its priority list for providing a UN peace keeping force.

A good model to see what would happen if the army was removed is Sri Lanka. The scenario is depressingly familiar—the British transferred many Tamils from the mainland to help with tea picking. Since independence these Tamils

removed because the original act of colonisation was immoral. The problem is a human one.

Some Americans who value their Irish ancestry, and know their ancestors fled Ireland because of gross British mismanagement, still cherish a romantic image of a colonial Britain crushing the unfortunate Irish under the weight of colonels and drill parades. This is a view born of 3000 miles of ocean and would be laughable if it wasn't that they support the IRA through 'Noraid'. Britain is far from perfect—that's what democracy is for—but most Americans are only too painfully aware that British Imperialism was well and truly strangled in the last war, and that the USA played no little part in reallocating power from a



British bombardment, 1916.

here—if you don't plant bombs, you don't kill people; it's quite easy. Most people manage it. In my view they are also being phenomenally stupid by hiding their issue—which is legitimate—by the far greater one of mass murder—which is not. No British propaganda could do more to hurt their cause. If the Conservative Party went round killing people so it could pass its legislation it would very quickly become unacceptably unpopular! They have virtually avowed their intention to destroy democracy in Northern Ireland by pressing for what they want despite being a minority political party. When the vast majority of seats in Northern Ireland go to a republican party, that is the time for Northern Ireland to go to Eire. I am realistic enough to see that the likelihood of this happening is practically zero. I understand the origins of the IRA, and that many Catholics feel bound to support it as it's the loudest voice they have. By doing so they are approving murder, and I have yet to work out why the Vatican hasn't condemned them more strongly since the IRA say they do what they do with the backing of Roman Catholicism, and as far as I know this form of Roman Catholicism died out with the Borgias.

What solutions are there? None—just stick it out—which is what the IRA wants to get the British public sick of. The problem is one only the Irish can solve themselves—it is so deep and involved, no imposed solution would ever work. If, for instance, Northern Ireland was given to Eire tomorrow, what then? A protestant guerilla army rampaging over the island and blowing up the traitors in the 'Dail' at Westminster? The present Government is panicking—as can be seen by the shooting of the terrorists in Gibraltar. I can't truly say I grieve much for those shot, but the outcry was justifiable because governments cannot be allowed to kill those who it considers troublemakers. Also there is this totally useless act banning direct quotation from Sinn Fein and the IRA. This is a superb example of the politicians syllogism as expanded in 'Yes, Prime Minister': 'We must do something. This is something, therefore we must do this.'

Only time will solve this one, and that inevitably means more tragedy.

*'Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold, mere anarchy is loosed upon the world'.
—W.B. Yeats.*



Civil war, 1922.

have clamoured for their own state, and due to the complete ineffectiveness of the law keeping forces in that country the situation of terrorism and guerilla warfare between the Sinhalese and the Tamils has slid into such a pit of depravity that it bears well to think of it when considering Northern Ireland. We are dealing with humans here, who are much the same en masse whether they live in the Indian or Atlantic seaboard.

The overwhelming fact in today's problems is that the Protestants of Northern Ireland are Northern Irish, they have the right to remain and stay British as long as they are in the majority—they have no right to steamroller minorities, indulge in persecution or rampant jingoism simply to provoke. They cannot be removed back to Scotland: that would be an act worthy of Stalin's Russia. America was colonised by Europeans earlier than the plantation of the Protestants. It would be silly to suggest that all non-indigenous Americans be

disproportionately powerful nation.

I've not yet given my opinion on the antics of the IRA. In my rough draft for this my description of them was a long string of derogatory adjectives unfit for publication. A different string of derogatory adjectives could be applied to the antics of the British Government, but mostly retrospectively, which is useless. I am totally uncompromising in my denunciation of murder, no matter who commits it. The IRA would argue that the crimes of the British Government are greater than theirs. I would not disagree, but I would point out that punishing the citizens of today for the crimes of yesterday is a perverted and indiscriminate form of justice. If all republicanism was limited to Sinn Fein, I would be pleased to accept them and watch democracy in action. As it is, Sinn Fein wholly condones the murderous activities of the IRA and makes the occasional pathetic apology when people get killed. If I could give some advice to them





Les Parents Terribles

by Jean Cocteau at the Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond.

'Lies, lies, lies. Nothing but lies!' shrieks Yvonne, over-possessive mother and eager invalid, and in that freakish moment of hysterical lucidity diagnoses the central cause of the chaos in Cocteau's explosive tale of domino deception.

Yvonne is lying to herself that her cloying embrace upon darling son Michael is a mother's natural concern and not a blinding jealousy of other women. Michael feels forced by this into lying with his silence about an ongoing affair. He vows to let his dearest diabetic mummy 'Sophie' (as he calls her in an overly intimate game of theirs) know the truth as soon as the unpalatable complications are put right: knowing that her emotional diet is at least as critical as the sugar level in her blood. Michael's lover Madelaine is no less untrue in her divided affections. Favouring the young innocent she is dithering in her dismissal of an older and previous lover who, by uncomfortable coincidence, is Michael's adulterous father George. Distanced from his ailing wife, George becomes bitter when he discovers he is cast as the wronged fool in a tragedy cum farce. So the company stands cowering from deception's hastily thrown

boomerang as it whistles menacingly back towards them.

Enter Aunty Leo (coolly played by Caroline Blakiston), a model of celibate sanity and self-declared as the only adult amongst three children. She constantly strives for a semblance of order in the family's messy 'caravan' and so seems the ideal arbiter to help restore some order to their chaotic lives. Leo has long ago buried an undeclared love and seems hardened to the 'children's' emotional grappling hooks. Thus qualified she is eagerly recruited to undo deception's work with a more sophisticated lie. Leo's loyalties are not so certain though, and neither are her murky motives, until the final tragic twist.

None of the adult players can claim a moral superiority in this game, though self-justification abounds. The only true innocent, Michael, makes naivety seem almost a crime, but undoubtedly he is the most wronged and it is with him that we are supposed to sympathise. Depending on one's sympathies, mood and disposition the whole may be read as the tragic frustration of love, or as the inevitable emotional melee in the clash of wills that is life. For this is life with the temperature turned up full, and the Orange Tree is just the place to cook up such a superheated animation. The players put in brave and confident performances as they flit manically past the audience in the aisles, often close enough to touch and always close enough to feel the heat.

Two minutes from Richmond Station and only twenty odd minutes from central London the



Orange Tree is one of the most consistently praised fringe venues in town. This current season of three French plays promises to be a good time to find out why.

MAC.

Les Parents Terribles continues until March 5th followed by *Situation Vacant*, a contemporary comedy by Michael Vinaver in its British premiere from March 17th to April 8th, and the season concludes with *The Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, a classic farce by Moliere from April 21st to May 20th.

Performance dates do vary slightly so ring 940 3633 for details. (Unlike some Pub Theatre Network venues advance membership is not necessary for admission.)



OPERA

La Gran Siera Opera Co.

Oh dear. I wondered what to make of it when five divas, singing very large spears marches on the stage to a tune out of *The Valkyries* (Richard Wagner). I looked again and realised that they were all men. Why would five men, dressed as divas, clumsily attempt slapstick—lousy at the best of times—singing badly. What was I doing here anyway?

And that was the best part. I kept awake, not only because of their splendid booming operatic voices, but because I was still wandering what the point of it all was. It certainly wasn't humour; however, all around me people were snorting and whooping. I told myself that it was cheaper for me to sit and watch rather than go to the pub, so I settled down attentively.

The format consisted of parodies of six operas. Between each parody a transvestite in a pink ballgown would attract attention to himself and crack very weak jokes. Apparently, La Gran Siera has appeared in New York, Canada, Munich, Venice, Zurich and Berlin. Maybe I just missed something. Well, I know you have as the performances ran from February 7th to 18th at the Bloomsbury Theatre. Oh, what a shame.



PREVIEW

Tequila Sunrise

Written and directed by Robert Towne (*Chinatown*), *Tequila Sunrise* deals with the relationship between two former high school friends, whose lives have taken divergent paths since graduation. Dale McKussic (Mel Gibson) is a drug dealer looking for a way out while Nick Frescia (Kurt Russell) is a cop assigned to put his friend behind bars.

Caught between the two, both physically and emotionally is Jo Ann Vallenan (Michelle Pfeiffer).

Mel Gibson stars in his first film

since *Lethal Weapon*. His next film will be *Lethal Weapon II*. This action thriller pits him against Kurt Russell (*Big Trouble in Little China*), forming a combination that will have the female population swooning. Us blokes aren't left out either, with Michelle Pfeiffer providing a lot of sexual sizzle. Pfeiffer has proved herself to be an impressive leading lady, as we shall see in a series of her films in the next couple of months—*Dangerous Liaisons* and *Maimed to the Mob* will soon be released.

This film marks another spate of love triangle stories with *The Accidental Tourist* and *Working Girl*.

In America the film did reasonable business, but was generally accepted as routine drama heightened by its sexual element, star cast and exotic look. I suspect the same factors will make it a success here.

Release Date: March 31st
Sumit Guha.



Henry VI

The Wars of the Roses—the saga continues.

House of Lancaster

We are thrust into turbulent times. Henry V is dead; leaving to a baby the crown of England. The Duke of Gloucester is Lord Protector, and he has not the divine authority to meld the court together. The French have revolted and into their ranks rises Joan of Arc to drive England back. Valiant Lord Talbot battles away to save English pride, but loses the day.

The stormy seas of strife breed breezes of dissension. Feuding Richard Plantagenet and the Earl of Somerset divide the nobles of England in two. They pluck roses as symbols in Temple Gardens; white for York and red for Lancaster.

While Englishmen quarrel, the French Dauphin still fights. But Joan loses Rouen and in a blaze of light she dies.

The young King grows to be a reluctant ruler. He needs to be strong, but his heart flounders. Into his court comes the Earl of Sussex, whose weasle-like words twist closer to power. Who knows what riches he has gleaned, for he has a mistress who is also a Queen. But he overstretchs the line one day, when he orders the murder of Gloucester, Old Protector. Gloucester is strangled in his bed, and for this pusillanimous Suffolk loses his head.

And so ends part one of the reign of King Henry. Read on for part two, for the trouble's just started.

House of York

Henry now is an old wise man, yet strength of will eludes him still. Richard of York now plots against him; stirring up revolt to unsettle the King. And so in earnest begin the Wars, between Lancaster and York—to the victor the crown.

Who's good, who's bad we cannot fathom. Who's right, who's wrong is a nebulous question. All seem worthy, proud and valiant, yet in unsettled times ambition is rampant. Confusion holds fast with loyalties uncertain. Fate seems twisted as fortunes change often.

Richard's four sons fight bravely beside him, the most cunning of all being his namesake, the hunchback.

Battles are fought and many are slain. Amongst them poor York who dies in shame. But his sons rise up and avenge his death, and Edward, the eldest, put the crown on his head.

The crooked, warped figure of

Richard plans on, for it is power he cares regardless of wrongs. He strikes down old Henry, locked up in the Tower, and then plots the downfall of his very own brothers.

With Henry's death, an evil mind now plots for Yorks descent, but a son is born to Edward much to Richard's discontent.

Enough of this verse. This Shakespeare stuff is going to my head! Shakespeare wrote Henry VI in three parts. These works are considered unwieldy by many, and so the ESC have condensed them into two plays—House of Lancaster



and House of York. They also attempt (successfully) to transpose the settings to more familiar ones of this century to emphasis the divisive tenets held in more modern times. Continuity of the electric style of presentation with the previous plays in the scenes is maintained, but the substance of the plays lack the usual Shakespearean storytelling subtleties, giving away the fact that these were Shakespeare's first historical plays and not, as the production suggests, part of a long series of chronological plays.

Both parts are serious and dramatic, narrating the struggle for the throne between the two Houses. The productions are solid and clear in their intentions. However, there is a sense of being swamped in all that is going on.

The performances are absorbing; Paul Brennan exhibits just the right level of insecurity as Henry VI, but lesser roles are given greater treatment, especially by Michael

Pennington, who plays Sussex in Part 1, and in Part 2 a punk thug, looking like Johnny Rotten, spreading rebellion and preaching anarchy.

It is a joy to see such a high level of acting coupled with a supremely eccentric production that never loses its head in the maelstrom of activity, but rather clarifies the proceeding and makes it a thoroughly engrossing, if extremely violent, journey through history and I would recommend it to anyone.

In the essence of continuity, Part 2 ends with Richard's chilling speech 'Now is the winter of our

provides a merriment and cheer which sadly is never equalled in the following three and a half hours.

The disfigured flautist hobbles to the front and, sweeping a curtain across the scene, begins the play proper. 'Now is the winter of our discontent...'. The hunchback is Richard, Duke of Gloucester, brother to King Edward IV, and a man with a hefty chip on his shoulder. As we have just been warned he is about to embark on a dastardly plan to secure the crown for himself.

The plan is so fiendishly contrived, and administered with such mind blowing subtlety that it could well be a *Black Adder* script. The death count is so great that, had it not been for the small detail of historical fact, one could almost say Shakespeare had dreamed this up during his *Friday the Thirteenth* phase.

As in the six previous plays, there is strong acting by all concerned, with a couple (John Dougall and Sion Probert) even trying to steal a little limelight from the true star, Andrew Jarvis. The overpowering combination of his natural acting ability and his melodramatic eccentricity gives Jarvis a resounding victory on that front though. This man has real talent. He ought to be on stage.

But back to the story: with a string of deaths behind him, a crown on his head, and a vengeful peerage around him, King Richard faces a revolt from Henry, Earl of Richmond. In battle on Bosworth field, the King dies, after a rather well choreographed and terribly exciting swordfight. Richmond becomes Henry VII, and gives a television broadcast to the nation in the hope of uniting everybody under the new Tudor dynasty: 'Now civil wounds are stopped, peace lives again; that she may long live here, God say. Amen!'

Richard III is pretty good stuff. I found it overly long though, and as a result remember it best for one or two images—the dreams before the battle in Act V Scene III, Queen Margaret wandering forlornly, shabby, resembling a wanton creature more recognisable in a corner of Leicester Square station—rather than the performance as a whole. It is worth seeing for Andrew Jarvis alone however, and I recommend it, therefore, to all.

This ambitious project, *The War of the Roses*, is showing at the Old Vic, Waterloo Road, until March 11. Group bookings for ten or more students are available, as are standby tickets, both at just £6. You would be hard pressed to find a more entertaining or more refined production anywhere in London.

Andrew Clarke.

discontent...' to usher in the next play. So read on for the rousing and triumphant conclusion of this incredible saga.

Cue Richard III.

Sumit Guha.

Richard III

And so the curtain rises to a scene of Noel Cowardesque figures milling around a coffin, drinking champagne, engaging in garden party niceties and some necessary mourning for dead King Henry VI, while the dulcet tones of jazz wash over them, played by a band so laid back they are almost falling over.

The sturdy figure of Barry Stanton, (earlier *Falstaff*, *Richard of York* and *Chorus*) cuts through this, impeccably attired and brandishing a clipboard, and proceeds to explain every detail of plot and character inter-relations of all present. The prologue is perfectly executed (a taste of things to come) and

FOOTBALL

One-way traffic

Goldsmiths II—0
IC III—1

On a day when conditions weren't conducive to good football, IC elected to shoot up the slope with a slight advantage from the strong swirling wind. It was a blow to the already weakened IC side when Mike Wilks was injured early on and IC were indeed fortunate to go in at the interval on level teams, helped only by poor finishing by Goldsmiths.

In the second half Goldsmiths threw everything into attack and some resolute defending by Jason Eldred and Sean Carey helped keep IC in the game.

With ten minutes to go, one of the rare IC attacks led to a goalmouth scramble and Gary Mahoney turned up to poke the ball through a mass of legs and into the net to score the only goal of the game and give IC an undeserved victory.

Saint Mary's I—0
IC III—4

Saint Mary's took the game to IC straight from the kick off but could not penetrate the extremely solid looking IC defence.

Slowly but surely, IC began to dominate with Brazilian midfield maestro, Toni De Leon causing all kinds of problems for Saints. The IC forwards could not capitalise on the service from midfield and it took a tremendous, looping volley by defender Mike Wilks to put IC ahead on the half hour mark. IC started the second half as they finished the first; dominating the game completely and it wasn't long before Derek Robinson put IC two up. Adam Thomas scored the third with a scorching 25 yard drive. By now it was all one-way traffic and the IC forwards were queueing up for a cross by Toni De Leon which was eventually slotted home by Chris Hargreaves to make it 4 for IC.

SQUASH

On our way

The third IC Squash team is on its way to promotion, following a convincing 5-0 victory over Queen Mary College on Monday.

With four matches left, the IC team is now on top of London's Third Division. It is not only the most successful IC squash team at present, but also the most international one. Colin Wraight, the team's number 1, is a visiting professor of Biophysics from the

United States. Joachim 'Joe' Mueller (Physics 3) came from West Germany and Jonny Bell (Management Science) travelled all the way from New Zealand to join this international squash 'equipe'.

Two English players, Mike Condon (Material Science 3) and Andy Webb (Civil Engineering) complete the team which has so far indeed proved to be 'unsquashable'.

SAILING

Gusts and guts

Saturday's heavy, gusty winds made the going tricky as helms fought to keep boats under control. In the heats the IC 1sts started well, and were soon through. The 2nds also scraped through from their heats—a maze of close races and protests—with a semi-final place. The pace now hotted up, as the 1sts win over UCL coupled with the

ORIENTEERING

Day after

On the morning after the Hyde Park Relays (at which the Orienteering Club finished in under two hours for the first time, despite a couple of our best runners competing for Cross-Country) the orienteers set off bright and early for Pippingford Park in Sussex. The courses were laid out on hilly and barren army land and were navigationally fairly easy, but treacherous river crossings and slippery banks led to criticisms of it being an 'assault course'. With plenty of practise on similar areas the Club expected to do well and most people did. Matthew Lynas was the fastest Club member on the day, and William Power led the under-21 course by a large margin. Slower orienteers were given an extra inducement to hurry up when it started to tip with rain while they were still looking for the last controls.



2nds victory over St Thomas' Hospital put both IC teams into the final. The seconds now took the lead as Richard and Charles, assisted by Verity and Rob, streaked ahead, leaving Liam languishing at the tail of the fleet with his crew Paul, to win. Everything now hinged on the last race: Sarah's exhortations to her crew were now easily audible ashore whilst Rocky rolled as IC 1 struggled to keep ahead and soon the efforts of Bill, with Rory, payed off as IC 1 narrowly took the last race; but in the end the Castaway's Cup went to IC 2 on points.

AERONAUTICAL

Bird-like

Imagine a bird flying three times faster than any other aircraft. Imagine flying higher than any other bird, so high you reach the boundaries of outer space. Then imagine you are that bird—the SR-71A Blackbird.

Science can transform imagination into reality, and the SR-71A Blackbird, by the Lockheed Corporation, is truly a thing of

beauty. Famed for being the first US Department of Defence 'Black' project, the Blackbird was spawned in the X-Series research programmes, nurtured in the A-11 fighter project and matured at the Lockheed 'Skunk' Works in Burbank, California.

AeroSoc in conjunction with the Royal Aeronautical Society are lucky to have two aircrew from the USAF 9th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, who will be giving a presentation on the Blackbird on Saturday 25th February in Mech Eng 342 at 5pm. Please note that this event may be cancelled at short notice due to operational requirements. Anyone who is interested in this amazing aircraft really should take the time to come along.

INTERNATIONAL NITE

Round the World in 8 hours

The party of the term, The International Nite, will be tomorrow, Saturday 25th. It's in the Sherfield Building and starts at 5pm. The tickets are £3 each and will gain you entry to all the events except the Chinese Variety Show. The ticket will also include a free drink, the voucher for which can be claimed at the door. The items for the Nite are:

1. **The Society Stalls**—5pm in the JCR.

Take a brief trip around the world, visit the stalls of the various national societies. Talk to them about their country and their experiences here in Britain.

The Cultural & Clothes Show—6.30pm in the Main Dining Hall.

Here's a chance to experience different dances and songs of various countries. The Clothes show by Indiasoc will bring you various types of costumes worn in India, modelled by students from IC and other colleges.

The Food—8pm in the JCR.

Exotic food from all over the world. Come early as it finishes fast. You have been warned! Food tickets can be bought on the counter.

The Afro-Caribbean Disco—9pm until late in the JCR.

Brazilian Carnival—9pm until late in the Main Dining Hall. Experience the Rio spirit and samba the night away!

Chinese Variety Show—In the Great Hall.

This programme is in Cantonese organised by the Chinese Society to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Tickets are available at the door.

What's On

A guide to events in and around IC.

FRIDAY

- Consoc Meeting**.....12.30pm
ME569.
- Rag Meeting**.....12.40pm
Union Dining Hall. Come and bring an Angolan.
- Friday Jamaa Prayer**.....1.00pm
Southside Gym.
- Christian Union Meeting**.....5.30pm
308 Huxley. Time for prayer, worship and discussion.
- Poetry Readings**.....6.30pm
University of London School of Oriental and African Studies Room G57.
- Fencing Club**.....12.30pm
Union Gym. Meeting also at 6 o'clock.

SATURDAY

- Karate**.....10.00am
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. Build your fitness and confidence.
- IC Kung Fu**.....4.30pm
Southside Gym. Beginners always welcome.

SUNDAY

- Sunday Mass**.....11.00am
West London Catholic Chaplaincy, More House, 53 Cromwell Road. Also at 6pm (followed by bar supper). All welcome.
- Wargames**.....1.00pm
Senior Common Room. All Welcome.
- Kung Fu**.....4.30pm
Union Gym. Beginners welcome.
- RCSU Night in the Bar**.....7.00pm
Union Bar.

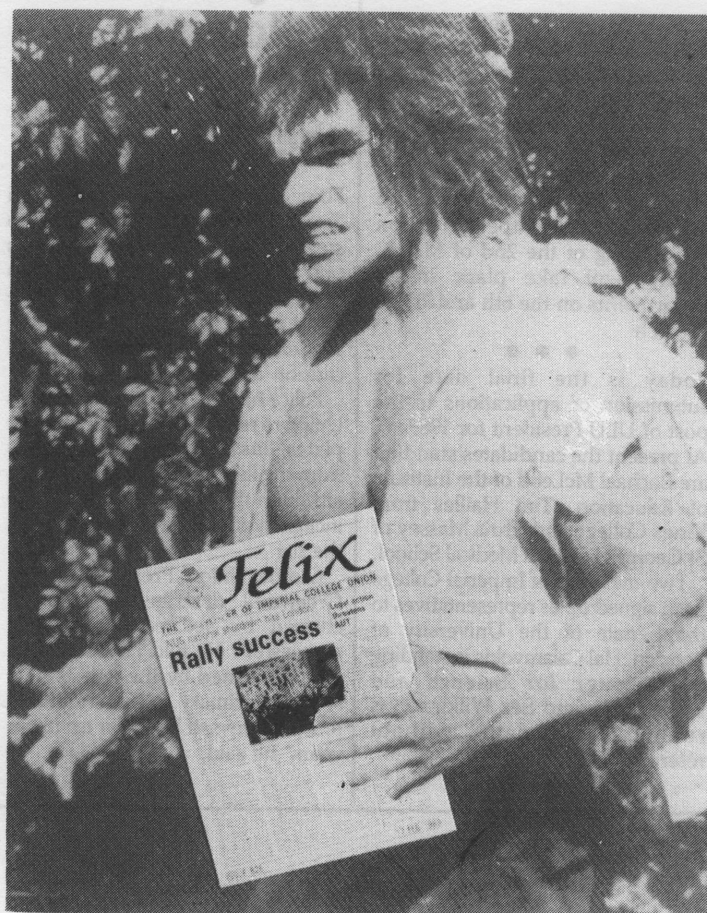
MONDAY

- Rock Soc Meeting**.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge. Anyone interested in any form of rock music come along.
- Artsoc Meeting**.....12.30pm
Union SCR. Sign up for shows. Membership £2.
- Yacht Club Meeting**.....12.30pm
Upstairs in Southside.
- Recitation of Holy Qur'an**.....1.30pm
9 Prince's Gardens (Basement).
- Concert Band Rehearsal**.....5.45pm
Great Hall. All players please.
- Improvers Ballroom**.....6.00pm
JCR. 80p.
- Beginners Rock 'n' Roll**.....6.45pm
UDH. 80p.
- Advanced Ballroom**.....7.00pm
JCR. 80p.
- Karate**.....7.00pm
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. Build your fitness and confidence.

- Latin American Dance Class**.....8.00pm
UDH. Cha, Samba, Rumba, etc. 80p

TUESDAY

- CU Prayer**.....8.15am
308 Huxley. For those who think prayer is more important than sleep. Free.
- Remote Controlled Modelling Club**.....12.30pm
Southside Upper.
- Sailing Club**.....12.30pm
Meeting in Southside Lounge.
- Boardsailing Club**.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge.
- Audiosoc Meeting**.....12.30pm
Union SCR. Cheap records and tapes etc.



- Roman Catholic Mass**.....12.40pm
Mech Eng 702. Mass followed by lunch. 50p.
- AIESEC Meeting**.....12.45pm
Room 748 Mech Eng. Everyone welcome—join up for any department of AIESEC from PR to company sponsorship.
- Ski Club Meeting**.....12.45pm
Southside Lounge. Interested in learning to ski? Already hooked? Want to try racing? Come and find out more.
- Ents Meeting**.....1.00pm
Union Lounge. Anyone interested in helping out with IC Entertainments, come along—all welcome.

- 3rd World First**.....1.00pm
4th Floor, Env Tech, 38 Prince's Gardens.
- Beatles Hour**.....1.00pm
For all the best Beatle and Beatle-related material on Cd with Spenser Lane.
- Qur'an, tradition of Prophet**.....1.30pm
9 Prince's Gardens.
- Amnesty Meeting**.....5.30pm
Brown Committee Room (top floor Union Building).
- Meditative Prayer**.....5.45pm
Chaplain's Office, 10 Prince's Gardens. Come and join us for some peace and quiet. See West London Chaplaincy.

- Beginners Ballroom**.....6.00pm
JCR. 80p. All welcome.
- Judo**.....6.30pm
Union Gym. All grades. Beginners welcome.
- Karate**.....7.00pm
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. Build your fitness and confidence.
- Intermediate Ballroom**.....7.00pm
JCR. 80p.
- Caving Club Meeting**.....7.00pm
Southside Upper Lounge. Everyone interested should come along.
- Chamber Music Soc Concert**.....7.30pm
Terminal Room A in Huxley.

- Improvers Ballroom**.....8.00pm
JCR. 80p.
- Mountaineering Club Meeting**.....9.00pm
Southside Upper Lounge. Beginners always welcome.

WEDNESDAY

- Sailing Meeting**.....12.30pm
Outside Southside.
- Caving Club Meeting**.....1.00pm
- Micro Club Meeting**.....1.00pm
Third Floor, Union Building. If you're interested in computers come along.
- Hamsoc Meeting**.....1.15pm
Third Floor of Union Building. Amateur Radio Society regular weekly meeting.
- Intermediate Rock 'n' Roll Class**.....2.15pm
UDH. 80p.
- Jazz Dance Class**.....3.15pm
UDH. 80p.
- Karate**.....3.30pm
Southside Gym. Beginners welcome. Build your fitness and confidence.
- Open Circle Study**.....4.30pm
9 Prince's Gardens. See Islamic Soc.
- Kung Fu**.....7.30pm
Union Gym. Grandmaster CK Chang's class.
- Basic Christianity**.....6.30pm
Senior Common Room, 7th Floor. A meeting held by University Christian Outreach examining the life and claims of Jesus.

THURSDAY

- Fencing Club**.....12.30pm
Union Gym. Meeting also at 6 o'clock
- IC Methsoc Meeting**.....12.30pm
Mech Eng 640. Speaker from South Africa. Free. All welcome.
- ICYHA Meeting**.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge. Everyone welcome.
- Audiosoc Meeting**.....12.30pm
Union SCR. Cheap records, tapes etc.
- Ski Club**.....
The Ski Club will only meet on Tuesdays this term.
- Debating Society**.....1.00pm
Room 341 Maths (Huxley).
- Arabic Lessons**.....1.30pm
9 Prince's Gardens. See Islamic Soc.
- Prayer Meeting**.....5.30pm
Chaplain's Office, 10 Prince's Gardens. All Christians in College are welcome to come and pray for the work of Christians in College.
- Cricket Nets**.....5.45pm
Meet in Mech Eng Foyer. Sign up on cricket noticeboard. Everyone welcome.
- Judo**.....6.30pm
Union Gym. Beginners welcome.
- Soup Run**.....9.15pm
Meet Week's Hall Basement (back by 11pm).

Doctor speaks

A number of students from the educational 'Pimlico Connection' group met on Thursday to hear Dr. Anthony Michaelis, the editor of the journal 'Interdisciplinary Science Reviews', speak about careers in scientific journalism. Dr. Michaelis was formerly science correspondent for the Daily Telegraph.

Dr. Michaelis said that a good scientific journalist must have both a scientific background and a good journalistic technique. His or her job is to 'translate' science into the language of the typical reader, asking questions until the subject is 'crystal clear'.

The wacky races

Five people so far have signed up for the post of President. As of 8.00pm yesterday night the following people were fully proposed and seconded; Sez Wilkinson (Maths 1) proposed by Andy Banister, Clare McErlane (Physics 3) proposed by Duncan McGregor, Neil McCluskey (M.R.E 4) proposed by Paul Watkiss. Andrew Meredith (Physics 3) and Mark Reeves (Maths 1), proposed by Andrew Jones have also signed up.

Three people have signed up for the post of Deputy President. David Williams (Physics 3) proposed by Dave Osborne and Alistair Goodall (DoC 2) proposed by Margaret Poole have been fully seconded. Gavin Spittlehouse (Doc 3), proposed by Tom Yates has also signed for the post. Mr Goodall was originally standing for the post of President.

Only one candidate, Fiona Nicholas (Biochem 3) proposed by Ralph Greenwell has stood for the post of Honorary Secretary.

David Smedley (Physics 3), proposed by Julian Moore and

Robin Davison (Chem Eng 4) proposed by Paul Barton are fully seconded for the post of FELIX Editor.

Papers will be taken down at 5.30pm tonight. Hustings will take place at St Mary's Medical School on 27th February, at IC on 2nd March, and at Montpelier Hall on the evening of the 2nd of March. Voting will take place in all departments on the 6th and 7th of March

...

Today is the final date for submission of applications to the post of ULU President for 1989/90. At present the candidates standing are Rachael McLeod of the Institute of Education, Tim Hailles from Kings College and Chris Massey of St Georges Hospital Medical School.

Two members of Imperial College have signed up as representatives to the Senate of the University of London. Hal Calamvokis is standing for Senator for Science and Engineering and Sez Wilkinson is running as Senator without reference.

Stingy-wingy

The top-up loan scheme access fund will be too small, claims a report from the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals (CVCP).

The CVCP say that the scheme takes no account of the forthcoming loss of social security benefits or the introduction of the poll tax. They

also believe that it will not cater for students on postgraduate or longer undergraduate courses.

The committee has submitted their own alternative scheme in which the loan would be repayable through the tax system.

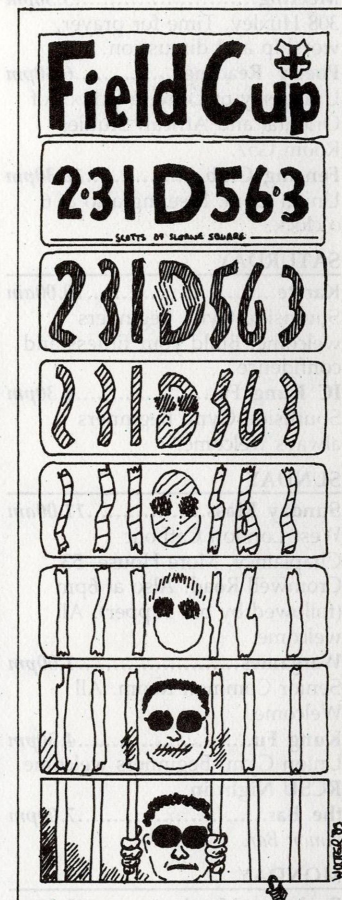
Field cup contestants caught in diplomatic number plate theft

Four students were arrested on Tuesday night whilst attempting to steal diplomatic number plates as part of City and Guilds Field Cup Treasure Hunt. After spending the night in Chelsea police station the students were given a formal caution and released.

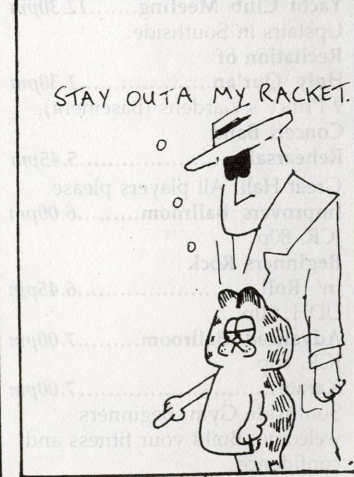
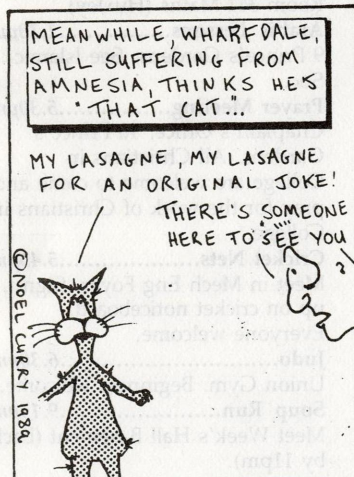
Police have asked City and Guilds Union to remove diplomatic number plates, bus stops and wheel clamps from the list of items to be collected, although they did not object to the inclusion of policeman's helmets on the list.

Guilds Union President, Ralph Greenwell described the event, entered by six teams, as 'very successful'. He told FELIX that he was concerned by the arrests:

'I was primary to the crime and rendered myself liable for up to ten years' he said.



Southkenders



**SAVE THE FUTURE
OF
HIGHER EDUCATION
National N.U.S.
MARCH AGAINST
LOANS**

**Meet tomorrow 11am
in Beit Quad**

Students Against Loans Month SCC

I.C.U. SNACK BAR
the cheapest refectory in College

MENU

27th Feb to 3rd March

MONDAY

Corned beef hash & bread or Ratatouille & Rice

TUESDAY

Chicken a la King & Rice or Lentil Bolognaise

WEDNESDAY

Shepherd' Pie or Lasagne

THURSDAY

Lamb & Apple Pie or Spicy Chickpeas & Rice

FRIDAY

Fish & Chips or Root Vegie Currie & Rice

BS • JOBS • JOBS • JOBS • JOBS • JOBS • JOBS • JOBS

Easter Vacation 1989

Students needed to work during the Easter vacation as cleaners for the Accommodation Centre.

Dates required will be 30th March-21st April from 0900-1300 hours daily (additional hours may be needed from time to time). Rate of pay: £2.10 per hour—discretionary bonus payable at end of letting scheme.

Also required, for the same period, one or two students to work as receptionist. Hours will be as required dependent on booking situation and groups expected time of arrival but will involve some evening and weekend work as well as some hours during the day.

Please contact:-

Christine Warnes, Conference Office, Sherfield Building or Student Accommodation Office, 15 Prince's Gardens for application form and further details.

**I.C.U.
SABBATICAL
ELECTIONS
HUSTINGS**

Thursday 2nd March
1pm in the Great Hall

Monday 27th February
6.30pm St Mary's

**(candidates meet 6pm in the
Union Office)**

Voting in all departments
6th & 7th March

LINSTEAD HALL BASH II

Friday 24th February

● LIVE BANDS

● DISCO

● BAR EXTENSION

● HAPPY HOUR 7.00-8.30pm

*ALL ex-Linsteadians welcome
(bring card)*

No admission after 10.30pm

RCSU

COUNTRY HOUSE BALL at SILWOOD PARK on FRIDAY MAY 5th

Double tickets now available from
the RCSU Office at £55 (Deposit £20)
to include sherry & champagne
receptions, buffet dinner, breakfast,
band, disco & travel

Imperial College International Evening 1989

Saturday 25th February

6.30pm-2.00am

6.30 Cultural Show
performed by Indian,
Turkish and Sri Lankan
Societies

8.00 International Foods &
Drinks

9.00- Afro-Caribbean Disco
2.00 & Brazilian Carnival
with live Brazilian band
Admission £3

theatre west end

INTRODUCTORY MEETING
for all those interested in going
to the Edinburgh Festival
Summer 1989.

Cheese & Wine

Union Concert Hall

Wednesday 1st March 1989, 2.00pm