

Mary's block vote broken

In a history-creating move, Rebecca Land has conquered the notorious St Mary's Union 'block vote' to become next year's Felix Editor.

In a vigorously fought contest, the 174-strong Mary's 'block vote' went to New Election. By comparison, Miss Land received the approval of only 17 Mary's students. The third candidate, Ian 'Poddy' Davies, obtained the remaining 15 Mary's votes. Despite the 157 vote shortfall, Miss Land was elected Felix Editor and Print Unit Manager on the second ballot, with 716 votes overall. Speaking to Felix after the results were announced, Miss Land could only say, 'it is a dream come true'.

Before the results were announced, Mr Davies said he was fairly confident, though very nervous. Following the announcement of the results, Mr Davies was obviously shaken, although he did have the composure to immediately congratulate Miss Land on her victory. Commenting on the result Mr Davies said, 'Fuck. Democracy in action? If students voted for her they deserve all they (don't) get'.

In the flagship election, Andrew Wensley romped home with a landslide victory over both Rachel Mountford and New Election. Mr Wensley managed to secure the Mary's vote. This was reflected in his winning majority of 647 votes over his nearest rival, Miss Mountford. Though not present at the announcement, Miss Mountford was praised and thanked by Mr Wensley for a good campaign. She seemed to have given up the election after being subject to a smear campaign by unidentified sources early in the race.

A smaller landslide victory saw David Goddard elected to the post of Deputy President. After a 413 vote win over New Election and a 429 vote win over opposing candidate Hugh Eland, Mr Goddard said, 'I am really pleased with the landslide vote in my favour... the vote demonstrates that I am



The winners: Andrew Wensley, President elect, Rebecca Land, Felix Editor and Print Unit Manager elect and David Goddard, Deputy President elect

obviously the best person for the job'. He commented that the result may also have been due to him knowing 'more people around college'. Before the result was announced Mr Goddard said that he expected the vote to be 'tight'.

Deputy President-elect Goddard said that he had stuck to a 'straightforward' poster campaign, and thought that Mr Eland had gone for 'clever' posters. Mr Goddard added that 'an intelligent campaign is not a 'vote for me' campaign'. In a repeat of last year's Honorary Secretary election, the night's greatest upset was the defeat of Max Jalil, who lost to New Election by about 75 votes. Speaking to Felix directly after receiving the result, Mr Jalil said that he felt the St Mary's block vote lost him the election. He added that he will stand again in the re-election if he feels that the students of the South

Kensington campus want him to. Mr Jalil, who said he was not too depressed about losing, suggested that the margin of defeat was not such a large one.

The victory for New Election in last year's elections led to a second ballot in the third term, with a completely new set of candidates standing. The eventual winner and this year's Hon Sec, Dominic Wilkinson, said of this year's campaign, 'the turnout was really good and the campaigns were good'. Mr Wilkinson added that he was 'disgusted' at the defacing of posters. 'If ever I get hold of him....', he added menacingly.

This year's turnout of almost 23% was marginally higher than last year's 17% poll. The highest turnout this year was for the Presidential election, with 1353 members of Imperial College Union marking their ballot papers

according to the STV electoral system. This increase in turnout has been ascribed to an increase in the number of ballot boxes, and to the strong editorial lines taken by Union and Constituent College Union media.

The results will come before a Union General Meeting, to be held at 1pm this Thursday in the Union Concert Hall. It is widely expected that this meeting will ratify the elections of Mr Wensley, Mr Goddard and Miss Land. Dominic Wilkinson, Union Honorary Secretary, will be instructed by the meeting to rehold the Hon Sec elections next term. The new sabbaticals will take over at the start of August 1993, following a one month training period. Chris Davidson, Imperial College Union President, said, 'I am pleased for the winners and look forward to the candidates hand-over.'

Candidate	Union	JCR	Elec Eng	Mech Eng	Chem Eng	Civ Eng	Computing	Physics	MRE	Chem/Biochem	St Mary's	Silwood	Initial	Final
Rachel Mountford	23	19	17	17	17	16	39	56	7	17	8	6	242	242
Andrew Wensley	54	48	56	65	82	41	141	89	50	67	194	2	889	889
New Election	10	8	17	12	15	11	20	36	7	21	7	36	222	222
Spoilt Papers	3	0	2	1	0	0	8	1	3	1	2	0		
Hugh Eland	21	14	35	24	33	17	45	42	15	23	9	2	280	280
David Goddard	39	35	36	48	63	24	105	81	32	53	187	6	709	709
New Election	16	19	19	18	17	21	42	54	16	25	13	36	296	296
Spoilt Papers	3	0	1	1	1	4	12	4	2	2	2	0		
Max Jilil	35	44	44	52	64	34	109	98	21	58	14	9	582	582
New Election	50	28	44	39	48	30	90	82	47	44	190	35	727	727
Spoilt Papers	3	0	3	3	1	2	6	2	0	2	3	0		
Ian Davies	24	19	25	23	28	13	72	42	22	25	15	0	308	-
Rebecca Land	33	33	45	51	65	37	89	106	28	53	17	8	565	716
New Election	30	15	19	19	20	14	38	33	15	23	174	35	435	535
Spoilt Papers	2	1	2	1	1	2	7	1	0	4	0	1		

Editorial

To all the voters of Imperial College, each one, and the other one, thank you for expressing your opinion. To all the rest of you, you get exactly what you deserve, you have not even bothered to vote, believing that it would make no

difference to the way you live your lives, I have one message for you. Put nothing in, get nothing out.

The candidates have shown all the small-mindedness of children at play in a sweet shop, even those who I personally felt where good have behaved as if winning an election was the only thing that mattered. How this pettiness qualifies them to

run a business that turns over 3.5 million I have no idea, but then again I will not be around to see what havoc they will wreak!

My only thanks is to those of the student media, who have put almost as much time and effort into covering this campaign as the candidates themselves. And finally to the Print Unit Printer Andrew

Thompson for staying up so late to get this issue out, thanks again and Happy Birthday (whenever it may be!)

Credits

Rose, Andy, Declan, David von Spooner, Ian Hodge, Jacob, Andrew Tseng, Mike Chamberlain, Phil Dodd, Jon Ronson, Owain, Gareth, Simon, Poddy, Beccy, Steve, Dom, Chris, Rick,

A Slice of Life

Owain Bennallack

Friday evening, and I arrive late at the Main Dining Hall for the International Night buffet. Already the situation is pretty dire, empty trays in the popular parts of the world poignantly summing up the situation found in reality in others. But it's 'the biggest social event of the year', I'm not allowed to think about how half this lot's parents are out to kill each other. Besides, in the lucky position of Englishman, I can smile serenely over the whole messy business and be generally superior.

Manor rushes over to me with two food coupons in hand and explains that he got them working at the Italian stall. He shouts 'Lasagne' at me and drags me across to part with my first token. 'Eh, you want some Lasagne?' says an enthusiastic Greek guy, waving his knife ferociously about my head. 'Or some Spinach Lasagne?' says Vivek, who's of Asian descent. Manor, from Israel, rushes back to his post. Not an Italian in sight. This was just the kind of Cosmopolitan shambles I'd hoped for!

Whilst eating the spinach stuff I notice Poddy drifting aimlessly about. He looks tired, zombie like, the election is clearly getting to him. Or maybe it's just those genes

coming into bloom. He tells me he's canvassing for votes. But these foreign types never vote? 'Precisely,' he says. 'So if I can get their votes I'll have an unstoppable groundswell of opinion behind me and next year it'll be feet on desk and cigar in hand.' (Or something less libellous.)

Dave Goddard is up to the same antics, a huge pile of 'vote Dave' pamphlets hidden under a tourists guide to Nicaragua. Now there's a beguiling country. Their table is harassed but it still has food. I choose a cod dish, fitting in with my current, 'don't eat it if it's got legs' policy. Hey, Manor tells me that as a non Jew all I have to do is make sure whatever I dine on is dead. Just no lunging at passing sheep, tongue drooling, knife and fork in hand. (Of course coming from Wales who knows...) Then I notice the vegetable accompaniment is gorgeous, of course it has meat in it, first I've eaten for eight months.

Micheal loans me a spare coupon so it's gastronomic experience three. By now I'm becoming wary of 'food poisoning from around the world', all the remaining food looking decidedly dubious. But a lovely Nigerian lady finds a whole tray of some delicious stew, no

dead fluffy critters she promises. Then it's time for the show.

The queue is ridiculous and it's true that only the British know how to do it properly. The rest of the world is more interested in getting on with the interesting part. So I stand at the back, near the lifts, while nearly everyone else intersects from the stairs and gets in before me. Luckily Paul and Micheal have saved me a seat. The atmosphere is excited, exuberant. The lights dim, thirty minutes late, and someone switches on some taped drums. The 'Flag Ceremony' begins.

It's a good way to gauge the racial mix in the audience, because of course people can't resist cheering loudest for their own country. I go wild for everyone. Each flag makes its way down to the stage, lit by a giant spotlight. It's quite impressive. The show begins.

Now I have to say the lighting people failed to get it sorted on the night. After the excellent start they didn't seem to know what was supposed to be on, off, in or out. The hosts coped with this, and the appalling jokes they'd been given to read, pretty well. (Eg. After the Spanish performance Zena had to say 'One of them was a fireman. His name was Hose'. She deserves a medal for that.)

Act after act was flung onto the stage and gave a nice postcard effect of their country. Some were better than others, nobody cared, we just went mad for everyone. An Iranian gentleman seemed almost moved to tears by the fanatical adulation of the crowd. Hell, you could have put Idi Amin up there to discuss torture techniques and they'd have gone nuts.

And so there I was, banging my feet up and down and cheering and suddenly I realised something. I might titter at the Greek display of machismo and melodramatic plate breaking but really I was just jealous of their private party on the stage. I might have found the near delirium of the performers end of show finale over the top, but these people really knew how to have a good time.

Where were the home students? Certainly not in any of the rows around me. I wondered what performance the British would give at the 'Hong Kong Institute of Science and Technology'. Ironic somehow, that we have 'Imperial' in our title. Now the world has come to us and many of us don't seem to care. At once I felt very lonely, the world seemed very big. Everyone should be in a minority sometime.

THE MELVIN SHANKLIN GROUP PRESENTS :

I Incredibly
Crazy and
Wacky

ELECTION
CANDIDATES

A MELVIN SHANKLIN
PRODUCTION

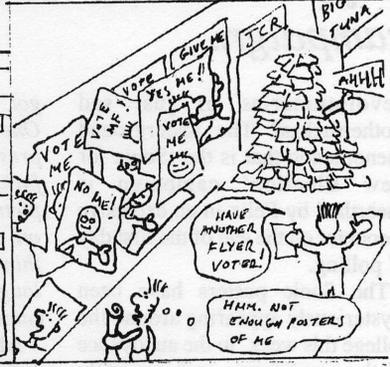


VOTE FOR ME AND I'll GIVE YOU REDUCE BEER PRICES? ETC...?

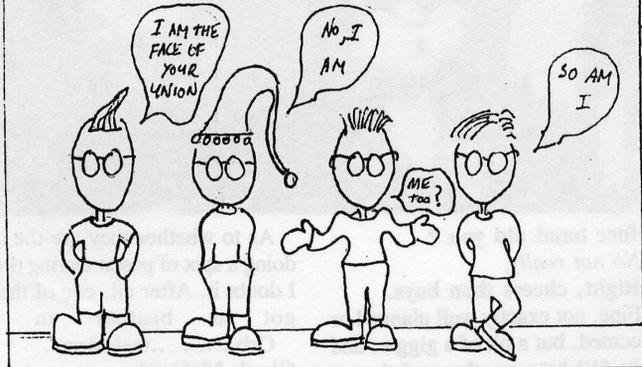
THIS WEEK THE MELVIN SHANKLIN GROUP GIVES YOU AN INSIDE VIEW OF ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

LITTERING THE WALKWAY WITH PICTURES OF YOURSELF IS VITALLY IMPORTANT & THE POSTER CAMPAIGN

1 POSTER CAMPAIGN



2 IMAGE IS VITALLY IMPORTANT. ANYTHING CAN HELP YOU STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD



3 HUSTINGS + OUTRAGEOUS MANIFESTO CLAIMS. PRACTISE THE ST MARYS HUSTINGS BY ATTENDING MENTAL INSTITUTE TEA PARTYS



4 A STUPID HAT. WITH A CRAP HAT TO SHOW YOUR TRUE INDIVIDUALITY, YOU'RE BOUND TO WIN VOTES



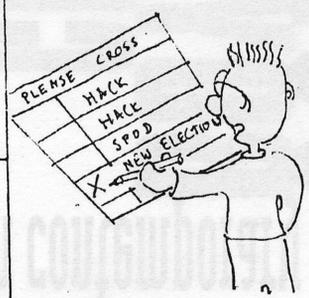
5 SCANDAL. JUST LIKE THE REALLY TRENDY P-P GROUP SUEDE, SOME DEGREE OF SEXUAL AMBIGUITY WILL BOOST YOUR FAME



6 ELIMINATE COMPETITION. ONLY ENTER YOURSELF IF ITS A ONE HORSE RACE!



AND SO ELECTIONS ARE OVER. VOTING TURNOUT WAS VERY GOOD. IN FACT THE VOTER TURNED OUT BEFORE LUNCH !!



THE END

MORE ELECTION LAUGHS NEXT YEAR.

Sonic found and sounded

Glyph McCord talks to the perpetrators of the 'Sonic for Pres' campaign.

Revolutionaries or just sad motherfuckers? The underground phenomenon that is the 'Sonic for New Election' campaign is unearthed by Felix in an exclusive encounter on the eve of the first day of polling.

The Sonic posters have been mysteriously appearing around the college this week, to the annoyance of the candidates, and generally speaking, to the ignorance of Joe Public.

So why bother ?

Why ? To ridicule the whole fiasco. The sabbatical elections are simply a self effacing group of people seeking self gratification, and a free ride on the backs of the Union members to a cheap year in the Bar and the pick of the first year talent. In that case, your motivation is inflammatory, and ultimately with the goal of toppling the Union and causing widespread panic around college ?

Naah!.....it was just a bit of a laugh really, see, we went up to Warwick University, and they've

got their elections on too, right. One of their candidates - for president or sommat - is such a fuckin' spod, right, that he used a picture of Sonic instead of himself on all his posters. So we got to thinkin' that ,OK , that'd be a laugh, so when we got back, Sonic came with us.

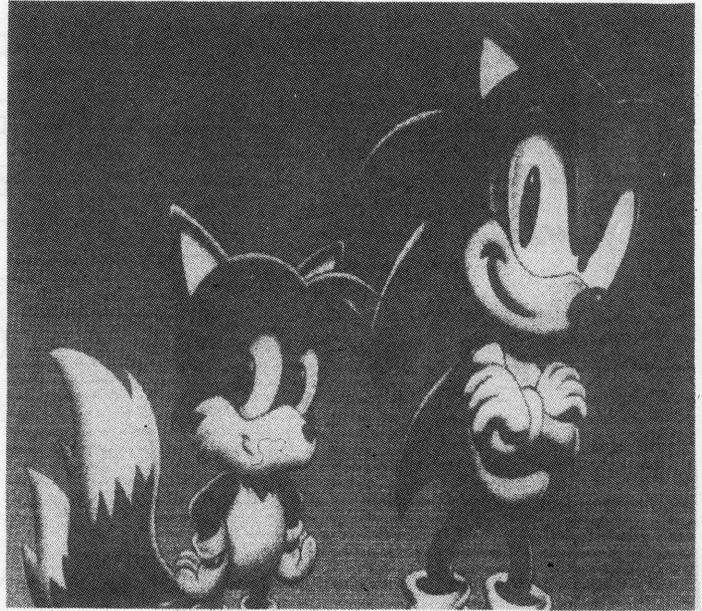
Ah ! so you're not so much embryonic Ché Guevaras, more plagiarising, humourless Twats with nothing better to do than steal crap jokes from dour midlands institutions like Warwick, and paste them up over the top of legitimate posters on the walkway ?

Erm.....

OK, in that case, how can your campaign be described as anything other than 'Self Effacing' and 'Self Gratifying.'(sic) as you accuse the legitimate candidates of being ?

Well it's sort of difficult to answer that

Let's face facts boys, you really didn't think about this very much



before hand did you ?

No not really.

Right, cheers then boys.

Fine, not exactly well planned or executed, but a bit of a giggle, and only £10 between three of them.

As to whether they are the ones doing a spot of poster tearing down, I doubt it. After all, one of them's got a brother in the Orb.....melowww.

Glyph McCord

TUESDAY 10pm to 3.30am

SONIC BOYS

CHRIS COVE

OUT DRINKS at Student Union bar prices

Heaven under the Arches off Villiers Street London WC2

£3 Student Card holders and their guests. £2 before 11pm with Student Card and this flyer £5 otherwise

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