



FELIX

Issue 914 25 October 1991

Casualty

A first year chemistry student, Stephen Dorman, was seriously injured last Thursday during a mascot kidnap attempt. He underwent two operations in hospital after having his leg run over by a car driven by another student involved in the mascotry attempt.

The accident happened at approximately 9.45pm after the Royal College of Science Union (RCSU) fresher's dinner. Members of the City and Guilds Union managed to capture the RCSU mascot 'Theta' and were about to make off from behind the Union Building in a car when a group of RCSU students attempted to stop it by laying on the car's roof and bonnet.

The driver of the car told Felix that he 'expected them not really to get on' and that he was surprised by them 'jumping on the car and covering the bonnet and roof'. He said that he could not see clearly for the bodies on the windscreen and shouted for them to get off while driving forward slowly. He said that

he stopped instantly when he felt a bump from under one of the wheels. A first aider and the St John's Ambulance crew from the Albert Hall tended Mr Dorman until the ambulance came.

He explained that the Mr Dorman had one side of his lower leg run over, suffering a compound fracture which required two operations in hospital.

The driver told Felix that the Police have reported him for 'reckless driving' and 'driving without due care' and that he expects to be 'charged sometime in the future'. He said that Mr Dorman asked the police not to charge and that he was 'very amenable'. He added that, in his view, 'people were taking mascotry far too seriously.'

A meeting called to discuss mascotry has been convened for 5th November. It is expected that the use of motorised vehicles will be prohibited for mascotry events. All mascotry activities have been suspended until the meeting.

Loan Applications Up

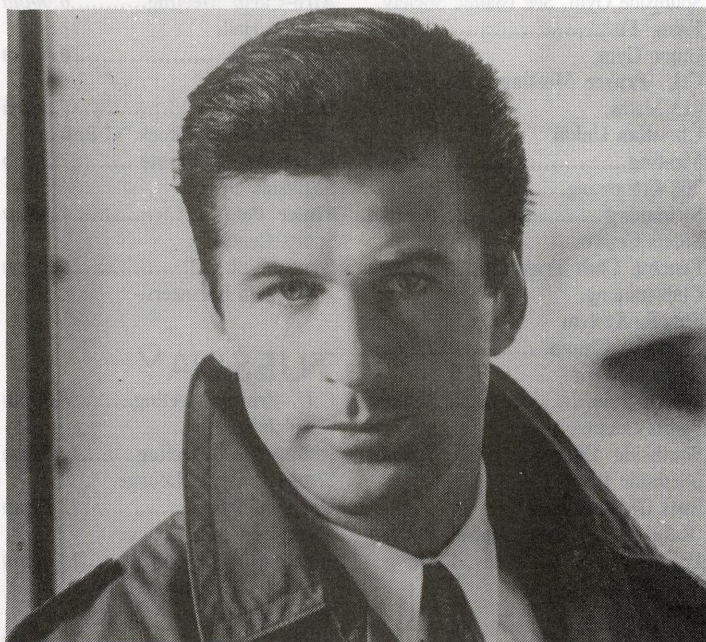
Student Loan applications are up this year, and the waiting list is getting longer. Loan interviews are booked up until 25th November, a date constantly being moved back as more students make appointments. Last year, students nationwide borrowed an average of £388 under the loan system. This year about 30,000 students have applied for a loan of £570 or more due largely to the freezing of grants and the late arrival of L.E.A. grant cheques.

A London student can, this year, borrow up to £660 with interest at the rate of inflation - 5.8% for 1991. A new student on a three year course taking a full London loan will, upon graduation, have a debt

of £923 from his first year, assuming a constant inflation rate. A 'sympathetic attitude' is said to be taken to students who have either finished their degree or dropped out and are unable to repay their loans.

Tony Cullen, Assistant Registrar at Imperial College, said that this year 'student loans are a fact of life' whereas 'last year they were more of an option'. One hundred and five students at I.C. have already taken up a loan this year and an estimated 35 a week are registering. At this rate about one thousand students at I.C. will have taken a loan by the end of the year. Mr. Cullen described this as 'quite a high take up rate'.

Super Plug



During yesterday's Commemoration Service an honorary doctorate was awarded to Richard Sea following his revolutionary work at the Electrical Appliance Research Centre (EARC) at Silwood Park. His discovery of a new family of alloys, Stefaniles, reduces the losses in transmitting mains electricity. When this material is used in a household plug, the improved efficiency cuts the average household electricity bill by up to 20%. Preliminary market research indicates that the new plug would retail at under £4.

Mr Sea graduated from Highland University in 1982, where he was awarded a 2.2 in Electrical Engineering and Management. After working at Dounray Research Centre for the Central Electricity Generating Board for 2 years, he was moved to the new research centre at Silwood Park. When the CEGB realised the direction his research was taking project funding was cut, and Mr Sea had to return penniless to Kayleigh in Yorkshire

with his wife and young family.

He continued his research while working in a local comprehensive school and using their laboratory facilities at weekends. Despite further efforts by National Power to stop his research it was published last year and patents are likely to be granted later this month. Two American conglomerates have already expressed an interest in manufacturing the plugs.

Rich Sea who flew back from North America for today's ceremony was delighted with his award. 'It erases all the pain and hardship that we have had to endure over the last decade,' he said when interviewed with his wife and young children outside the Albert Hall yesterday afternoon. Clara, his wife, added that 'it's wonderful, at last Rich and I can put our feet up after a long day.'

National Power and National Grid have as yet made no comment about the completion of Mr Sea's work.

An up-to-the-minute guide to events in and around Imperial College. The deadline for entries for this page is the 12.30pm, Monday prior to publication.

FRIDAY

Hang Gliding.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.
Conservative Soc.....12.30pm
Physics 737.
Rag Meeting.....12.40pm
Union Lounge. Everyone welcome to give Rag Week ideas and to get more details on the City of London Pub Crawl on Friday afternoon or evening.
3rd World 1st.....12.45pm
Union Dining Hall. Video from 'Baby Milk Action'.
Friday Prayers.....1.00pm
Southside Gym. See Islamic Society.
Kung Fu.....4.30pm
Union Gym.
C.U. Prayer Meeting.....5.00pm
413 Maths.
Christian Union Meeting.....6.00pm
308 Computing.
Swimming.....6.30pm
Sports Centre.
Fencing Club Training.....6.40pm
Club training.
Shaolin System
Nam Pai Chuan.....7.30pm
Southside Gym.
Water Polo.....7.30pm
Sports Centre.
Southside Disco.....8.30pm
Southside Bar.
Ents Gig featuring
'Rain' & 'Elephant Noise'.....9.00pm
Union Lounge. £2.50 adv, £3 on door, £1.50 ents card.

SATURDAY

Kung Fu Club.....4.30pm
Wu Shu Kwan in Southside Gym.
IC Shotokan Karate.....10.00pm
Southside Gym.
Ladies Tennis.....12.00pm
At college courts. Membership £6. All new members welcome.
Cycling Club.....10.30am
Meet at Beit Arch.

SUNDAY

Rag Event.....10.00am
Dress up silly & collect at Covent Garden. See us at Friday's meeting for more details.
West London Chaplaincy Sunday Service.....10.30am
Anteroom Sheffield Building.
Men's Tennis Team Practise.....11.00am
College Courts. Players of any ability. Annual membership £6. New members welcome.
Catholic Chaplaincy Mass.....11.00am
53 Cromwell Road.
Mauritius Study Trip Feedback.....12.00pm
Sheffield Anteroom.

Wargames.....1.00pm
UDH.
Fitness Club.....2.00pm
Intermediate.
Kung Fu Club.....4.30pm
Wu Shu Kwan in the Union Gym.
Catholic Mass.....6.00pm
53 Cromwell Road.

MONDAY

RockSoc Meeting.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.
Parachute Club.....12.30pm
Brown Committee Room.
Basketball Club.....5.30pm
Postponed until volleyball court reopened. Men's Team.
Fitness Club.....5.30pm
Southside Gym. Beginners.
Dance Club.....6.00pm
JCR. R'n'R/Latin. Adv/Medals.
Afro-Carib Meeting.....6.00pm
Concert Hall.
Swimming.....6.30pm
Sports Centre.
Dance Club.....7.30pm
JCR. Beginners' Rock 'n' Roll.
IC Shotokan Karate.....7.30pm
Southside Gym.
Water Polo.....7.30pm
Sports Centre.
Dance Club.....8.30pm
JCR. Latin Beginners.

TUESDAY

C.U. Prayer Meeting.....8.30pm
Chaplain's Office
Riding Club Meeting.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.
Boardsailing.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.
Juggling Workshop.....12.30pm
Contact Andy Latham (Phy 3) for more details.
Radio Modellers.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge.
Cathsoc Mass.....12.30pm
Mech Eng 702. Followed by lunch.
Ski Club Meeting.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge. Put you name down for this year's ski trip.
ICU Christian Outreach.....12.30pm
Elec Eng 403b.
Sailing Club.....12.30pm
Southside Lounge.
Ents Meeting.....1.00pm
Lounge.
PhotoSoc.....1.00pm
Southside Lounge.
Ents Meeting.....1.00pm
Union Lounge.
Careers Talk.....1.30pm
LT213 Huxley. See details on this page.
IC Amnesty Group.....5.30pm
Clubs Committee Room. Sign a petition and read our article about the death penalty in this issue of Felix.
Radio Modellers.....5.30pm
Mech Eng.
Fitness Club.....5.45pm
Southside Gym. Intermediate.
Amenesty International.....5.30pm

Clubs Committee Room.
Wine Tasting Soc.....6.00pm
Union Dining Hall.
Dance Club.....6.00pm
JCR. Beginners Ballroom and Latin.
Canoe Club.....6.15pm
Beit Quad store or 8.30pm in Southside Upper Lounge.
Judo.....6.30pm
Union Gym.
ICSF present
Robocop II.....7.00pm
Mech Eng 220. Membership: £2.50 includes first film. ICSF library open every lunchtime.
Dance Club.....7.00pm
JCR. Adv/Medals Ballroom & Latin.
Grease Rehearsals.....7.30pm
Room 308, Huxley Building (terminal room A).
Yoga.....8.00pm
Southside Gym.
Caving Club Meeting.....8.00pm
Southside Upper Lounge.

WEDNESDAY

Fitness Club.....12.45pm
Southside Gym. Intermediate.
Bike Club.....12.45pm
Southside Lounge.
3rd World 1st.....1.00pm
W3 Beit Quad. Talk by Caroline Geppitt on 'Baby Milk Action'.
Cycling Training.....1.30pm
Meet at Beit Arch.
Wargames.....1.00pm
UDH. All welcome.
Micro Club Meeting.....1.15pm
Top floor NW corner Union Building.
Kung Fu.....1.30pm
Union Gym.
DramSoc Improv Class.....2.30pm
Union SCR (old Union Office). Professional tuition.
Diving.....6.30pm
Swimming Pool.
Shaolin System
Nam Pai Chuan.....7.00pm
Southside Gym.
Basketball Club.....7.30pm
Postponed until volleyball court reopened.
Kung Fu Club.....7.30pm
Union Gym. Wu Shu Kwan.
Libido.....9.30pm
Ents Club Night in Union Lounge.

THURSDAY

Fencing Training.....11.30am
Intermediate & advanced coaching.
Balloon Club Meeting.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.
YHA Meeting.....12.30pm
Southside Upper Lounge.
Postgrad Lunch.....12.30pm
Chaplain's Office (10 Princes Gardens).
Fencing Training.....12.30pm
Beginners Training.
T.H. Huxley Soc.....12.45pm
Huxley room 340. Imperial: 'The Godless College?'.
Yacht Club.....1.00pm
Aero 253.

Fencing Training.....1.30pm
General.
Gliding Club Meeting.....1.00pm
Aero 266.
Fitness Club.....5.30pm
Southside Gym. Advanced.
Midweek Service.....5.30pm
Chaplain's Office (10 Prince's Gardens).
Dance Club.....6.00pm
JCR. Intermediate/Medals Ballroom & Latin.
Dance Club.....7.00pm
JCR. Beginners Ballroom & Latin.
Real Ale Society Meeting.....7.30pm
Union Lounge. Lots of good booze.
FilmSoc present
'Misery'.....7.30pm
Mech Eng 220.
IC Shotokan Karate.....7.30pm
Southside Gym.
Dance Club.....8.00pm
JCR. Advanced Ballroom & Latin.
Southside Disco.....8.30pm
Southside Bar.
ICCAG Soup Run.....9.15pm
Meet Weeks Hall Basement.

Careers Information

● There will be two Careers Talks this coming week in LT213 Huxley at 1.30-2.30pm. Tuesday 29th October. Graduate Study in the UK by Dr Andrzej Skapski of the Chemistry Department. Thursday 31 October. Accountancy by Mr Simon Brooker of Ernst & Young and Mr Alan Morris of Simmons & Simmons. REMINDER: See the Graduate Recruitment Programme for details of Employer Presentations for finalists. WARNING: Fewer vacancies are expected in 1992 in many sectors of the economy. ADVICE: Apply early.

Small Ads

● INTERESTED in juggling? Contact Andy Latham, Phy 3.
● NON-SMOKING girl wanted to share double room in flat in Earl's Court. 15 min walk from College. Close to shops and tube. £35 p/w (excl bills). Tel: 071-373 5869.
● LOST—Friday evening in Union Lounge. A long navy overcoat, please return to Joanne Brown, Chem Eng 4.
● PEUGEOT 205XS 1400 1988. Cherry Red. MOT, Road Tax to April 1992. Immaculate condition. £3,300 ono. Contact Ajit MBA management school or phone 081-809 6556.
● FOR SALE—Stereo system: Sensui amp/tuner/cassette deck with speakers. £50. Pentax KM SLR camera, 50mm f1.8 lens, shutter speeds 1-1/1000th sec + B. Contact John Hutchinson, ext 8871 (pref) or through Mech Eng PG letter racks.

Welfare plug

Next week is welfare week. Seminars and a health fair will be held in the Main Dining Hall (MDH) and the Junior Common Room (JCR) and on Wednesday evening there is a welfare bar quiz in the Lounge Bar, so you can stun your friends with mindless trivia that healthy students usually choose to ignore.

Before all that there is a cocktail evening in the bar tonight from 7-9pm. This is followed by the Ents *Rain* gig. There should be six different cocktails to try, all of which are guaranteed to impress. Cocktail evenings will continue every Friday with a different 'menu' each week.

For the duration of welfare week pints of coke will be 50p and orange juice 60p in the bar, so being healthy is cheaper than usual. On Saturday and Sunday the Rugby World Cup will be on in the Lounge, so you can watch Scotland getting thrashed (or England if you support Scotland and are as biased as I am) and then marvel at New Zealand and Australia on Sunday. After the weekend it's back to the lectures. But to mellow out and

calm down there's a blues night in the Union Lounge on Monday night. The bar has a Sol lager promotion, at £1 a bottle. So you can enjoy a quiet drink whilst the band plays. Wednesday, as I said before, has the bar quiz and the usual Ents disco until 1am.

For those who still want to bop there is a hallowe'en disco until 1am on Thursday night as well.

And finally, an event which is planned for the week following, on November 8 there will be a bonfire party at Silwood Park. This includes the fire, firework display, disco, bars, etcetera and costs £3. There will be coaches from South Ken to Silwood and back at a cost of another £3.

On the elections front, papers are up for one ordinary member of House Committee. Again pop into the Union Office for details.

Last but not least, ULU cards are now available from the Union Office every day of the (working) week, but Union cards are only available Tuesday afternoon, 2pm-4pm.

Steve Farrant, ICU Hon Sec (Events).

Sports Centre Discussions

Because of a series of complaints from the students and staff of the College concerning the proposals to change the Sports Centre, a communications meeting was arranged between myself, Jonathan Griffiths, Mark Landon of the Athletic Clubs Committee, Mandy Hurford, the Union Manger, and Val Straw, IC's Facilities Manager. This fruitful discussion, which was held last Friday, covered the facilities on both the north side and the south side of Prince's Gardens, and included their past, present and future position.

A new sports manager has been appointed, whose tenure of employment begins on November 24. She is Caroline Osner and will have overall responsibility for all Imperial College sports facilities, including Northside, Southside, Harlington, as well as the boating facilities at Putney.

More importantly, it became abundantly clear that when any changes do occur in the refurbishment of our existing facilities, they will be 'designed for students and staff of Imperial College'. An ethos which was discussed was that the Northside complex would essentially be

biased towards sporting activities and that Southside would be used as a facility providing additional 'health' facilities, for instance a gym and a medical facility to deal with orthopaedic and physiotherapeutic needs.

In conclusion I would like to say that I need feedback to find out what students want as users of these facilities. I need this from as many people as possible so that the Union can represent you, the students, in the most fair and productive way.

Also, I would like to hear from students who do not use the sporting facilities but feel that with additional facilities they would then become users, however infrequently.

Any comments should be left in the Union Office, marked for the attention of J. D. Griffiths.

Finally, a further communication meeting is being arranged between Val Straw, Caroline Osner, a representative from the body of students at IC, myself and Mandy Hurford so that college administration know exactly what students need from the sports centre and the Southside gym area.

Jonathan Griffiths, ICU Deputy President

Ents Rant

'The most important thing about *Rain* is the music. Once or twice every decade a band emerges from virtual obscurity, grabs the music industry by the scruff of the neck and commands the attention of the entire country. It's a rare and precious talent, but one that is so obviously evident in *Rain*.

Rain purveyors of funky, melodic, charismatic rock pack a spirited punch in these days of technology-driven 'flawless' music. Ned and Colin don't believe in stating direct influences, preferring instead to refer to inspirations; Jagger, Richards and Cream to name a few. These inspirations are perhaps most evident on tracks from the forthcoming album: the gentle, emotive *Ocean Child* and *Taste of Rain* with its examples of the versatility of a band who have their feet firmly placed on 90s ground but who aren't afraid to utilise what the

60s—and their heroes—had to offer.'

This is *Rain*'s official biography. To most people *Rain* are the band who plastered breasts all over London in the advertising campaign for their debut single *Lemonstone Desired*.

Rain are on tour now, and you can catch them playing LIVE in the Union Lounge tonight, supported by Scottish popsters *Elephant Noise*.

Tickets are £2.50 in advance, £3 on the door and £1.50 with an Ents card. Doors open 9pm.

The first few people to buy advance tickets today will receive (free) various goodies including *Rain* T-shirts, records, CDs, posters and badges—so get down to the Union Office, slap it on the table and buy a ticket!

Ents say—Groovy.

Sol £1 Bottle

...from Union Bar on Monday 28th October...

ALSO on special offer all week:

Coca Cola, Diet Coke, Fanta (50p pint)

Orange Juice (60p pint)

The Union Bar and Lounge Bar are situated in the Union Building in Beit Quad

Tomorrow will be a time of change....
not only for Graduates
but also for business

SHAPING

Autumn Presentation

Imperial College, London
31 October 1991

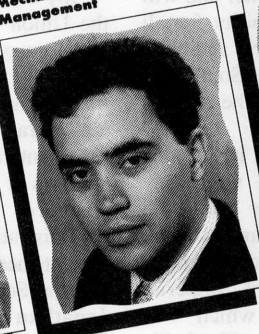
Stuart Bonell
Assistant Consultant
Imperial College of Science
and Technology
Mechanical Engineering with
Management

Vaskar Mitra
Assistant Consultant
Imperial College of Science
and Technology
Electronic and Electrical
Engineering

Vinod Mistry
Consultant
Imperial College of Science
and Technology
Electrical Engineering



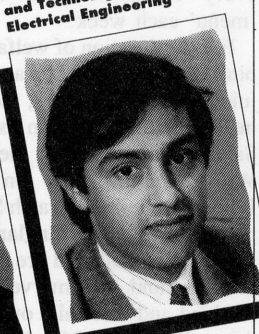
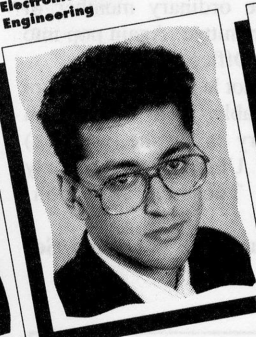
Kate Duley
Consultant
Imperial College of Science
and Technology
Mechanical Engineering



Linda Patterson
Assistant Consultant
Lincoln University, Oxford
Modern Languages



Emma Walker
Assistant Consultant
University of Exeter
Engineering Science



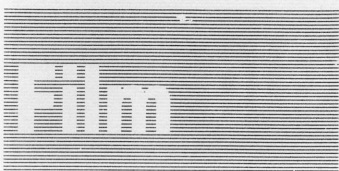
TOMORROW

If you want to learn more about your prospects
with the world's largest management consultancy,
please visit us in the Senior Common Room,
Sherfield Building, Imperial College, London on
Thursday, 31 October 1991 between 6pm and 9pm

For further details contact the Careers Service or
Marion Turner, Graduate Recruitment Manager
direct on; 071 438 3493

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Mortal Thoughts



Alan Rudolph, cult director of films such as *Choose Me*, *The Moderns* and more recently *Love at Large*, now gives us his twelfth feature—*Mortal Thoughts*.

In the movie, Cynthia (Demi Moore) and Joyce (Glenn Headly), play childhood friends who run a beauty salon together, while raising children and coping with their husbands.

Headly's husband James, played by Bruce Willis, is so abusive, aggressive and loud, that most people who meet him wish he would drop dead. James subjects his wife to a torrent of physical and verbal abuse, and seems only interested in getting stoned or drunk. So when early on in the movie, James is murdered and his body dumped in a ditch, family and friends feel everything from relief to sorrow to guilt.

The story is told in a series of



flashbacks, as Moore recounts the events leading up to James's murder during an interview she is giving voluntarily to the police.

As the murder investigation closes in, the strain begins to take its toll on the two women's relationship, and friendship and morality begin to clash with the instinct for survival.

As a thriller which revolves around the murder of Willis's character, the move does not work very well, with the 'twist' in the plot becoming quite obvious about ten minutes before it is revealed.

Alan Rudolph's strength as a director has always been the way in which he handles the relationship between his characters, and *Mortal Thoughts* is a good example of this. Rudolph's direction is at times heavy handed, and his frequent use of slow motion ends up being tedious, but what he does manage to do is allow the interplay of his characters to make up for the lack of narrative strength in the move.

Mortal Thoughts is quite a downbeat movie, which relies heavily on the performances of its principle players. Bruce Willis is quite convincing as Joyce's complete animal of a husband (although at times the famous Willis cheeky grin gets a little tiring) and unlike her recent lightweight roles in movies such as *Dick Tracy*, Headly here demonstrates her considerable talent as James's long suffering wife.

However this is really Demi Moore's show, as it is her performance that holds the movie together. Despite looking like she's just stepped off the cover of *Vogue*, Moore is surprisingly convincing as



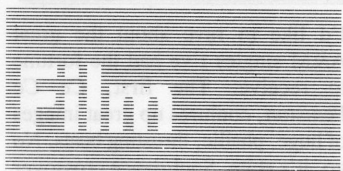
the middle-class hardworking woman, and her performance lends the movie some considerable dramatic weight.

Harvey Kietel, as the police detective also lends fine support, despite the fact that he is essentially reprising the character and the suit he had in *Thelma and Louise*.

Mortal Thoughts has its flaws, and as a murder mystery it is a bit of a non-starter, but thanks to some very good acting, it is nonetheless an interesting and watchable character study.

The Don.

Rambling Rose



Rambling Rose, starring Laura Dern, Diane Ladd and Robert Duvall was written eighteen years ago. To say that it has taken this long to make it to the big screen must surely arouse a question as to why? Why not just leave it to gather dust instead of resurrecting an already lame story and subjecting poor cinema-goers to almost two hours of boredom, ancient clichés and unmemorable characters. It must surely be someone's idea of a joke. According to the producer, Renny Harling, fresh from directing *Die Hard II—Die Harder*, he read *Rambling Rose* in the hope that it would help him fall asleep—I'm surprised it didn't have that effect, although like him, the story left me crying too.

Rose (Dern), from a poor background, joins the family of Duvall and Ladd as a maid in a small Georgia town in 1935, after being forced into prostitution at an

early age. Promiscuity, still being her main interest, she continues to lay every man in sight, or try to, saying sweetly 'Women don't want sex—they just want love'. Eventually she finds it, and marries



four times, before her not too untimely death at the end of the film.

The film has been described as a 'tonic, piquant, absorbing and uplifting'—it's true, I did have a warm sensation in my stomach, but that was just the bile rising up inside of me. This is just one film that should have been left on the cutting room floor—the actors gave it their best, but sadly (?) the script let them down. What more can I say? Given a choice between seeing *Rambling Rose* and doing a week's washing up at London's busiest restaurant, I know which I'd choose...now where did I put the Fairy...?

Bill & Ben.

Invisible Maniac



This.. well, this video fails to fall within the blinkered confines of the word 'good' and 'bad' and invents a strange, vague classification all of its own. In fact, this would be a great opportunity to say 'transcends genre' except that I don't think it would be very appropriate. OK, if you want a pigeonhole, let's try exploitation movie par excellence.

We start with the eminently plausible premise that a psychopathic biophysicist takes up a teaching post in a remedial high school. Said gentleman has developed a serum which turns him into a - you guessed it - invisible maniac. Natch, he has a hangup of the nether regions which leads to the usual proliferation of garmentless women and a bit of violence; most of this is fairly pedestrian stuff, but hey! that's life, huh?

Anyway, there's not really a good reason to watch this vid, but there's a fair few bad ones, mostly to do



with hormones. It's ethically unsound and features a man choking to death on a French loaf sandwich, but don't let that put you off. I never liked French loaves much anyway. This is one of those bizarre films that was made to laugh at, even though it's completely straight all the way through. Probably best appreciated with taste circuits on low.

Next week, in this place, we move from sex 'n' violence to violence 'n' sex with *Street Asylum*!

The Flying Gerbil

NB: The photograph to the right of this review is not in any way associated with this film.

Cranes -ULU

Gig

Own up. How many of you were there? Shall I tell you? Four, and that includes my friend and I. One is not even at I.C. anymore, and the other would've gone anyway, regardless of what I said about them. Oh, I forgot. There was a bar extension on that night, wasn't there? And you came here to support the Ents team, didn't you? Sure. Well, we managed both. We have our loyalties too.

So, I suppose you're interested in what happened, then. You want me to tell you how great *Tomorrow's Tears* was. Well, it wasn't. It was the most sparse, beautiful, necessary piece of music I've ever heard live. As far as icons go, however, it isn't long before *Adoration* accedes it. The nature of this music is such that one almost becomes subservient to it, becomes part of it, and the desire to give myself over to it completely is frightening. *Cranes* are an instrumental band. They don't play 'songs'. Alison's voice, whatever you think of it, is not extraneous to the music; the only correct appraisal is that it is *Cranes'* sound. It is complete. As a visual spectacle, *Cranes* are stunning. Alison is quite

still, like her stillness is the only thing keeping the world together as the world, has another go at fragmenting. She cuts an impressively vulnerable figure centrestage while behind her, reels explore a ghost-child's nursery. Not a gig. Not a seance or a mass. Something other. There is some maniacal movement onstage from the other band members, but there's none of that awful lighters-in-the-air unity here. You're alone in a crowded room with a single religious experience all to yourself, and you're telling yourself that this is the way it should be; you're alienated and anti-social, but you're also right. Only you could feel like this.

Anyway, both before and after, the audience were funny. Hilarious. '*Cranes* are not a goth band'. I've lost count of how many people have said this, myself included. Strangely enough, though, barring the hacks, the entire audience is comprised of the original skeleton crew, all taken the day off so they could do their make-up and hair. What fun we had, a-laughin' and a-pointin'. It ain't undead anymore, it's very dead. Woe is me. Shall I, too, dye? Oh, Ha Ha. D'you think I'm taking coverage of *Cranes* to extremes? Think again; *Cranes* are extreme. And you? Well, you should start doing something with your life. Or just fucking get one.

David.



Spoonhead's Ego Trip

Oh dear. This is going to sound like a diatribe, a pathetic little tirade which will do nothing but enhance my reputation for being a sullen bastard. I hope those intentioned are reading this. Y'see, it has come to my attention that certain people seem to think I have an obsession with *Cranes*. Like I'm obsessed by Francis Bacon, Shelley, Wilde, Sisters of Mercy, Gauloises, young American girls, Kate Bush - shut up and calm down, David. You're ranting now. My ego, too.

Even allowing for hypocrisy here, I have nothing for them but a well-aimed 'Fuck You'. Life is about being obsessed by things - by beauty, religion, politics, art, a cliché like love. I don't mean to get didactic, my own cynicism gives me little room in this case, but what I admire about people with loves and hobbies is they get enthusiastic about what they do, whether it's looking at trains, carving wood ornaments, even being tied to a fucking bed and beaten senseless. There's a line from one of the *Tin*

Machine songs that goes 'You can't see me drowning, I don't see you swimming'. Comprenez?

What enamours life to me are the countless spices ingenious human beings throughout history have loaded it with. Socrates, Donne, Marlowe, even Kesey - the list is endless. Why make a point of eating it raw? It tastes fucking awful. For too many of you, alcohol is your only refuge; alcohol is not a refuge. If anything, it makes the whole sorry mess even worse. Does the scope of your vision amount to nothing more than the tenth observation of the bottom of your pint glass, sorry, tankard? Are you going to vindicate this bullshit? I'd like to hear from you. No. I'd love to. If I don't, At least I can be assured that you're the sad, pathetic cunts I thought you were.

David Spooner

P.S. I shall murder one student every hour, on the hour, until my *Cramps* ticket is returned to my desk. That goes for You too, flower. You know who You are.

Spitfire/Herb -IC Union

Gig

I've been told that I'm not very nice about many bands that play in this place. It's true. I do give them a slagging, but then again that's just an opinion. It's like filling up the photocopier really.

Herb are the best new band I've seen for six months, but even if they weren't, why were less than 100 tickets sold to over 6000 students. Tell me, please, are you just apathetic boring bastards, or what?

As for *Spitfire*, they were bearable, but they couldn't touch *Herb* for sheer class, but for three quid you can't go wrong anyway. Go on, live. Drop your wok and go for it. Yes, of course we do, it's not all work, work, work.

Lise Yates

25th of May What's Going On

12 Inch

I like this. Thought I'd better make it clear as I always get asked why I slag everything off, even though I don't. It's dancey in an indie sense, but faster than most.

The lyrics are supposedly 'right on' and I guess they are pretty catchy, delivered in a sort of white rap style that, nonetheless, maintains its funk. This tendency towards dance motifs does not carry much favour with me - yes, I don't really like indie records, but I guess what swayed me in this case was a hazy, hash-filled sunny sunday afternoon when I saw them live. They were sound (please excuse dodgy puns). My only gripe is that they were too smooth on the 12". Live they had a bit of an edge, the sound was rougher, the samples not so clean. Not much of a gripe, really.

So anyway, next time you cruise through the record shop on the lookout for some indie shite, pause, and buy *25th of May* instead. It's unlikely that you'll be disappointed.

Seb

North Point Park Middlesex Poly

Gig

To describe *North Point Park* as ropey is akin to describing *Weeks Hall* as slightly structurally unsound. They're terrible. Truly totally terrible. Truly terminally totally terrible. Still, this might just be an opinion of mine, and some people were actually dancing to it. Hell, if you don't believe me go and see them. Just don't invite me.

Lise Yates

Ce-Ce Peniston -Finally

Extreme -Decadence Dance

7 Inch

I'd like to rave about the great A&M singles I've had the fortune to receive. The first, *Ce Ce Peniston*, conjures up great images of huge, phallic, thrusting beats. No go, it's shite. Soul/dance crossover bullshit that will probably go down well with the Top of the Pops hand-clap crew. A real chart topper. Dom says it's great; 'A real garage classic'.

The other is extreme. The band, most definitely not the adjective. *Extreme* are crap. Glam Rock cliché, wild, thrusting, phallic guitar solos. It does sound good at 33 r.p.m., sort of Prong-ish, a real cock rock hero's record. Are they gay? it certainly sounds like it. This sort of band deserve all the chart success they can get, 'cause they've managed to perfect the over-produced, over-promoted sound that most guitar worshippers want these days.

If anyone can think of any reason why anyone could actually like either of these records send me the answer on a postcard to Felix, and you can have either, or even both of the singles.

Zanie

His Name is Alive -Home is in Your Head

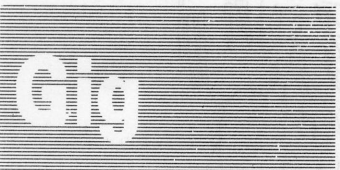
Heartthrobs -Total Abandon



I hate it when we get good records. Apart from the soul-destroying aspect of always saying nice things about them, it never seems that we can give them what they deserve. 1991 has been too good in a lot of ways, and this is epitomised by this e.p.: sharp, lush guitar pop, dreamy female vocals, kind of like the bunnymen adopting Vince Clarke's idiosyncrasies and sung by *The Sundays'* Harriet after smoking something very, very harsh. *Turn Away* has a cooler than most *Byrds* feel, but my fave is *Bright Green Day*, sumptuous and with a delicate hint of darkness, charmingly funereal. Arggh. A fine effort.

David.

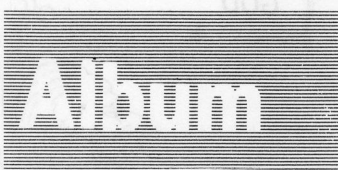
Paris Angels Brunel Academy



It's cold up North. Brunel Academy is about twenty miles within the arctic circle, and it's too cold to shiver. However, coming from Mancy, I expect *Paris Angels* are used to the cold. One of them, Jayne, the singer, however is not very well, and isn't here. Can they manage without her?

They start off okay enough, with *Scope* and *Fade*, but they don't really use her vocal on those records anyway, but later into the set, around about half way through, they run out of songs that don't require her vocals, and start to sound like a bad hybrid of the *Farm* and *Crappy Mondays*, which is precisely what they look like. *Perfume* is, on record, *Paris Angels* good song, like *Ride* have *Taste*, and *Blur* have *Bang*. However, without Jayne, *Perfume* is a shambolic mess which they would have been advised to forget about altogether. It's the aural equivalent of Evelyn Gardens. Full marks for trying, but the results are poor.

Lise Yates



Great. This is all I need now. A headlong rush into all conceivable psychodramas. *His Name is Alive* is the stubborn and enigmatic monicker for the brainchild of Warren Defever, a recent visitor to these waters (he's from Michigan) and one, to my lasting annoyance, who went back stateside before I could corner him. Damn clever move, David.

The opening track, 'are you coming down this weekend?' consists of this line being sung twice by the exquisitely somnolent voice of Karin Oliver and lasting for approximately ten seconds. I advise you to remember this; it's crucial to the whole plot. Twenty-five tracks in all, all minuscule, all oblique; but all hitting solid targets. Should I be concerned that this probably says more about me than the music? I think not. Empathy feels particularly uncomfortable as

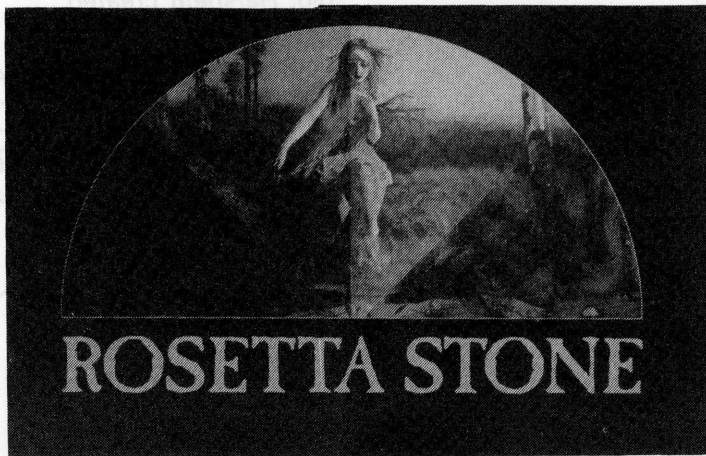
the stark, angelic voices intone the lines 'Does your chest explode all full of her? Where has your head gone (I should nail it to her door)'. 'The Charmer', sharply replaced by a fractured buzzsaw guitar and pounding drum patterns abruptly cut short and running into a fevered paranoia with 'There's something between us and he's changing my words'. This review is verging on the peripatetic, the psychotic and wholly insubstantial, but it's like a mirror, exploding into a million fragments and being pieced together again, but wrongly, and with each fragment still retaining its original image - a nightmarish jumble flaked with the spectre of serendipity, but nonetheless quite beautifully hideous (meant as a sincere compliment). I mean, I'd soon die alone than go through the horror of 'Are we still Married?'. Tranquillity becomes taut, angelic becomes evil, 'Chances are we are mad' is simultaneously terrifying and drowsy, a lull and lullaby that will kill you, and hypothermia with a disembodied vocal and plangent

acoustic guitar work laid over that demonic buzzsaw guitar. As we move through 'Sitting still moving still staring outlooking', there's another blood-chilling lyric around the corner; 'Now in fragments we're alone, there's a sliver in the soul, All I can remember since we splintered on our own'. 'Very Bad a Bitter Hand'. As the sudorific 'Spirit and Body' fires off on its missile trajectory, I feel marvellously guilty, truly insensitive, a contrived human being- 'seeing myself fall away only to be undying'- facing such a magnitude of sensitivity. Interpretation is everything, you know, but 'Home is in your Head' is everything interpreted and I'm willing to bet that I will not hear another record like this ever again in my lifetime.

Defever has presented me with something bizarre, wonderful, and thrilling, narcotic, hypnotic, always beautiful, always confusing. So I didn't get to interview him. So what. My home is his.

David.

Rosetta Stone -Underworld



What in the world possessed me to leave behind the drunken stupor of the Freshers New Year Party for the Arctic wastes of Camden? I could have been passing out quietly under a vile green cocktail instead of fighting for breath in the crowded throng and smoke. Was it worth it...?

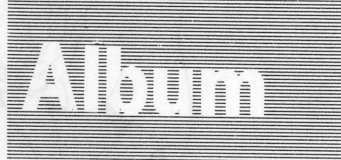
Monday at the Underworld. Dark and sleazy. Just like home. Tonight hosted the fabled *Rosetta Stone*. But first the hoards of the night were treated to *Restoration*, the greatest thing since *The Nephys* first emerged

from Badlands. They could be in for some serious competition with this band's progress.

But now, the *Rosetta* addicts could revel in their hour. With their first album out now, *Rosetta Stone* are maturing. Their sound is more complex and interesting as they entwine a new keyboard and guitar with complex modulations, leaving *Missionaries* to play 'Spot The Difference'. The single, *An Eye For The Main Chance*, is out now. The compelling open shines through to the contagious chorus. Guess what? I like this band! Go and see them at ULU on October 31th (All Hallow's Eve as they prefer to call it - no 'bad-g**h' pretensions here!) and you'll be envied for the rest of your days.

The Heretic

Erasure -Chorus



Chorus, the first *Erasure* album for two years came in an annoying digipak on CD. They get on my wick.

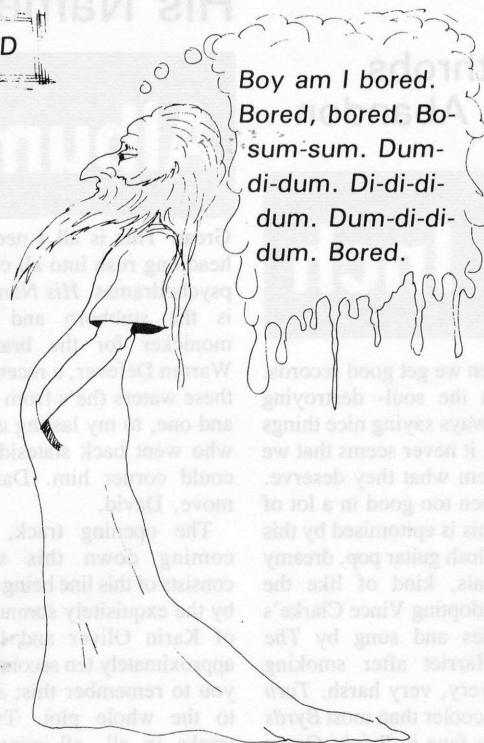
It signals a return to the bleak electropop of Vince Clarke's days with Yazoo, shying away from the comparatively lush orchestration of *Wild!*, with Andy Bell speaking more than singing through much of this album and with the bleeps and fizzes so much in evidence on the single present throughout the disc.

The title track is a masterpiece of green pop, but similar genius is only in evidence once more in the album. The first 'side' slips into mediocrity from then on, with no tracks of any great consequence. 'Side B' is better. The high chart placing of 'Love to Hate You' directly relates to the state of the charts today, as it is the worst single that *Erasure* have ever released. 'Turns the love to anger' is better, but the only time *Erasure's* spark really returns is in the penultimate track 'Perfect Stranger', and if this isn't a single, mute records deserve to be eaten alive. *Chorus* could have been so good, but it only shines occasionally.

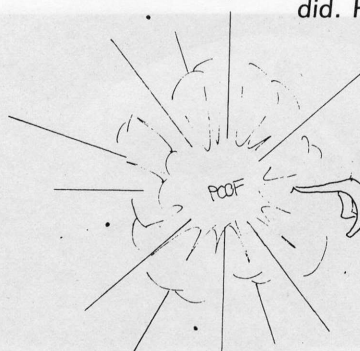
Lise Yates.



So, like any other God, living in nothing soon made him..... well, let's just say crazy.

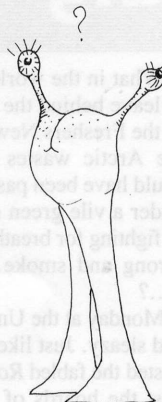
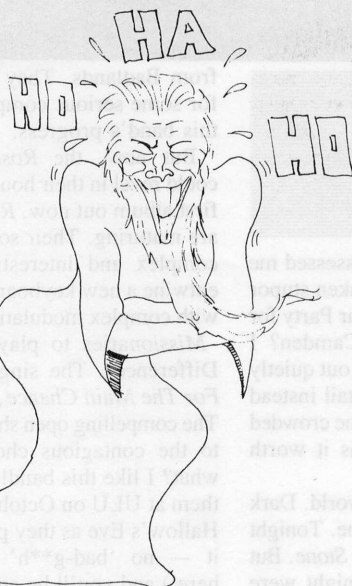


Thus, after divine revelation, God (in 7 days) created the universe so that he/she/it can have toys to play with. And that, he/she/it did. He/she/it created.....



Super Novas

Weird creatures

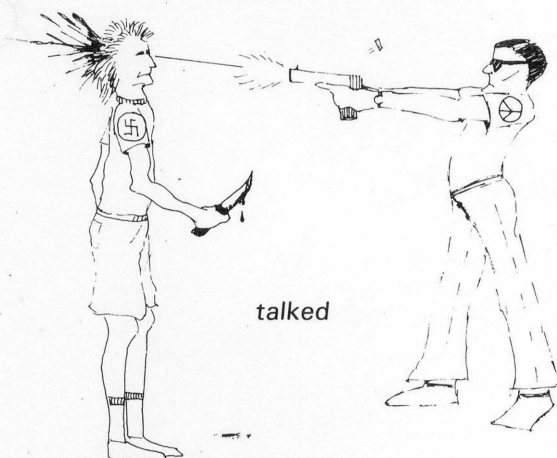


But he/she/its favourite toy was
those ugly creatures from the planet,

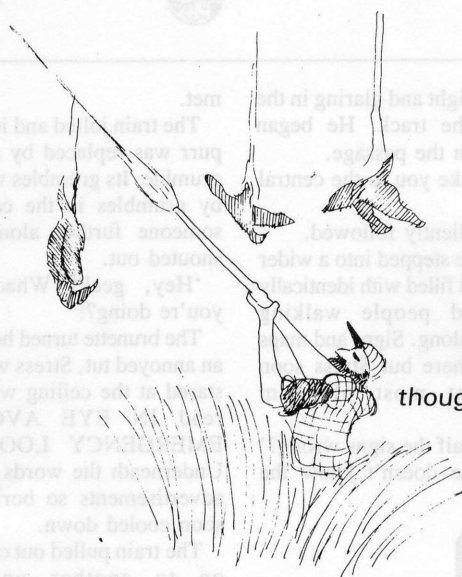
He/she/it loved the way they.....



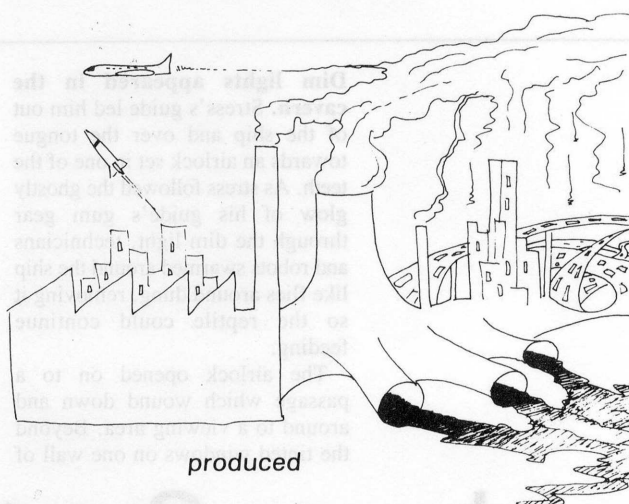
Earth



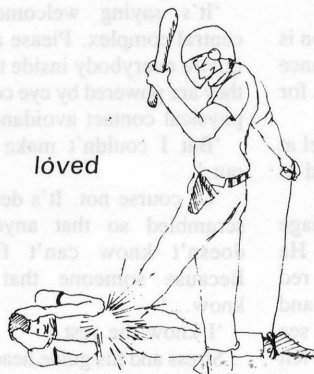
talked



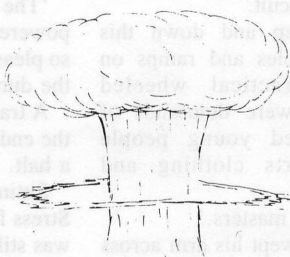
thought



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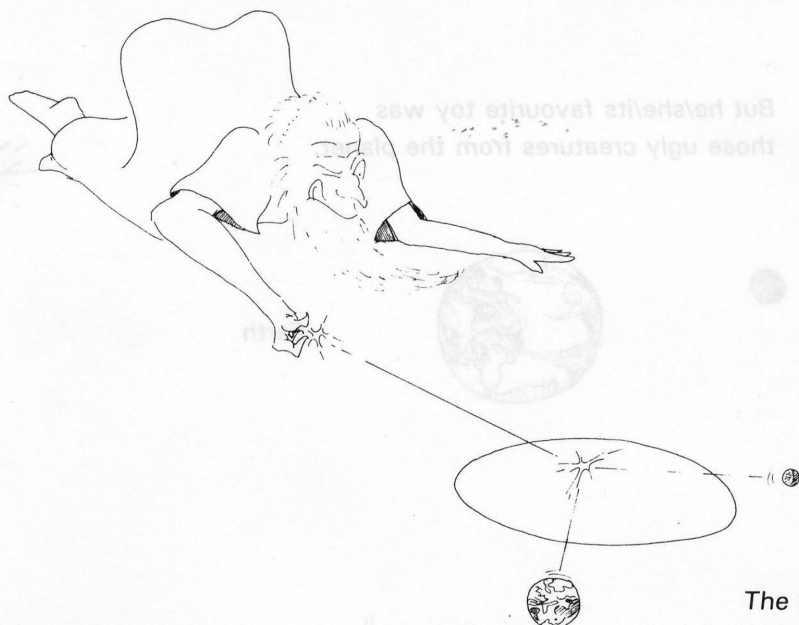


played



UNTIL ONE DAY

THE BATTERIES RAN OUT



The End

Dim lights appeared in the cavern. Stress's guide led him out of the ship and over the tongue towards an airlock set in one of the teeth. As stress followed the ghostly glow of his guide's gum gear through the dim light, technicians and robots swarmed around the ship like flies around dung, removing it so the reptile could continue feeding.

The airlock opened on to a passage which wound down and around to a viewing area. Beyond the tinted windows on one wall of

teeth were bright and glaring in the light from the track. He began walking down the passage.

'I'll now take you to the central complex.'

Stress obediently followed.

The passage stepped into a wider passage lit and filled with identically grey clothed people walking purposefully along. Signs and maps were everywhere but Stress soon realised that most of them contradicted.

'Why are half the signs wrong?'

'If someone doesn't know the

met.

The train jolted and its contented purr was replaced by an annoyed grumble. Its grumbles were echoed by grumbles in the carriage and someone further along the row shouted out.

'Hey, geek! Whaddya think you're doing?!'

The brunette turned her head with an annoyed tut, Stress went red and stared at the ceiling where a sign read IN EYE AVOIDANCE EMERGENCY LOOK HERE. Underneath the words there were advertisements so boring that he soon cooled down.

The train pulled out of the tunnel on to another underground platform. As the doors slid open an announcer started speaking.

'WEHglaksergy. LAHEKRH. FGHSehglshgrtuihsdfk, fdjshghvrea-seas.' Stress strained to listen but could make nothing out.

'What is it saying?'

The guide turned and smiled, avoiding his gaze.

'It's saying welcome to the central complex. Please avoid and ignore everybody inside the lifts as they are powered by eye contact and physical contact avoidance.'

'But I couldn't make anything out.'

'Of course not. It's deliberately scrambled so that anyone who doesn't know can't find out. Because someone that doesn't know...'

'I know the rest.'

Stress and his guide headed to the lifts and kept as far as possible away from everyone else until they were allowed out. A quick walk out through double doors and they were before the central complex.

The Inner System

Written by Troy

Tempest

Chapter 3.

Confusion.

The story gets somewhat more peculiar.

the passage, two wide tracks stretched off into the distance in a massive tunnel hung with bright ultra-violet lights. Small tracks came off the main two and disappeared down passages on the right and left. Just below where they stood the two main tracks curved around and joined to form a massive rectangular circuit.

Swarming up and down this track, over holes and ramps on strange impractical wheeled contraptions, were thousands of heavily tanned young people wearing sports clothing and sunglasses.

'Behold our masters.'

The guide swept his arm across the view.

'They're the rulers of this place?'

'Definitely.'

'So they tell you what to do?'

'Ah, no. You misunderstand me. We, the greys, organise things so that the tanned ones can have the best possible time.'

'The guide smiled again. His

way then they don't have the right information and no one sane gives away free information. The signs are there to weed out the weak and indecisive.'

The guide followed signs marked rubbish pit and emerged on a platform stuffed with greys.

The guide cautioned Stress.

'The train we are travelling on is powered by eye contact avoidance so please look away from faces for the duration of the journey.'

A train came out of the tunnel at the end of the platform and slid to a halt. They got on.

Sitting down inside the carriage Stress felt very uncomfortable. He was still in the bright blue and red spacesuit of Earth's space fleet and was clashing so badly with the sea of grey uniforms around him he felt bruised. The train got going.

Glancing around aimlessly Stress noticed an attractive brunette a few seats along the carriage. He couldn't take his eyes off her and as the girl turned her head their eyes

Now that Freshers' Week is over you have time to sit back and think about your life as a student in terms other than who you are going out with tonight. This is the time when real issues such as your health and welfare should be considered. That's why the Union has organised the Welfare Week in order to give you as much information as possible about health and welfare issues so that you can make informed decisions about how you are going to run the rest of your life.

There are several different methods used to relay this information. Seminars are the best method for finding out: There are four of these based on different issues and will be given by experts from Riverside Health Authority. The health fair on Tuesday and

finance and budgeting fair on Thursday will give you a chance to look at displays, pick up leaflets and ask about anything you're unsure of. There will be a poster display all week in the JCR with posters informing you of all the topics covered during Welfare Week. Once you've studied this material there will be a test—the bar quiz on Wednesday is for teams and will be

covering the lesser known health issues! To round off the whole week and give you a chance to try out a bit of healthy living, the Union Bar and Snack Bar are running promotions. All hot veggie dishes will be £1 and soft drinks are 50p a pint. It takes very little effort to gain something from Welfare Week so try it out—you never know, you may learn something.

Welfare Week '91

FREE EVENTS & PROMOTIONS LIST

All Week Monday 28th to Friday 1st

Poster display in Junior Common Room. Vegetarian hot meals only £1.00 in Union Snack Bar, soft drinks (Coke, Fanta etc) only 50p a pint in Union Bar, orange juice only 60p a pint in Union.

Monday 28th

12-2pm—Giving up Smoking Seminar in the Union Dining Hall.
7pm—Blues Band in the Union Lounge Bar.
Sol promotion—£1 a bottle in Union Bars.

Tuesday 29th

11-3pm—Health Fair in Junior Common Room
12-2pm—Stress & Relaxation Seminar in UDH

Wednesday 30th

7pm—Welfare Bar Quiz in Union Lounge Bar
Disco in Union Ents Lounge

Thursday 31st

11-3pm—Finance & Budgeting Fair in JCR
12-2pm—Healthy Eating and Budget Seminar in UDH
7pm—Hallowe'en Disco in Union Lounge

Friday 1st

9.30am—Blood Donating in Southside Gym
12-2pm—Alcohol Awareness Seminar in UDH
7pm—Comedy Night in Union Lounge and Cocktail Night in the Union Bars.

Seminars

Giving Up Smoking
Monday 28th, 12-2pm, UDH

This seminar will be looking at the influences which affect a smoker and looking at the strategies available to stop. It will give you a chance to consider yourself as a smoker and think about yourself as a non-smoker. There will also be information about smoking clinics run locally.

Stress & Relaxation

Partly practical and partly discussion, this seminar will look at practical ways to relieve stress and techniques to manage your time more effectively will also be covered.

Healthy Eating on a Budget
Thursday 31st, 12-2pm, UDH

This seminar, run by a nutritionist will look at how you can eat well and maintain a good nutritional balance on a low income such as the student grant.

Alcohol Awareness Seminar
Friday 1st, 12-2pm, UDH

This is an introduction to alcohol awareness. It is not designed to give support for participants who have a drinking problem, this can be gained from the Health Centre. The seminar will look at the alcohol units in a variety of drinks and will consider the weekly intake of its participants.

Next week is Imperial College Union 'Welfare Week'. The philosophy is to encourage students to look after themselves.

OPENING HOURS OF WELFARE OFFICE

for personal callers (no appointment necessary)		
	am	pm
Monday	11.00-1.00	2.00-6.30
Tuesday	10.30-1.00	2.00-5.00
Wednesday	closed	2.00-5.00
Thursday	10.30-1.30	2.00-5.00
Friday	closed all day	
telephone enquiries		
	Monday	11.00-6.30
	Tues-Fri	10.30-5.30

1. Health Centre

This stall is concerned with services that the Health Centre has to offer. There will be a representative present who can advise students on many matters including family planning, abortion, sexually transmitted diseases and many other issues including:

2. Nightline

Nightline was formed twenty years ago by students at Imperial to provide a confidential listening and information service for students. Today we cover most London Colleges and Polytechnics with our volunteers being recruited from all these institutions.

- Exercise helps you feel good
- It's good fun
- It helps you feel energetic
- It helps you relax
- It helps you stay slim
- It keeps you supple
- It helps strengthen muscles
- It helps your heart work more

A Guide to the Fair

Make use of the stalls to get fit, stop smoking and improve your sex life.

Testing for HIV

When the body is infected with Aids, it reacts by producing antibodies which can be detected in the blood. If a test produces a positive result, i.e. HIV Positive. However, a negative result does not necessarily mean that a person has not got the virus. Antibodies take, on average two to three months to develop, so if you think you may have contracted Aids over the last few months it may be too early for them to show up on the test.

The decision about whether or not you have the Aids Test needs careful thought. Just having the test, whatever the result, can affect your chance of getting life assurance. If you feel that you would like to have a test, for peace of mind, you can discuss it with the representative from the Health Centre.

The Smear Test

Cervical Cancer kills 2,000 women every year in the UK, with the vast majority never having had a cervical smear test. The disease is however, nearly always preventable, which is why it is so important that any woman who has ever had sexual intercourse should have a cervical smear test.

The earlier you start having sexual intercourse, the greater the risk of developing cervical cancer. Using a barrier method of contraception, like a condom or diaphragm, every time you have sex will help to protect the cervix from possible infection by viruses, and may thus reduce the risk.

Cancer of the cervix can be prevented if changes in the cells which precede it are treated. A cervical smear test will determine whether the cells are normal or not and if the smear is 'abnormal' further investigation will take place. It is very important that women have regular smear tests every three to five years—so if you would like to find out more about having a cervical smear test the representative from the Health Centre will be able to advise.

The service that we provide every night of term from 6pm to 8am is twofold: firstly we will listen in a non-judgemental and non-directive manner providing you with a chance to sort out how you feel or what you want to do when faced with a difficult situation; secondly, and of equal importance, is our information service on anything from What's On in London or train times to contraception issues or late night chemists.

Call us any night of term on 071-436 5561 or, if you want to help, the see us at the fair.

3. Alcohol

What's wrong with having a drink now and then?

Probably nothing, if that's what it is—having a drink now and then.

There are many reasons why we drink. Most people say the drink to enjoy themselves and to help them relax with family or friends. Others say they drink because there's nothing better to do, or they're depressed. It could be anything.

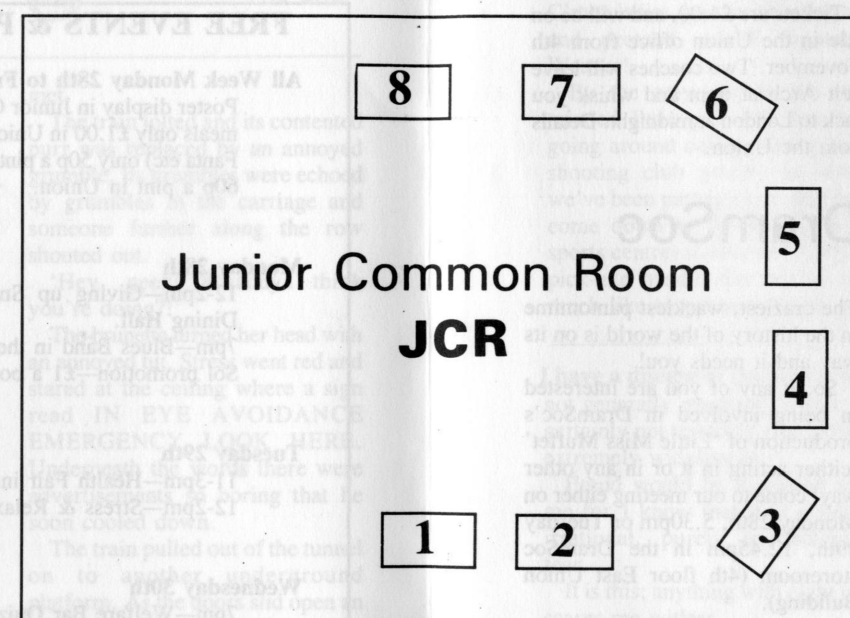
Drinking is all about being sociable, but it depends on how much and why you drink. If you don't go over the limit then you can probably be more lively and friendly. But it's obvious, usually at a pub or party, who's had too much to drink because they really aren't worth talking to! They either make total idiots of themselves or end up in a fight.

If you want to enjoy drinking you need to be aware of when you've had enough? Counting your alcohol 'units' is a good way to watch your drinking habits. Find out more about alcohol and the limits at the Health Fair. There is also a computer analysis game on alcohol which, with your unit control score, will tell you what affect your drinking is having on your body and your pocket.

4. Exercise

Why bother exercising?

Plan



WALKWAY

Key

Health Fair-Tuesday 29th

1. Health Centre
2. Nightline
3. Alcohol
4. Exercise
5. Healthy Eating
6. Smoking
7. Stress
8. Welfare Office

efficiently, improve circulation and helps protect against heart disease

- It gets easier the more you do

These are just some of the reasons

for exercising. If you want to find out how fit you are then come along to the exercise stand, where you'll have the opportunity to do some exercise and check your heart rate.

5. Healthy Eating

A brief guide to healthy eating:

- Cut down on fat, sugar and salt
- Eat more fibre-rich foods
- Eat plenty of fresh fruit and veg
- Get plenty of variety

But how do you know if your diet is really healthy and how do you set about changing your diet? This stall has information and advice to help

6. Smoking

There is no magic way to give up smoking. People find their own ways to give up, but many ex-smokers, both heavy and light smokers have found this general advice helpful.

1. Prepare yourself. Think about when and where you usually have a cigarette. Once you've stopped smoking, these times and places are going to be the danger spots, so work out how you are going to deal with them.

2. Pick a day. Set a target day for giving up. Make it a day when you will not be under much stress.

3. Stop. Give up and don't smoke any cigarettes. Take one day at a time. Every day without a cigarette is a success.

Nine out of ten ex-smokers gave up entirely on their own. But if you've tried before and found it very difficult you might find one of these aids helpful: nicotine chewing gum (available on prescription only) other chewing gums and tables, acupuncture or hypnosis, you could also come along to the Giving Up Smoking Seminar on Friday.

7. Stress

Do you suffer from any of the following symptoms?

1. Tension
2. Sleeping difficulties
3. Nightmares
4. Depression
5. Muscular symptoms
6. Cardiovascular symptoms
7. Respiratory symptoms
8. Increased smoking or drinking

All of these are stress-related problems and you may be suffering from stress without realising. The Health Fair has a stall completely devoted to stress, come along and talk to an expert or to one of the stress relaxation sessions that have been organised.

8. Welfare Office

At some stage of your time at Imperial College you may need advice or information and not know where to turn. The answer could well be waiting at the Welfare Advisory Service. Situated in the Union Office in Beit Quad, Stefano Ruis, the Union Welfare Adviser is available to answer your questions, see page eleven for opening times.

Finance & Budgeting-Thursday 31st

1. Welfare Service
2. Jane McNichol from Davis & Chapman
3. Barclays Bank
4. Midland Bank
5. Royal Bank of Scotland
6. Abbey National

you improve what you eat. There will be displays showing the nutritional content of popular foods and food available in college, and also free recipe leaflets.

Most of us are in debt. We may have a credit card, a storecard, an overdraft or may get credit from the fuel companies and BT by paying bills on a quarterly basis. A recent survey found that only 15% of adults knew what an Annual Percentage Rate (APR) was, suggesting that many take out credit with no understanding of what it may cost them.

Debt is nothing new to students. Figures compiled by the National Union of Students (NUS) show it was almost impossible for students with no extra income beyond a full grant and full student loan to stay

Employment. This phenomenon is by no means limited to overseas students—a survey compiled last autumn found that more than a tenth of university undergraduates have to combine study with employment during term time in order to finance their way through higher education.

It is impossible to predict accurately how much a student will need to live on each week or each month. Given the variety of lifestyles, course requirements, housing costs, travel expenses and of course the amount of money available, to suggest a figure would be meaningless. To make the most

Money Matters

in credit last year. Soaring rent levels in London push the resources of the capital's students to their limits. Coupled with the high cost of living, many find it difficult to make ends meet and so get into debt sooner rather than later.

If you are a home student, studying for your first degree, then you are likely to be getting either a mandatory award, a discretionary award or an allowance from the Training Commission.

Grants have been frozen this year, following the introduction of student loans which are designed to supplement the basic grant. From now on, the basic student maintenance grant will remain at 1990/91 levels; the loan element, meanwhile, will increase each year until it forms 50% of the grant income. If you are a home student, on a full-time undergraduate course and aged less than 50 when the course began a loan is automatically on offer. The most you can borrow this year is £660 (£460 if you live at home; final year students cannot borrow as much though) and applications are limited to one per year per student. More information can be found in the leaflet 'Student Grants and Loans' available from ICU's Welfare Office.

Financial problems are not solely restricted to home undergraduate students. With the withdrawal of benefits from most full-time students it is likely that postgraduates will also feel the pinch. Overseas students, meanwhile may have very limited funding or be self-financing. The high prices to be found in London have meant that many must seek to supplement their limited income, often by seeking part-time work having obtained prior permission from the Department of

of what you have got though, you may want to do your own budgeting calculations. In this way you can estimate your expenditure over the year, though you should bear in mind that monthly (or weekly) outgoings will not necessarily be uniform. By setting aside a small amount of time each week to work out your finances you may find you avoid problems later on in the term. This is by no means ideal for everyone though and care should be taken to find a system that suits you. If you need to go into debt though, however large or small the amount, it is a good idea to speak with your bank manager *before* he or she asks to see you.

For those that do get into financial difficulty, it is worth bearing in mind that by taking advice early you may then avoid more complicated problems later on. If you do experience financial problems and this is having an affect on your studies you should always keep your personal tutor informed. This way any extenuating circumstances can be taken into account when your work is assessed. If you need advice contact the Union Welfare Office for help. Whatever you do, don't try to cope alone with what can be a very upsetting and demoralising experience.

Remember that debt is rarely caused by irresponsible behaviour. The biggest single factor leading to financial difficulty is a sudden reduction in income and the consequent difficulties in meeting commitments. Alternatively, an unexpected increase in your essential needs may require additional expenditure. Help yourself by seeking advice as early as you can.

Making Sense of Suffering

Some years ago "The Times" of London asked a number of leading writers to comment on the question "What is wrong with the world?" G.K. Chesterton replied:

Dear Sirs, I am. G.K. Chesterton.

Many would use human suffering as an argument against the Christian faith - "How can your good God stand by while so many suffer?". There is no easy answer for this question, but it can be asserted that the existence of suffering actually supports the Christian view of Life.

Firstly, let us be clear that the experience of suffering as something wrong or evil is a challenge to God's nature rather than his existence. Why? Because it argues for design and purpose. There cannot be wrong without right, evil without good or disorder without a standard for order. The "right" or "normative" must come

First an observation. If God were to eliminate the evil in the world, He would have eliminated man. Much suffering is inflicted by man and much of the good that could be done is neglected by man. Children are addicted to drugs due to the exploitation by adults. Humans are starving whilst others gorge themselves despite there being enough food to feed the entire population of the Earth adequately. from outside the system. If we had no sense of good, we couldn't understand evil; leaving what we call suffering, happiness and good as phenomena of different varieties and not relative to each other.

This leaves us with the question, "Is God malicious, inflicting suffering on us after having created us to yearn for something else?", or "Is He feeble and someone unable to deal competently with the world that He created?".

Where is the human who has never been a cause of suffering to another?

Perhaps the chief cause of suffering is man himself. Perhaps in accusing God, we accuse ourselves. Perhaps God allows this disorder - even that not directly attributable to humans such as disease - to point out to us that the disorder lies in us, to call us from our moral apathy to the one who alone can cure us.

If you are interested in knowing more we are running a series of talks and discussions on the key facts and issues of Christianity on Tuesdays 12.30pm in Electrical Engineering 403B, or contact me via my pigeon hole. This week (Tues 29th) we will be asking the question can we make sense of suffering and attempting to provide some possible answers.

Ben Quant

Bonfires

Remember last year's Guy Fawkes party? Silwood Park, the IC field station in deepest, darkest Royal Berkshire plays host once again to a spectacular night's celebration of the notorious traitor with the pointy beard. Come along on November 8th and we'll have the solemn torchlit procession behind the Guy, then liven the night up with shedloads of dazzling fireworks and a huge bonfire. We've got the sumptuous Knyves and Fawkes barbecue, followed by a happenin' live band and of course the legendary Disco 'til You Die. Make this a party to remember, and bring all of your friends. Don't forget your sparklers!

Tickets are £4.00, and will be on sale in the Union office from 4th November. Two coaches will leave Beit Arch at 6pm and whisk you back to London at midnight. Details from the Union.

Robocop 2

7pm, Tuesday 29th Oct, Mech Eng 220

Yes, he's back. No not Mr Uzi 9mm. We're talking about that ultra-modern Knight of the streets, Mr Kinky Metal-Wear aka Robocop. As well as waging war on a drugs gang he also has another battle on his hands - the inner conflict between human and machine.

The musical score for the film was composed by Leonard Roseman, who has scored such films as 'Star Trek IV', 'Fantastic Voyage', 'Beneath the Planet of the Apes', 'Battle for the Planet of the Apes', plus an episode of the 'Twilight Zone' to mention a few. Roseman wrote the Robo-theme to present Murphy's (Peter Weller) current mechanical body and his ever-hidden human soul. To top it all Murphy is threatened by a robot designed by OCP to replace him!

Joining ICSF - the Imperial College Science Fiction society - couldn't be easier. Just turn up with £2.50 either at the film or the ICSF library (lunchtimes) and we'll do the rest. Membership lets you see one film free, whereas if you've already seen a film this year, then £1 will get you in.

Be seeing you!

STOIC

Imperial college, quite apart from being the best scientific university in Europe, is extremely lucky to have STOIC (Student Television Of Imperial College) to complement internal media.

STOIC has been broadcasting within IC for 22 years and now it has a well equipped studio on the top floor of the Union building. It also has an enthusiastic membership who work hard to produce a diversity of programmes from 'Going for Coppers' (made in traditional quiz show style) to regular news broadcasts.

STOIC can be received by all the halls in Prince's Gardens, the Junior Common Room and the Union building televisions. This gives rise to some technical nightmares as STOIC is in fact 'Cable TV'. Hundreds of meters of cable running under the streets of South Kensington, and constantly seeking attention, are, in reality, the arteries of STOIC.

With a new influx of budding producers, editors, news-readers and technicians this term, STOIC is now looking to increase output and variety. Documentaries concerning the London Underground and London's Night Spots are being considered, along with more spots for the news and an investigative 'Cook Report' type programme. Maybe Imperial College could soon be home to the fifth, national television station!

TWF

Third World First is certainly one of the more globally aware and environmentally sensitive societies at college. They have several interesting campaigns lined up for the coming year. The society mainly aims to add to the "technological" minds of IC students by informing them about what happens outside their sheltered environment.

The first meeting of the term was sparked with exciting debates. (The flapjacks were good too!) Some of the issues raised included the present 'Nestle' policy, which is leading to the malnourishment of millions of babies where clean water is a problem. The current high interest loan policies of the major international banks, Barclays, Natwest etc, were also criticised, since these are helping to reinforce debt in the developing countries.

For anyone vaguely community conscious or interested in broadening their outlook, the Third World First society is a must. At 50p only, the membership is the lowest around. Talks are held on Thursdays at the Clubs Committee Room from 12-2pm. Weekly meetings are at the Southside Upper Lounge at 12.45pm on Thursdays. (So you'd better split yourself into two halves, so that you can attend both meetings at the same time - Ed)

DramSoc

The craziest, wackiest pantomime in the history of the world is on its way and it needs you!

So, if any of you are interested in being involved in DramSoc's production of 'Little Miss Muffet' (either acting in it or in any other way) come to our meeting either on Monday 28th, 5.30pm or Tuesday 29th, 12.45pm in the DramSoc storeroom (4th floor East Union Building).

November Open

The Snooker Club is holding its main competition of this term—the 'November Open', beginning in November! A trophy is up for grabs for the winner, with cash prizes for losing finalists and semi-finalists.

All those members who wish to take part can do so by coming to the Snooker Room (top floor Union Building) and putting forward their names (competition fee is £2). Deadline for entries is 1.30pm Monday 4th November.

If you are not a member and you want to take part in the 'November Open' then see any committee member at any lunchtime (membership fee £5).

Shahzad Saleem (Secretary)

Rifle Club

For a trial period, at a sports centre near you, the shooting club will be opening on Thursday lunchtimes (12.30 - 2.00pm) to shoot rifles. Yes, rifle shooting has finally started. No previous experience is necessary and anyone who proves to be even halfway good at it will probably end up on the rifle team. (We have some matches approaching).

Incidentally, this isn't just a message to all the blokes out there. Shooting is one of the truly equal opportunity sports. All that is required is the ability to lie still, concentrate and move one finger. All the universities we shoot against have mixed teams, so why not us? C'mon ladies, join the shooting club and pretend you're Sigourney Weaver!

By the way, would the petty minded little git, who has been going around college taking down shooting club posters as fast as we've been putting them up, like to come down to the range (in the sports centre) sometime. There's a pick-axe handle that would very much like to get acquainted.

FilmSoc

For Halloween, the Filmsoc presentation will be Stephen King's excellent thriller, *Misery*. The story concerns a best selling author (James Caan), who is rescued from a car accident in the middle of nowhere by his number one fan (Kathy Bates). She nurses him better, but discovers her favourite character is being killed off in the next novel. Being a rather unstable person she resorts to rather drastic measures to ensure that the book is re-written. Kathy Bates received a well-deserved oscar for her performance. I'm sure she didn't threaten any of the judges with her sledgehammer, which she puts to rather painful use in the film. The show starts at 7.30pm in Mech Eng 220, Thursday 31 October.

The first film is free for new members (membership £6), otherwise it's 80p for members and £1.80 for non-members. We're also on the lookout for some people to help out on the committee, if you're interested, please could you come along a bit earlier and find out what it would involve.

Imperial: A Godless College

This is the title of the talk that will be given by the founder of the T.H. Huxley Society, Michael Newman, on Thursday at 12.45 in Huxley (!!!) 340. We are a Humanist society - so why are we called the Huxley Society? And why this title for the talk? Moreover, what is Humanism?

Humanism is an attitude to life that is based on atheism or agnosticism (Huxley coined this word), but which goes further than this negative statement of non-belief. Humanists believe that life is all that we can be sure about and that therefore we should strive to make our lives and those of others as good as possible. The Humanist philosophy started in ancient Greece with Protagoras and has developed since, greatly aided by the advent of rationalism and science... and now there is an International Humanist Movement.

The Humanist movement campaigns for, amongst other things: Human Rights, freedom of speech, secularising state institutions and laws (eg Sunday Trading), equality, abortion,

voluntary euthanasia. However, the movement is not well known or represented and consequently the religious lobby has a much greater influence on society.

Huxley was a great figure in the history of IC. he was also a great scientist (and was Darwin's "Bulldog") and "liberal" educator. He was also a great Humanist, and it was for these reasons that Huxley is the "symbol" of the IC humanist Society. He, and others in the IC Humanist tradition, would be surprised to find that in this science college there are so many people in the various religious groups - especially the Christian Union! There must be more Humanists "out there"... if so, our society will represent your views.

So, are you a Humanist? Do you know enough about Humanism to decide? Do you know what the Huxley Society is really all about? Come along to the meeting and find out, and hear a talk about the Humanist (and especially IC) tradition and its future, and then we'll adjourn to the Union bar!

I have a disease of the mind. It is not generally regarded as serious, certainly not terminal, and yet it is extremely widespread.

Freud would be disgusted with me for I know that it is a totally irrational, purely psychological fear.

It is this; anything with eight legs scares me witless.

Why should this be? I know that spiders cannot hurt me and yet the sight of one more than about a quarter of an inch in leg radius requires my use of a mains pacemaker.

I have a theory as to why this should be the case, and I believe that for too long the simple arachnid

has been seriously underestimated.

I urge the reader (who may suffer from a similar affliction) to consider the following points:

Primarily, why do the damn things always turn up at the least expected moment. Recently, I moved a small pile of housebricks by hand, fully expecting a black hairy thing to leap out at me at any moment. However, no such creature emerged (unless next door's cat is classed as such). That evening, I was sitting in the lounge at home when one walked across the wall about three feet away from me, so big it was pulling the plaster off the wall. What the hell was it doing in there?

Secondly, why do they get so big? Is there any need for this? Is it caused by nuclear fallout from Chernobyl, creating a mutant race of super-spiders? I think it is just pure vindictiveness for they know that this is one area in which size is important.

Thirdly, why do they never

manifest themselves until you need to go within millimetres of them, urgently? For example, for months you could use the lavatory without thinking about it. And then, one day, you get caught short on the tube, dash home with a bladder the size of a beach ball, and what is sitting on the rim of the toilet grinning at you?

I don't like killing animals of any kind. I won't kill an insect knowingly. But spiders are different. Below a certain size it's me or them—they have to go. Above a certain size and they are quite safe, because I'm not going near them.

In what is supposed to be a planet dominated by the human race, there are certain small creatures that can control our lives (well, mine, at least). This cannot be a coincidence. I think they know of their powers and are working at this very moment to overthrow humanity. They wouldn't have to try too hard in my case.

Arachnophobia



Oh, and another thing. They run so bloody fast. And they can disguise themselves as tomato crowns and sit on the kitchen floor. The one thing I am grateful for at the moment is that they can't fly. Yet.

Paul Davison, Physics 2.

Postgraduate Students

Interested in classical music?

Would you like to help with Music Library work from 10am to 12noon, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays?

Pay: £3.00 per hour
Contact: Janet Smith
(Haldane Librarian)
ext 3071

More Money Raised by IC Rag

Hiya, it's Penguin the Rag Chairman (again). Well last Saturday was The Great Sightseeing Challenge and let's not beat about the bush, it certainly was Great. There were over 80 people taking part and we raised £1,400 for UNICEF, who in case you haven't heard help bundles of kiddies in poor counties; well worth a good donation any day.

So UNICEF were happy and we were happy. But what were we actually happy about? Well the general idea was a Sightseeing Tour around London but with the slight catch that you only got told where the next sight was when you had completed a small, but definitely amusing challenge. So we ended up with teams piggy-backing around the Cutty Sark, dancing on bus shelters outside BBC TV Centre and trying to obtain items of ladies' underwear outside St Paul's Cathedral.

As only about 80 people took part, a lot of people have already asked me if I was disappointed with such a drop in numbers from the 250+ that participated in Monopoly. On the contrary, I was more than pleased with the turn out. There had been a ULU all-nighter the night before, it was the first day of the freeze-your-wotsits-off weather and the Biology department were off on a field-trip. Despite all this, 80 people went out, had a really fun day in the cold and raised a lot of money for a worthy charity in the process. That's what Rag's all about and I'm happy. My only regret is that more of you didn't take part in what proved to be a great day. Ah well, you'll know for next time.

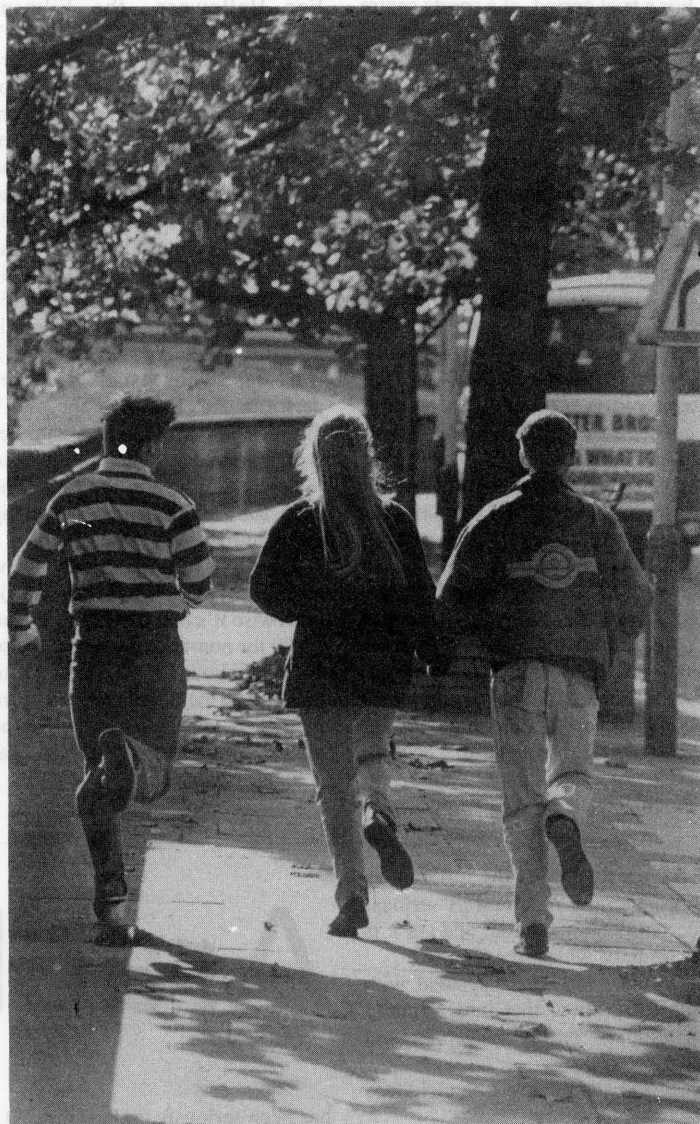
The winning team would have been that led by last year's top

collector Martin Heighway, but due to personally fiddling with the penalties awarded to his team, the team were disqualified. Many members of the team did however pick up prizes for the amount that they raised on the day. There were, as a result, 3 winning teams: The Bloody Well Should Be In France; Phyllis (With Biological Action) and The Einsteins. They will all receive prizes, including an A to Z Guide of London each, an invaluable accessory for any London student, 15 of which A to Z kindly donated.

In the evening a load of Rags from other universities around the country descended on Imperial for a party organised by UNICEF. The evening was a great social event and it was good to see most of our collectors attending. Southampton had the largest turnout of the day, with about 150 students. This meant that the female to male ratio was the largest that I've ever seen in the Union Snack Bar. Southampton raised about £1,800 during the day, which proves that on a total per head we can still come out best. Many thanks go to all that helped on the day, but special thanks must go to Laurie, Beccy and Aled whose jobs as marshals were made considerably harder than others by lack of company in the cold weather.

There were a great deal of ways that the event could have been improved, but for a first attempt I'm really pleased with its success. It's definitely something that we'll do again.

P.S. It was good to see two of the Union Sabbaticals helping as marshals and enjoying themselves in the process.



Sightseers on the run again.

That's more or less all the big Rag events over for now. There are, however, for those of you with a taste for what Rag's about, enough things for you to take part in until Rag Week arrives. (Read the article if you haven't already.)

Today, presuming that you're reading this on Friday, you take part in our City of London Pub Crawl. Armed with a Rag Can (collecting box), the idea is for teams of up to 4 to locate 8 pubs within the City, collecting from rich folk on the way. You can register either at today's Rag Meeting (Union Lounge, 12.40pm), at the Union Office during the afternoon, or at the Rag Office from 5.30pm onwards. For those serious about either drinking, collecting or just having fun, it's a must.

On Sunday, we have a collecting licence for Covent Garden Market.

You really must be in fancy dress, but that hasn't been a problem for many people at previous events. If you're interested come to the Rag Meeting today or contact me on Saturday on Fisher Hall ext 406.

After all this, there's Hallowe'en (college fun), Bonfire Night (a quick collection before the fireworks at Battersea) and the Poppy Day collection (Sat 9th Nov) followed in the evening by a Leukaemia Research Pub Crawl.

So, Be Mad, Be Silly & Be Part Of It! Cheers

PENGUIN - Rag Chair 91/92

P.S. Don't forget, there's our Rag meeting every Friday in the Union Lounge at 12.40pm. Everybody's welcome, so come along and find out how to get roped into helping organise and take part in all of what Rag has to offer this year.



Raggies visit Buck House.

Rag Week - Three Weeks to Go

A real Rag week is something that very few people at college have probably experienced, even if you have been here for a couple of years already. In past years the college has not witnessed the levels of sheer stupidity and general disruption normally associated with that one special week in the year. It has instead seen Rag put on a week (or, as during last year, 14 days) of events with a couple of services, like flanning and grim-reaping, in a very minor role.

THIS YEAR all that's changing. Already people have got the bit between the teeth (and other places) and are running with loads of crazy ideas. As far as I'm concerned, the more people taking part and getting into the spirit of things the better. A famous person once said (or so I've been told) "Ask not what Rag Week can do for you, but what you can do for Rag Week!". This year that's far truer than ever before.

As far as your input into Rag Week this year goes, it falls into 3 main areas, all of equal importance.

(i) RAG EVENTS. These are events put on by or on behalf of Rag. There's one on every day of Rag Week and they're all really big and worth attending. The proceeds from these go to Rag. Whether it's downing 20 pints at the Beer Festival or leaping naked from the back of a minibus outside Harrods, take part.

(ii) OTHER EVENTS. These are anything that anyone, anywhere, cares to organise (though see me first). They can range from you and some mates in hall getting sponsored to wear fancy dress for the week, to having your head shaved, to your club or society organising a sponsored bungee jump. These events are as stupid and crazy as you want to make them. It's entirely up to you, but take part.

(iii) SERVICES. These have happened in past years, but never to the extent that is being planned for this year. They include things such as Guilds Hit Squad (paying a team of experts to flann your friend or lecturer), Handcuff-a-grams, Gnoming and Grim-reaping (being followed by a gnome or grim-reaper until you pay it some money to go away), and many more. All proceeds from this go to Rag, so take part.



Challenge: tap-dance for the tourists in Parliament Square.

All of these, the third especially, rely heavily on your input. In the next few weeks there will no doubt be many lists circulating asking for volunteers. Please put your name onto as many of them as you can spare the time for. If you don't want to miss lectures during Rag Week then just attend the events. If you don't mind missing lectures and being as silly as you can get away with, then help us out and make everyone else's lectures as silly as possible for the week. We only get to do this for one week in the year, so let's make the most of it and really show the past (and future) years that this year, 91/92, is not only the craziest that I.C. has ever witnessed but it can also raise the largest amount for charity in the process.

Rag Week is from Friday 15th November until Friday 22nd November. If you're reading this during Friday's lectures it means that there's only 3 weeks to go, so whatever you're going to do, get on with it. Now!

So, Be Mad, Be Silly & Be Part Of It! Cheers

Penguin - Rag Chair 91-92

P.S. Any ideas, please contact me a.s.a.p. via the Rag pigeon hole in the Union Office or see your soc. rep. or hall Rag rep.

What is ULU?

What the heck is a ULU? What does it do? Those of you who have been at IC for some time and you, IC Union hacks, may be familiar with ULU already. For newcomers who are picking up their first ever copy of Felix this may not be the case.

Let me say right from the beginning that ULU is more than just that building in Malet Street, yes that one near Senate House. Well, if that's not what ULU is, then what the heck is it?

The University of London Union, ULU for short, is a federal Students' Union for the University of London which consists of over 30 schools such as IC, LSE, KCL, UCL, and so on. With a membership of over 58,000 students this makes us the biggest students' union in Europe! In a

nutshell, ULU provides social, cultural, intellectual and recreational activities on a University and Intercollegiate basis, in some cases filling in, and in others supplementing the facilities of the individual college unions.

Like other students' unions, ULU's functions fall into the two main areas of 'Representation' and 'Provision of Services'. On the Representation side, ULU can act in two ways: by supporting individual unions fighting a particular issue; and campaigning on issues which affect all students. Continued underfunding of Higher Education means that the University and its constituent schools are stretched financially almost to breaking point exposing the students to the threat of top-up tuition fees and departmental closures. Further,

with the freezing of the maintenance grant, introduction of student loans, the removal of housing benefits for students and the withdrawal of income support there has never been a worse time financially for students than now.

Just to give you a few examples of the kind of work that we do: ULU together with other constituent member unions, has organised a 'sleep-out' on Hallowe'en night to highlight the 'hardship horror' facing students, as well as debates on Higher Education, as part of an overall campaign to put higher education and student financial support on the political agenda where it belongs.

ULU of course has plenty of societies who are the life blood of the union. Federal representation in sports is again something of which we are extremely proud. Some teams compete internationally and standards are extremely high. Did you know, for example, that the University of London Rowing team is far better than Oxford and

Cambridge?

The second main aspect of ULU's work is the provision of services; to absolute essentials like the bar and restaurant. There are also recreational facilities and IC students can take advantage of both.

Well, I hope this has given you some idea of what the heck a ULU is. This year, promises to be a particularly exciting especially on the political front, with the certainty of a General Election. We often think about 'going out there and changing the world' and yes, there are certain things we can change, for example the Government's policies on student financial support or the funding of education. Please do not underestimate the importance of your involvement and please watch out for publicity concerning students' union events. We can change things, and ULU, with the membership of over 58,000 students can be a formidable force. Let's make the most of it.

**Aye Aye Win,
ULU President.**

Why is the world in the state it is? Why do some people starve, others wallow in plenty? Are things gradually improving? And are we in the West really helping to bring about a change for the better in the lot of the poor nations?

There has always been a feeling in the West that the developing nations need our help. If only they could learn from what we have to teach them they would not be so desperately poor. This was exactly the thinking which helped to justify the European empire in Latin America, Africa and Asia. Today,

context in which financial help (be it loans or donations) is offered to developing nations, it becomes clear that the intentions of the West are not entirely benevolent. One of the prime lenders of financial aid today is the World Bank. The World Bank was set up by the USA and the major western powers after World War Two, with the aim of rebuilding war-torn Europe and Japan, and after that to promote financial stability, economic growth and a cooperation with the member states. Today there are 151 countries which are members of the

about the problems in Mexico, for example, than the Mexicans themselves. There seems to have been no change in western attitudes since colonial times. What determines the voting rights of countries in the World Bank is the size of their pocket. Thus the USA, Japan and all the industrialised countries have the majority of the voting power—the USA exercises 18.5% of the votes, while China has only 2.5% despite the fact that its population is four times larger than that of the USA.

What all this means is that the World Bank in effect acts upon policies laid out by the USA and other industrialised nations.

The poor nations have very little say how the world economy should be run. This has had a devastating effect upon them. Over the last decade or so World Bank policies have been deeply unpopular in many countries. Unfortunately they are powerless to do anything—they have been denied a voice.

It is generally agreed that the 1980s were an appalling decade for the poor nations of the world. Many people also argue that the World Bank helped make things worse rather than alleviate the squalor of the poor. The crisis was brought about during the 1970s through the massive borrowing by the governments of developing nations from banks in the West which were overflowing with oil dollars from OPEC countries. These commercial banks (which of course include our friendly high street chums in this country) were very 'liberal' with their lending policies. The interest repayments were set at commercial rates, which seemed reasonable to both parties at the time. This was a period of economic buoyancy and it seemed that the developing nations might at long last break the vicious cycles of poverty. However this mood of optimism was not to last very long. During the late seventies, the West was set for a downward slide into recession. This brought with it very high interest rates which meant that debt servicing repayments by the poor to the rich nations were massively increased.

However, high interest rates are not the only problem. The fundamental problem the developing countries face today is that of inequality in the world markets imposed by the West. The system is rigged up in such a way that the value of manufactured goods far exceeds the value of raw materials (excepting oil of course). In the 1980s there was a sharp drop in raw material prices which meant that the West would have even cheaper access to them, whereas the

Third World First

*Iftikar Hussain
and the
problems of the
third world*



of course, this kind of moral validation of the European presence in these continents cannot stand up to any kind of scrutiny. It is quite apparent that the relationship between Britain and India to exploit her resources and any gain on India's part was minimal and incidental. However, I would suggest that this argument is not very far from the one used today in order to justify Western actions, or rather interference, in developing countries today.

Let us start with the questions 'What is aid?', 'What does aid really involve?' If we look at the

World Bank—most of the countries except Warsaw Pact signatories. A condition of membership is that each country must contribute a certain percentage of its Gross National Product (GNP) for the Bank's use.

Much criticism has been made by the poorer members concerning the conditions which the World Bank sets before releasing loans to developing countries. The undemocratic nature of the Bank means that developing nations are almost powerless to implement policies of their own choice: it is assumed that the West knows more

value of manufactured goods has steadily risen. So it is apparent that the West is making a healthy (but sick) profit from the way the markets are structured. As one economist put it:

‘The challenge for us to eliminate the senseless dichotomy which makes us wholesale exporters of raw materials, and wholesale importers of finished goods, under terms determined entirely by the industrialised countries, terms that compel us to increasingly produce and sell more of our raw materials in order to afford less of their products.’ (Simba Maknoni, 1989).

So what solutions has the World Bank proposed? During the mid-eighties it came up with a gem called SAPs (Structural Adjustment Programmes). The Bank will only allow governments to borrow if they agree to run their economies (and thus the whole political structure of that country) the way the Bank dictates. (We might recall the furore caused in this country by possible economic intervention of the European Community—it would seem that some sovereignties are very much more precious than others.) Structural Adjustment Programmes involve liberalisation of trade policies (i.e. reduction or even elimination of import tariffs),

increase in production of cash crops, and cuts in public spending (i.e. reduction of expenditure on health, education, removal of subsidies on food, travel and so on). As a result of these policies, the condition of the poorest sections of these communities have suffered the most, and in several countries there have been ‘food riots’ when the strain has become unbearable.

The economies of these countries have experienced a great step backwards thanks to the policies of the World Bank which is interested more in maintaining or ‘looking after’ the interests of the financial system set up by the industrialised nations than improving conditions in the developing nations. The World Bank insists that any countries borrowing directly from or seeking its approval (without which countries are unable to borrow from anyone) must maintain its (crippling) interest payments on loans borrowed in the seventies. Thus these countries must earn lots of hard currency by selling as much raw material as possible to the West and then return it straightaway in the form of interest repayments. Unfortunately, since the Bank has told many other poor countries to do the same, there has been a glut in the commodities markets,

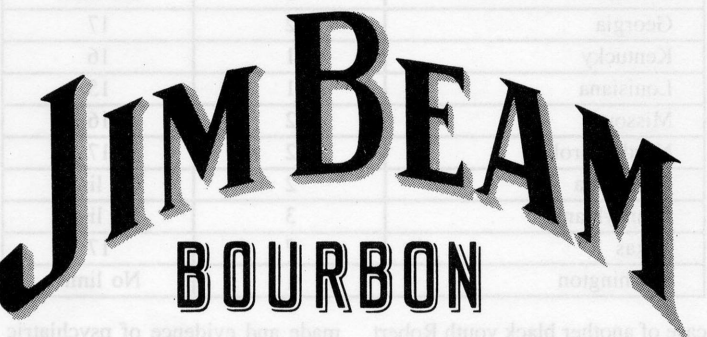
resulting in prices going through the floor. So these countries have ended up being much worse off today than they had been before the World Bank intervened.

At ‘Third World First’ we recognise that the industrialised world has taken enough from the poorest countries in the world and it is time for the process to stop. If we are too selfish and greedy to put anything back (and let’s not kid ourselves that we do) we should leave these countries alone so that they themselves can decide what kind of development it is that they want to pursue.

Third World First aims to increase awareness of issues concerning the developing countries. At Imperial College we regularly invite representatives from various groups (banks, charities, campaign groups, etc) to hold talks, debates and discussions which will hopefully motivate people to take positive action (however small) both now and after they leave College. These meetings are held almost every Thursday at lunchtimes—look out for posters in the JCR and around college. We shall also have stands in the JCR during this term, so come up and talk to us if you are interested.

Ittikhar Hussain.

‘The 1980s were an appalling decade for the poor nations of the world’



If you want to win a bottle of Jim Beam Kentucky Bourbon, just answer the following easy questions and return them by 8 November to the Felix Office. Other prizes include 50s style dance t-shirts. The Editor’s decision is final. Correspondence will only be entered into on the production of a generous backhanders.

Questions

1. Two of these films starred famous robots, which ones?

a. Bambi

b. Return to the Forbidden Plant

c. The Blues Brothers

d. Star Wars

2. Which pop star has been associated withouterspace?

a. Jason Donovan

b. David Bowie

c. Jimi Hendrix

d. M.C. Hammer

3. Which family were Lost in Space?

a. The Redgraves

b. The Kennedys

c. The Robinsons

d. The Adams

4. Which President is commonly referred to as ‘The Moose’?

a. Abraham Lincoln

b. Enver Hoxha

c. Deng Xiao Ping

d. Zoë Hellinger

5. Which of the following Deputy Presidents wear shoulder pads?

a. Dan Quayle

b. Jonathan Griffiths

c. Dai Williams

d. Both (a) and (b) probably

Prizes are provided by Jim Beam Kentucky Bourbon.

IC Radio Schedule

Imperial College Radio broadcasts on 999khz AM and is cabled around College. For information phone internal 3440.

Time	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8am		Dave Lane	Dave Lane	Dave Lane	Dave Lane	Dave Lane	
9am	IMPERIAL COLLEGE RADIO MUSIC JAM						
12pm			Amanda & Simon	Dan the Man			
1pm		Dan the Man	Gareth Mitchell	Barney	Gareth Mitchel	Liz & Jim	Robin Griff
2pm	IMPERIAL COLLEGE RADIO AFTERNOON MUSIC						Tom C
5pm	Mark Goodier		Phil	Jav	Duncan		
6pm	National Top 40	Adrian	Chris	Jamie	Funki T	Neil J	
7pm		Mike & Ben	Randy	Mike & Ben	Richard C		
8pm			Joe N		Catherine	News	
9pm		Ramon Larkin		Dave L	Jon Phil	Adrian	Dave Mac
10pm			Paul	Adrian		Me Mark Page	
11pm	Radio Luxembourg Through the Night						

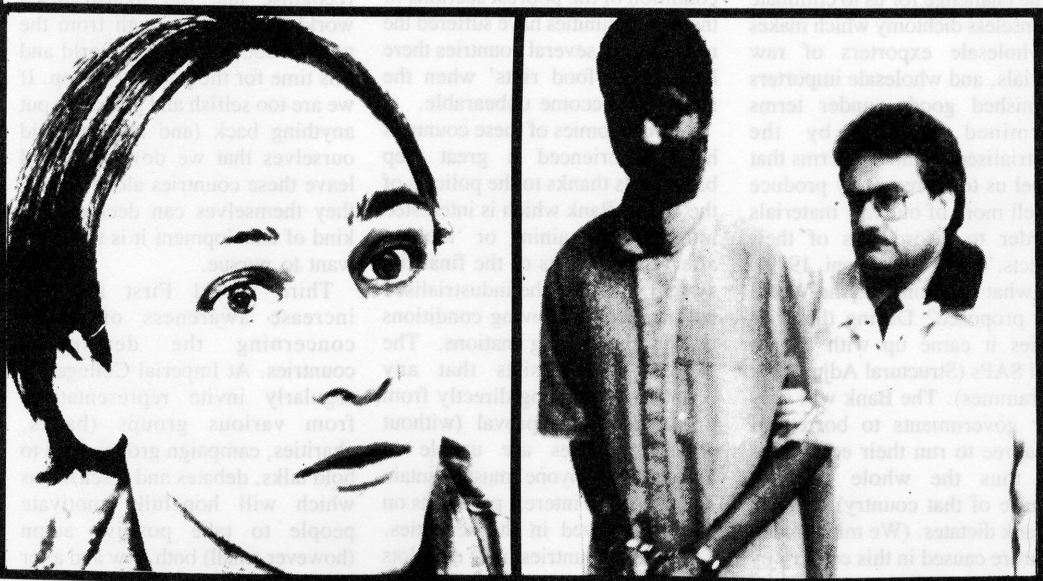
Amnesty on Death Row

On 18 May 1990, the state of Louisiana executed a 30 year old black man, Dalton Prejean, for the murder of a white police officer on 2 July 1977, in the town of Lafayette. Sentenced ten months later, Prejean remained on death row for twelve years before being put to death by electrocution. However, the real tragedy of this case is that at the time of the offence Prejean was just 17 years of age.

The USA is one of just seven countries to have executed juvenile offenders over the last decade. Since the 1970s when the death penalty was reinstated in 36 states, 90 juveniles have been sentenced to death. All were between 15 and 17 years old at the time of the offence. Although many of these sentences were comuted to life imprisonment on appeal, four were executed between 1985 and 1990 and as of July 1991, 31 remain under sentence of death in 12 states. With the possible exception of Iraq and Iran, the USA has executed more juveniles in recent years, and hold a higher number on death row, than any other country known to Amnesty International.

In carrying out these executions, the USA has violated International Standards which, although not prohibiting the death penalty in all circumstances, unanimously prohibit the imposition of this cruel and degrading punishment to persons aged 18 or under at the time of the offence. Such standards include treaties of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the American Convention on Human Rights (ACHR) and the United Nations (UN) convention on the right of the child. The USA is signatory to all these treaties, although it has only ratified the latter. In 1984 the UN Economic and Social Council adopted safeguards guaranteeing the rights of prisoners under sentence of death, also providing an age limit of 18 for such a sentence.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty unconditionally in all cases believing it to be a violation of the right to life, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Although Amnesty does accept that juvenile offenders should be held criminally liable for their actions, it argues that the death penalty, with its cruel and irreversible nature, is an especially inappropriate punishment in these cases. It is widely accepted that



James Roach (17), executed, and Troy Dugar (15), on death row.

children and adolescents are less responsible for their actions and much more susceptible to rehabilitation than adults. These arguments are further credited by the melancholy words of Charles Rambaugh, executed in Texas in 1985 for the murder of a jewellery store owner. He wrote to a penfriend 18 months before his death at the age of 26, ‘...I started making mistakes at a very young age and never changed before it was too late. I was 17 years old when I committed the offence for which I was sentenced to die, and I didn’t even start thinking and caring about my life until I was at least 20.’

In addition to humanitarian concerns over juvenile executions, there are also some disturbing factors that seem to recur many times, in trials of juveniles that lead to the imposition of the death penalty. Racial disparities are evident in the numbers of young offenders sentenced to death. Since 1900 the USA executed over 190 juveniles of which 75% were black youths. Under present statutes, the disparities based on the race of the offender have fallen, although 49% of the 31 offenders currently on death row are black, with 75% of the 31 convicted or murdering white victims. In many cases, as in the case of Dalton Prejean, trials of black offenders have been moved to predominantly white areas. In the Prejean case, the prosecutor then used his peremptory challenges (the right to reject potential jurors without explanation) and excluded all four black jurors from the panel. This right was also exercised in the

Table 1: States with Numbers of Juvenile Offenders on Death Row and Minimum Age for the Imposition of the death penalty.

State	No. on DR	Minimum Age
Alabama	6	14
Florida	3	No limit
Georgia	2	17
Kentucky	1	16
Louisiana	1	15
Missouri	2	16
North Carolina	2	17
Oklahoma	2	No limit
Pennsylvania	3	No limit
Texas	7	17
Washington	1	No limit

case of another black youth Robert Carter (still under appeal), where the prosecutor used peremptory challenges to remove 12 potential jurors who had slight reservations about the death penalty despite them expressing their confidence in their own ability to impose the death penalty if they felt it appropriate.

Probably the most alarming feature of many of these trials, however, is the incompetence of the defence council in producing vital evidence which would have shown the mitigating circumstances of the crime. During 1986 and 1987 a team of psychiatrists studied 14 juveniles under sentence of death(1). Extensive psychiatric and neurological examinations were

made and evidence of psychiatric illness or brain damage was found in nearly every case. All 14 had suffered head injuries as children, which in eight cases resulted in hospitalisation. Seven of the inmates suffered from psychiatric disturbances from an early age with four others showing histories of severe mood disorders. Only two had an IQ over 90 (100 being the normal score). Twelve had suffered physical abuse as children and five had been sodomised by older male relatives. Of the parents of the inmates most had histories of alcoholism, drug abuse and psychiatric treatment. Few of these potential mitigating factors were ever brought to light by the defence council during the inmates’ trials.

Dalton Prejean was found to have an IQ of only 77. Tests performed in 1984 indicated that he suffered from organic brain damage which impaired the control of his impulses

Footnote 1: The study was conducted by D.O. Lewis M.D., New York University School of Medicine, and Dr J.H. Pincus, Georgetown University Centre.

Since 1970, 90 people under 17 years of age have been sentenced to death in the USA. Lee Matthews, of IC's Amnesty International Group, counts the cost of America's justice system.

when under stress. (It was during a rough body search of Dalton's elder brother Joseph, whom he idolised, when he shot the police officer.) Dalton had been brought up by an alcoholic aunt after his mother abandoned him when he was two weeks old. His aunt beat him frequently and as a child he exhibited signs of paranoia and violence. None of these facts were investigated during his trial.

Only in three states, Delaware, Oklahoma and South Dakota, is age not listed as a mitigating circumstance in the death penalty statutes. In eighteen of the 24 states that pass sentences of death on juveniles, age could be mentioned as a mitigating factor at the sentencing part of the trial. In many cases, as in the Prejean case, however, it is not.

No one, least of all Amnesty International, disputes the hideous nature of many of the crimes that are committed by juveniles. However, the death penalty must



From left to right, Paula Cooper (15), Kelly Pinkerton (17), Sean Sellers (16), Dalton Prejean (17), Clayton Flowers (15) all sentenced to death. Today only Sean Sellers is alive, his sentence is on appeal.

WHEREVER YOU'RE BOUND, WE'RE BOUND TO HAVE BEEN.

In August 1991 STA Travel sponsored three Imperial College students in their attempt to traverse the High Atlas Mountains in Morocco. Drop into our office in the Sherfield Building to examine the fascinating pictorial evidence of their expedition.

Imperial College Sherfield Building SW7



STA TRAVEL



surely remain one of the most inappropriate methods of dealing with such crimes. As it has been highlighted, young offenders convicted or murder usually originate from deprived backgrounds, many have low intelligence (and are sometimes mentally retarded) with most showing signs of psychiatric disorders. These factors make them less able to act rationally under stress and make them extremely susceptible to influences from older people. (In many cases juveniles committed the crimes in the presence of older peers.) It is difficult to see how the death penalty would deter such an offender. It has also been found that juvenile offenders are very responsive to education and psychiatric treatment whilst on death row. Many begin to learn to read and write and some even take up correspondence courses while the long legal process of appeals is carried out (many years can be spent waiting for execution). Amnesty International argues that with the imposition of the death penalty there is no chance of reform, no chance for the offender to give something back to society. This is especially true of young offenders. Before his execution Dalton Prejean expressed remorse for his crime and explained 'I've changed. There's a whole lot of

difference between being 17 and 30'. With reference to his nine year old son he said, 'I think about Cleveland's (the police officer) children, the fact they don't have a father either.' In his final statement he again referred to the police officer's family: 'To the Cleveland family, they say it wasn't for the revenge but it's hard for me to see, to understand...I hope they're happy.'

Despite all the facts highlighted the cruel nature of the death penalty and International Standards prohibiting the execution of youths under 18 years of age, some 24 states and even the US Supreme Court still insist that the execution of juveniles is permissible. (In 1989 the Supreme Court reinforced this view in a ruling that execution of offenders as young as 16 is permissible under the constitution).

IC Amnesty Group (in conjunction with Amnesty International), are currently embarking on a campaign to bring pressure on the US to stop the imposition of the death penalty for juvenile crime, and commute the death sentences of those now on death row. Anybody interested in helping this campaign should come along to the group meetings in the Clubs Committee Room on Tuesday at 5.30pm, or spare a minute to sign a letter at our stall, in the JCR, on Tuesday lunchtime.

It's been a very busy week once again. I hereby give thanks to Stef Smith for running Felix this Thursday evening whilst I was gallivanting in the Natural History Museum. At the time of writing I don't know how Thursday evening went (as it's Thursday morning now). Thanks and/or apologies, whichever is required.

Mascotry.

The accident that occurred last Thursday around the back of the Union building during a mascotry kidnap attempt (see news pages) is a tragedy for all parties involved. The student who was driving the car, who doesn't wish to be named because he told me his department might get uppity, seems genuinely upset by what has happened. He is as equally the victim of the affair as the student who was run over not just because of the legal problems, but due to the probable emotional trauma at the time. Equally, the accident was not entirely of his doing but because lots of people decided to cover the front of his car with themselves. He mooted the possibility that the police may not press charges because the accident happened due to general recklessness by all involved.

It's probably not the time to try to make capital of this affair as the accidentee could very well have been killed, but I am aware that there is a meeting early in November - called before this occurred - to discuss mascotry. It's very easy to over-react following such an event, and I hope decisions will be made that increase the safety of mascotry by increasing

individual responsibility, that people should ask themselves whether its worth the risk before they behave like lemmings. Safety cannot be significantly increased by banning any one activity, lack of thought is the danger. Limiting mascotry activities to the campus and banning use of motorised vehicles will stop this type of accident, but there are infinite varieties of accidents and you cannot guard against them all.

Career's Fair.

The letters by Dave Ensell and



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editorial

Jeremy Burnell seem to indicate a certain cattiness between them. It has to be said that Jeremy saw Dave's letter before it was published, hence his reply being in the same issue. In theory, the reply should be in the following issue, thus giving the general populace a chance to respond at the same time. But since Jeremy was going to write a letter this week anyway it seemed unnecessarily pedantic to press the point.

Industrial Relations Take A Nosedive.

To whoever is responsible for not giving Andy Thompson, our printer, his expected pay rise, I curse with the fleas of a thousand camels. With childlike joy he opened his pay advice envelope, and such innocence was dashed to the floor as he read the damning words. He has been leaping all over the office shouting 'Ah want me muneh! Ah want me muneh!', 's'a conspiraceh!' and 'they all heet meh!' in a daft Rutland accent. He's also been headbutting doors. Whoever you are, I hope you're happy.

Holbein

It appears that the news story run last week on Holbein house has had some effect. One of our news reporters contacted Dr Toumazou, the Warden of Holbein to see what had happened, if anything, and he was told that 'the story had done some good' and that they had since received a microwave oven. His main complaint concerned the bureaucracy involved in trying to get anything done in College. I concur.

No editor like the present.

Andy B - get your life in order. You of all people should know what happens to an editor if he is denied a promised article on a Thursday.

Credits.

Sumit, David, Jonty, Beccy, Penguin, Stefs S and R, Rose, Andys T and B, Graham Carlyle, Poddy, the Pu Bears, James, Steves N and F, Jonathan, Iftikhar Hussain, Phil, Simon, Jeremy, Aye Aye, Zoë, Memo, Rebecca Mileham, Matt, Troy Tempest, Lee Matthews, Paul Davison, John M and Khurram. And all those I've forgotten.

The Tale of Two Colours

Once upon a time there was a big Kingdom. The King had been killed in a war against his neighbour over the standard length of a foot, one said it was his foot, the other, his. The King's two twin sons were raised by two different families, one family were colour blind and so taught their Prince that grass was red and blood was green. The other Prince was brought up by a family who only saw in monochrome and so taught that blood and grass were the same colour, only that coal was darker than snow.

One brother issued a decree that 'Blood Was Green And Grass Was Red' and the other issued a decree that 'All Colours Are The Same, Only Coal Is Darker Than Snow'. They argued bitterly and organised supportative parties, who eventually came to blows.

There was a bitter battle on the green sward outside the capital's gates, turning it crimson with blood. The brilliant grey and grey uniforms were covered with what they were supposed to contain.

At last the two brothers met face to face over the bodies of those they had ordered to kill.

'What colour will your blood be on my sword', spat one.

'The same as yours on mine', sneered the other. Both stabbed.

As they watched their blood intermingle, forming a pool out of which grass stalks pointed at the sky, they noticed there was no difference between them.

The sun set gloriously over two wiser people who would not give anything to the world by it. Moral: never believe anything you think you instinctively know.

FELIX Christmas Special

The Christmas Special will be coming out on December 11.

All Christmas articles or pictures should be submitted by 12.30pm, Monday November 28.

Curtains for Mascotry Burnell

Dear Adam,

Firstly I would like to do some brown nosing and congratulate Jeremy on the success of the careers fair.

Secondly I have a couple of observations to make. The number of companies attending was 63, not about 70, and indeed the presentation was superior to last year. This obviously was a great benefit to the companies. The students however had a small problem. The 3,000+ (based on Jeremy's figures) who attended the first day had 500 brochures between them. These were being produced

by the print unit, but due to a problem, presumably were not ready. A further 2,000 were available on the second day, but this means some 56% of those attending had no information provided them. Unfortunate. Also please could you elaborate on the 'large amount of disorganisation preceding last year's fair' and tell us in what way it made it far inferior to this year's, possibly by using the statistics of attendances etc.

Yours sincerely,

David Ensell, Careers Fair Steward 1991.

Dear Adam,

On Thursday 17 October 1991 after the Mathematics Freshers' Dinner there was an attempt by C&G to steal Theta, the RCS mascot. In the ensuing confusion a first year member of the RCS mascotry team was unfortunately injured.

First aid was administered by students and the St John's Ambulance (from the Albert Hall) until the ambulance arrived to take him to hospital.

It is clear that the mascotry within IC has lost sight of its original aim to raise money for Rag, and has

become out of hand. Therefore all mascotry activities have been suspended until further notice.

There will be a meeting on Monday 28 October to review all aspects of mascotry. If anybody has any strong views on this matter please put them in writing, addressed to either Richard Murray (RCS VP) or Lucia Clipstone (C&G VP). The results of this meeting will be made known at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Lucia Clipstone & Richard Murray.

Fairly Good

Dear Adam,

Just a small note to say a big thank you to the stewards that helped me at this year's Union Careers Fair, but especially to Richard Scott, Andrew Wensley, Christopher Stapleton and Steven Newhouse for all the hard work that they put in to make the event run smoothly.

I have just read David Ensell's letter... I suppose he must have a grudge to bear given that he resigned from being joint careers fair manager with me this year, just before he was to be sacked. The lack of brochures was a problem on the first day, due to an outside company not perfect binding them as quickly as they were supposed to. Even so, everyone that was without a brochure, was still given a plan

of the stand layout. Unfortunate, but not a disaster.

As for me saying that this year was superior to last, this was a slight reporting error by Felix, and was in fact said by a company representative from Rolls-Royce. And as for the 'large amount of disorganisation preceding last year's fair', I'm afraid that I haven't got the time, or space to write a 500 word essay. If David cannot remember, then he should come and see me at some time and I will remind him.

Anyway, I hope that everyone that came along looking for a job, found something to their liking.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Burnell,
Careers Fair Manager 1991.

Ents Write

Dear Adam,

After a number of incidents at last Friday's Spitfire gig in the union, I feel compelled to write on behalf of the Ents committee, everybody else involved in running Ents events and the people who attend them.

Why do we constantly have to put up with the bloody-minded behaviour of a small number of people who seem to believe that they enjoy some kind of privileged status within ICU, and as such are exempt from the normal standards of behaviour? I'm loath to point the finger at specific bodies within college but most people at IC are familiar with the members of quasi-masonic tie clubs, certain sports clubs and CCUs to whom I refer.

Let me put a few things straight: If you want to get into an Ents event, PAY, like everybody else does. Persistent arguing will not get

you in. Trying to 'charge the door' will not get you in. (Please—do not take that as a challenge.)

Why is it so hard for you to behave like reasonable and intelligent human beings? If you want aggro, kindly piss off and find it elsewhere.

Finally—to the erstwhile owner of two large pools of vomit deposited near the central staircase toilets at around 8pm last Friday (8pm! I ask you)—I think you owe an apology to Andy the bar manager and his staff for mopping up the mess.

You're fucking pathetic.

Graham Lawton
Chairman, IC Ents.

Boring Quite Frankly,

Dear Adam,

RE: 'Bailey's back and boring as ever'. Felix letter p15, Issue 913.

For boring, read vague, fuzzy, obscure etc.

Perhaps Alan could write back and let us all know exactly what his letter was driving at.

Methinks he was trying to be too clever. Either that or a private joke.

Yours ad nauseum,

Declan Curry.

PS. New name for Felix? 'Claptrap'?

Dear Adam (again),

Firstly I would to say that my last letter to Felix was not meant to be at all rude. Of course you cannot check the spelling of everything in Felix, I don't expect you to. But as Editor you should be made aware when errors slip in, especially since you are after all responsible for the content of Felix.

It should have been obvious to anyone reading my letter that it was a blatant piece of club publicity, which I felt we deserved after the mistakes in Felix 912. I guess you could describe my letter as 'naff', whatever that means. However,

what I find totally unacceptable from a person in your position is calling ICSF members 'trainspotters'. The committee and I were most offended. Need I remind you that a lot of your staff are icsf members. Are they too 'trainspotters'?

I might point out that there were another two 'mistakes' in Felix 913 to do with ICSF events (running total: 4 in the last two issues). But since substituting RubberCap for RoboCop II was quite funny I won't mention them.

Alex McLintock.

Healthy Promotions

Veggie Hot Meals
all at £1 this week in
Union Snack Bar

Soft Drinks:
Coke, Lemonade,
Fanta 50p a pint

Orange Juice
60p a pint

In Union

A Day Too Long

The College day seems likely to be extended by an hour, after the second report of the working party dealing with the matter. The proposal is that teaching hours be extended from the present 9.30am to 5.30pm to a period running from 9.00am to 6.00pm.

The paper gives a run down of the reaction to the proposals from the departments and states that although 'student opinion was wholly opposed to the change', that 'we know of no systematic expression of students' views'. This despite the various referendums conducted by the various student unions of Imperial College.

The cost of the change will play the most important part in the College's decision about whether to make the change to the length of the academic working day, according to the report. It quotes that staff costs in academic departments will be around £53,000 and an additional cost of £23,000 for the College Nursery. This appears to be a minimum costing of the situation as it is not known whether staff cost figures from the departments included superannuation contributions or not.

It is unknown whether the longer day will present a problem to the already stretched College Estates

Department. Although a letter from the Managing Director, Gordon Marshall, promises that 'the extra costs will be next to nothing', details are unclear. A full set of estimates have been prepared by the department but the paper states that 'it has not been possible for us to see them'.

As it is, the matter has been undecided until the next Board of Studies meeting on the 11th December. Whichever way the Board decides, it seems that Student opinion is not going have a large effect on the outcome.

Rag Total

Rag's *Great Sightseeing Challenge* on Saturday raised £1,424.79 for the United Nations Childrens Fund, UNICEF. This brings the Rag total to £12,700.

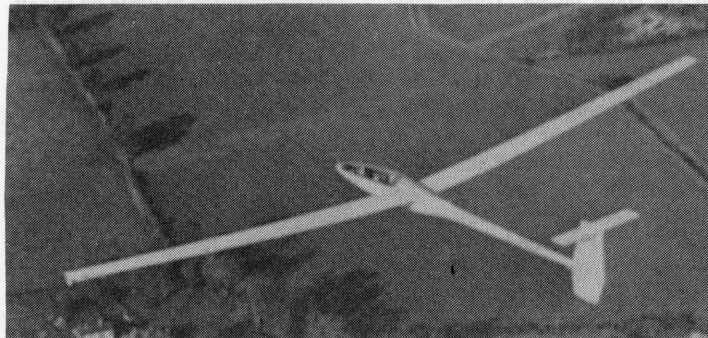
Late LEA's

Many students around the country have not yet received their maintenance grants from their Local Education Authorities (LEA). The LEAs claim this is because of a government directive that tuition fees are to be paid first, while the government claims this delay is due to LEA inefficiency.

New Glider for ICU

Imperial College Union Gliding Club have recently acquired a high performance dual seat glider. The glass-fibre glider cost £45,000 and is IC's only dual glider. Previously, the club had to hire dual gliders from the flying site at Lasham.

The Grob 103C arrived from Germany on 8th Oct and first flew last weekend. It is the first of its type in this country. Its arrival was very timely as Lasham's own G103 was written off in a heavy landing that week. The ICU Gliding Club decided to buy the aircraft two years ago when Lasham decided not to convert to glass-fibre gliders, leaving IC with two solo glass-fibre gliders but no dual trainer. The glider was eventually ordered in January when the Union funds were made available.



Of the total cost, the Union only contributed £11,000, with a further £17,000 from the Harlington Trust, which was set up with profits from gravel extraction at the former Harlington Sports Grounds. The remaining £17,000 was raised by the club itself by the sale of its Club Libelle glider and shares in a

Lasham trainer, as part of their five-year plan.

The Grob 103 is available for training to club members, and for trial flights to anyone who is interested. Trial flights cost £21 for the day. See the *What's On* page for details.

Theft

A number of thefts have occurred at IC this week. A mountain bike belonging to Reggie Blennerhassett, ex ICU finance officer, was taken from Prince's Gardens. Another mountain bike was stolen from the Huxley building on Queensgate.

A student's car was broken into and seriously damaged in an attempt to steal the radio.

A student found the lock on his locker had been changed. He called security who removed the lock, finding the contents, including a suit, had been removed.

Additionally, a Psion Organiser and instruction booklet were pilfered from the Aeronautics Department. Both items were left in an unoccupied office.

The Civil Engineering computer room was broken into for the second time this term. Another Naga processor worth over £1500 has been taken. The wires had been severed in order to remove it.

Terry Briley, security officer, said 'people should contact security if they want advice on securing valuable items', as well as reiterating his warning that things should not be left out so they can be stolen.

Super – Solar – Cell

Solar cells could become conventional power sources like coal and oil, it has been reported this week.

Two reports, one from Imperial College, have forced scientists to rethink their attitudes to an energy source once thought to be confined to cheap calculators.

Doctor Keith Barnham of Imperial College Physics Department announced his results in the SERC (Science and

Engineering Research Council) Bulletin. His method involves an improvement on conventional solar cells. In the improved cells thin layers of semi-conductor material only 50 atoms thick are added to form 'quantum wells' which trap higher energy electrons than the normal cell. The process is so effective that a cell containing fifty quantum wells is twice as efficient as one with thirty. Doctor Barnham said that the new cells could be

produced 'at little extra cost' than normal cells

Doctor Bryan O'Reagan and Doctor Michael Grätzel of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology published their results in Nature. They claim to be able to improve the efficiency of Solar cells on cloudy days. This is caused by the surface of the sun absorbing the larger range of light frequencies produced during an overcast day.

Virtuality

The Science Museum will be holding a lecture by Howard Rheingold on 'virtual reality' at 2.30pm, today Friday 25th. Entry to the Science Museum is free on production of an IC Union Card.