

Comic 2002



It's Here

Contents

The Editor's Bit	2
A Word from the Chairman	3
New Faces	4
What Ever Happened to...?	5
Hatches, Matches, Dispatches	6
Throbbing Love Bites	7
Whores, Grease, Seamen	8
Life on the Dark Side	9
Bring Your Own Joke	9
FOH	10
Doctor Dave	11

The Editor's Bit

Jonathan Dixon

Well, here we are, another year, another Comus dinner, another Comic. Hope you enjoy it!

Many thanks to all the people who have submitted copy for inclusion in this rag, I'll buy you drinks tonight. And shame on all you who said you would and never did! *You can buy me drinks tonight!*

I could have made 16 pages in the end, but lack of free printing dictated otherwise. And I'm bored with MS Word (Never, Ever use it for page layout!!!)

I had some fun while drawing together the content for this year's

master piece: I emailed comic@comus.org (no '.uk') by mistake: turns out this belongs to the Comus family in the USA! And they're really keen to hear from anyone with the surname Comus. Needless to say, Christine, Dad, Jessica, Louis, Pat, Steve, and Chris Comus will be keeping an eye on our new site, www.comus.org.uk. In the coming year and beyond, make sure you copy any interesting news to comic@comus.org.uk, to be included in future Comics.

You may notice a few disposable cameras kicking about the event this evening. Feel free to use them! But don't run off with them, as I'll get pictures from them put up at www.comus.org.uk/dinner2002, hopefully by next weekend!

Enjoy your evening!

A Word from the Chair

Darren Holmes

Happy New Year!

... And 'welcome back' to this year's dinner, which has happily returned to the College premises. The Comus Dinner to me is about catching up with old friends and reminiscing. Traditionally the Dinner was held in College with everyone meeting in the Union Bar before and afterwards. The Committee have always aimed to find us the best meal possible at the best possible price, so whilst the Holiday Inn has made sense the past few years, some of the traditions have suffered and the atmosphere was not quite the same. It really wasn't a hard choice to come 'home' then, with feedback that the college catering had improved and that the prices had changed considerably. But just to be sure, we even had an advance tasting party to check out the menu. If you don't like the desserts, please pass them on....

Thanks go to the Committee who have made this all happen this year, and in

particular to Erica and Gus. I'm sorry that we will be losing Helen, who, ever since I've known her, has been one of the stalwarts of either Society. She can't be with us today but has assured me that Nick Marley will fill her boots, red wig and all. I did hear rumours that there could be some amount of cross-dressing at the Dinner; a dangerous trend, but I suppose we have to accommodate all sorts. I'm told we even have Freemasons among us!!! Whatever next? (ideas please!)

It seems that we've gone e-mad this year. There's a new society website (www.comus.org.uk), some of you received your dinner invites via the email talk-list, and I'm told that someone will be uploading pictures from the dinner to the net even while we eat! I'm sure the best webcam viewing would be of us trying to make our way home after the Dinner, hmmm, maybe next year.

Hope you enjoy the meal.

Regards,

Darren Holmes

Burly in a Dress!

If anybody is wondering why there is a young man wondering around in a very short skirt, don't ask us!

But I hear it's all in the name of Charity, I believe the aim is to raise more for Rag than the rest of Rag do. So please give generously, to help him to achieve this!



New Faces

Gus Paul



In no particular order, the new members from the last two years.

Ed Brown – Current Tech Dir

He's moody, irritable, has a sick sense of humour and wears a silly hat. The force is strong with this one.

Andy Caisley – Lighting Director



Most recent member of crew to wear a dress, during Fresher's week at Imperial. We believe he's still receiving counselling.

Paul "Leon" Wilson – Sound tech

A modest sort of chap, he'll always defer to other peoples knowledge, especially with things he's never done.

Ben Fisher – Acting Director

A man with a sense of humour and excellent comic timing. Did Material Science.

Lee Sirrett – Actor & Current Vice President (well supposedly)

Not seen so far this year. Maria's not that scary to work for, surely?

John Grainger – Actor & Director

Director of MSND he has followed a great line of actors in the society. By leaving Imperial after one year...

"Evil" Andrew Tierney – Crew

What do you actually do??!

Emma Clay – Stage Crew

Girly, innocent, shy. All words that have never been used to describe our resident ray of sunshine...

Andre Refig – Actor

Directed *Clue*, acted in *Popcorn*, put up posters for many things.



Gary Ewer – Sound Director

Mr Campbell was always going to be a hard act to follow, so Gary hasn't tried – he's usually quite cheerful. Resident crew photographer (he takes pictures of the sets, not the crew!)

Jude Baxter – Crew

What, another female member of crew? Are they breeding or something?! Allegedly squeals if you poke her in the right place...



Mike Moate – Treasurer & Lighting tech

DoC student. Allegedly the next Nick Towers. In which case he's going to have to start eating many more pies...

Rob Wimpory – Actor

Played the camp lion in *MSDN*. For some reason that's the only thing that sticks in my warped little mind....



Maria Urwin – EI President & Actor

You can almost trust her. She's almost a Doctor. Not to say you should trust her when she is a Doctor.

What ever happened to...?

Gus Paul

News of some Comus members who have recently passed on from Imperial...

Nick Towers

nick@nicktowers.net

Graduated with a 1st in Computing in 2000, now earning a lot for doing not very much. But its for a dot-com company so get the drinks off him while you still can: if they don't go completely bust, he might be moving to Moscow later this year (get your holiday booked with him at the dinner!)

Luke Farrow

luke.farrow@bigfoot.com

After graduating from Imperial with a degree in Biology, Luke has spent the past 18 months working for IC Conference Office. He left today, and would love for you to join him for drinks in the union tomorrow. —



John Austing

j.austing@bigfoot.com

Graduated with a 2.1 in Physics in 2000, now working for the Home Office. Very hush hush.

Paul Wilson

p.g.wilson@bigfoot.com

Also a physics graduate, Paul has been ruining the departments 'employed on graduation' statistics for the past 18 months, and is currently sailing around the Mediterranean or Caribbean or Australia or some place.

Phil Lunn

philip.lunn@clara.co.uk

Graduated in maths in 2001, Phil has already directed a 6 week run of *NewsRevue* at the Canal Cafe Theatre, and is constantly on the hunt for new and exciting projects!

Ben Pickersgill

ben@pickersgill.fsnet.co.uk

Graduated in Elec Eng in 2001, Ben is now working for Stage Technologies, and has already lit a couple of shows in London!

Iain Campbell

ic@ic.ac.uk

After graduating with a 2.1 in ISE, Iain spent the next 4 months getting stressed as project manager for the new ICU media centre in the Beit basement. Now working for Symbian.

Hatches, Matches, Dispatches

(Or at least, those of which we know about)



Darren & Jennifer Holmes celebrated the birth of their first child, Andrew Christopher Holmes, on 3 October 2001. Our baby-chair is apparently adorable, because of his “cute squeaks and snuffles”.

Alison and John Cole welcomed their second daughter, Maya, on 29 June 2001. Did Dave ever find out what baby lemmings are called?

Marion Hinds and Nick Jones sneakily tied the knot shortly before last years dinner, on 18 December 2000. We don't know who wears the trousers, but we can see who carries the hand bag...

With sympathy, I pass on the news that *Jane Hickling*, lost her life in a road accident in December 2001. Those wishing to pass on condolences should contact Mylan (mylan_lester@dial.pipex.com) .

13.3.95
gugu
pooch

Throbbing Love Bites

Maria

So, what has *The Other Society* been up to this year?

Following the SOS award-breaking *Dangerous Liasons* last December, a certain individual took it upon himself to *Antagonise* the Society (thus earning a successful nomination for Acting Director). Shortly after, *Porncop* was well received thanks to the moulding of a soon-to-be graduate mathematician with a mild interest in current affairs. And then came the elections. If you couldn't make the first, second or third, then don't

worry – there will be an EGM coming soon to a storeroom near you! After a couple of cabinet re-shuffles to appoint a

Treasurer (All Hail Mike) and an OCM ("Hodgson, Imperial") an executive decision was made to attempt the record EGMs in a year. As such, should you have any nominations for the post of Acting Director, they will be very gratefully received.

The summer months began with a little black-tie do in college, which we all enjoyed enormously. Attentions were then turned to devising methods of corruption for the first week of term.

The Great Book made its seductive appearance and charmed autographs from the masses. The unsuspecting were completely hooked at our first play reading by acting like *Animal..(s on a) Farm* and greatly appreciated our hastily staged excerpts from *The Canterbury Tales*. And then there were the converts to The Dark Side....

The showcase of Fresher talent came in the form of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with a great cast, an even greater production team and a cracking poster campaign (Suite 5 - need I say more?). If you missed it, and you'd better have a good excuse if you did, Gary has some fantastic photos...of the play.

What's new for 2002? (sorry) Next term's production,



Run for your Wife, promises to be a right good laff, so keep an evening free between 13th to 16th March. And Kat has a project in store for the summer – watch the talk-list for more information.

And that just leaves me to say a hearty thanks to everyone for making all this possible, and to wish you a very happy new year.

LP x

Whores, Grease and Seamen

Paul Hickman and Laurie Tweedle

2001 will be a hard act to follow for the other Other Society after two sell-out productions. *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, performed in March, sold out for nearly every performance - was it the poster of the naked lady or the 'Whore' T-shirts that brought the IC lads in in droves?

With a very strong cast and production, Adrian Lillie gave them a set of costumes that left them with no shame (given most of them came from Soho and Shepards Bush market [what, the cast? – Ed]).

Brian Tucker did his usual and set the techies a task like no other, with just 48 hours to install the set before the tech rehearsal. Eight bedrooms, three staircases, a moving truck and other notable items

such as carpet tiles, shag handles and the kitchen sink. Those of the audience wanting a closer view took their lives (and hopefully no more) in their hands and braved sitting under the set bedrooms, constructed from Steeldeck. Brian extended his courtesies, giving the seven band members three square metres, the costume department a quick-change area.

The lighting bods, Burly Cumberland and Ben Pickersgill, proved us all wrong when the shagging shadow play left us with no doubts about what

was going on (in some cases knowing less have

been better, Mike).

HMS Pinafore saw the annual descent

on Budleigh Salterton. A very glamorous production set in the 1950's on the quarterdeck of HMS Pinafore, which received rave reviews and sold out for all the second week. Another excellent set design from Mr Tucker gave us the quarterdeck modelled on HMS Belfast with a gangplank leading to the dockside (a catwalk surrounding the band), which managed to survive

two weeks of the female chorus crossings, four times per show

More Steeldeck and more scaff, the crew each became famous for their own tasks, most notable Brian for his 'great pair of cleats' and Joth Dixon for his construction for 'keeping it up' 24 hours a day, 2 weeks on end (the gun

turret that is!).

The partying surpassed that of recent years, vicars and tarts were much to blame, or was it the SM (or S & M?)!?

Since October the society has been actively recruiting and has even recruited itself a new name: ICUMTS (the Musical Theatre Society). After a successful November review, auditions have been taking place for *Grease* to be performed March 12th - 16th. Work is also well under way for Tour 2002 which will be *Pirates of Penzance*... another challenging year.



Life on the Dark Side

Gus Paul

The techie half of the other society continues to go from strength to strength in supporting both the society and, it seems, just about everyone else's society in the union as well! So what have they been up to since this time last year?

Well, the first memorable event has to be the other Other Society's production of *The Best Little Whore House in Texas*. With over 2 dozen pieces of Steeldeck, 200 feet of scaff and much muslin, the most extravagant set for several years in the Concert Hall very nearly brought the house down, literally, with much of it suspended from the Concert Hall Roof (hanging on points installed by Mo. Lester & Co.). In Brian's words, there were inches to spare!

The week after was the other society's performance of Ben Elton's popcorn, again with an excellent set, produced with much enthusiasm by Messieurs Pickersgill and Campbell - even cast members were building set! The 4th ICU Summer Ball followed the usual exciting Easter events (how many years will it take David Swann to learn to use the Arri?). With a 40ft square tunnel stage on the Queens Lawn, and dancing venues in the Great Hall,

JCR and MDH, as well as a sit down dinner in the SCR, it was certainly an improvement on the previous year, and was pretty much carried by the efforts of the crew. Especially impressive as the Tech Dir was nursing a broken foot (look, if you haven't already heard, don't ask!). College were so impressed [with the event, not the broken foot], they may

Bring your own joke

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| <i>Nick T</i> | Eight fingers just aren't enough |
| <i>Brian T</i> | Well, I've got my thumb up there too |
| <i>Marion J</i> | Another? |
| <i>Nick J</i> | Just a small one. |
| <i>Marion</i> | I wouldn't expect anything else from you. |
| <i>Mark S</i> | How was it? |
| <i>Brian T</i> | Christine was very easy on top, but was more difficult going down. |
| <i>Paul H</i> | Should I put Deep Heat on now, or just hope it's not stiff in the morning? |

even donate money this year, so we may even get someone other than Mark Horne to top the bill..... With many rooms across college needing setup, at a very busy time of the academic year, the Summer Ball always draws upon the Old Lag contingent to make it possible: if you'd like to get involved this year, email edward.brown@ic.ac.uk and let him know of your interest.

With Mark having left at the end of the year 2000 (you can now catch him DJ-ing at schooldisco.com in Hammersmith), the new Ents manager

– Ham Al-Rubaie – has been keeping the end of term carnivals going, if not as many live bands. And for the first time in several years, freshers' week was, well, fresh – with an all new format



letting the all new crew get going for the year.

The now annual Tech Workshop attracted a fair few freshers along to see what we do - it might have been more if we'd noticed the posters advertising it said 25th November instead of 25th October!

An efficiently produced performance of Midsummer Nights Dream allowed us to introduce some of the newer crew

members to life on a DramSoc production.

Lots of new equipment has been bought - someone let Mr. Campbell take a blank cheque book to the dome auction with the result that we now have a wide

range of equipment stamped 'Millennium Experience'. Oh and a quite modest new PA system.

With the usual array of exciting, entertaining(!), overseas shows spread throughout the year, and over a dozen people involved at various times, the crew will be kept busier than ever.

The future is dark, the future is black...

FOH

Vicky Swirling

All of the following were ACTUAL conversations had between the FOH staff and the audiences at HMS Pinafore in Budleigh, on OpSoc Tour 2001.

Good Evening Sir..... Welcome to the show.....

No.....sorry. No senior citizens' discount; we're trying to break even this year.....

So, 2 tickets then? £13 please.

No, no! – that's for 2 people sir.....

Oh Tea! – No, that'll be available in the interval sir.

Yes, I'm sure you'll be able to have a chocolate biscuit too – in one hour.....

Yes, 1 hour's time.

Oh!..... It's going to take you one hour to get to your seat?!..... Oh, show starts in two minutes.

Madam, please don't undo the seats; yes, they ARE close together, but you CAN'T spread them across the hall – something to do with fire regulations I think – No, you can't sit on the stage so that you can see better....

Yes, you can leave your zimmer frame there Sir....

You too Madam? OK... well if we put your zimmer frame there, and yours there Madam, then they'll be out of the way of the stage....

Yes, you WILL be able to get them back at the end ladies.... No, we won't sell them, but would you like to buy an HMS Pinafore vest top?.... or, what about we get the Musical Director to order you a nice pair of cycling shorts especially?

2 coffees Sir?

80 pence please. Choc Ice?

No CHOC – not CHALK!

Milk or plain? – ORANGE? – no, sorry.
Just do milk or plain.

Toilets are THAT way, by your zimmer

frame. Enjoy the second half.

Thank you Sir, did you enjoy the show?

It was too loud? – Yes. Probably IS a good idea to turn your hearing aid down next time.

Ladies, Ladies.... PLEASE!.... Madam, I'm sure this one was your zimmer frame, and this one belonged to the gentle...

Oh NO! – please....no fighting with handbags...

Are you alright there sir? Lost your wife? – What does she look like?..... She's got grey hair? – RIGHT.

Found her now have you?.....Good. See you next year! – Good night!

Doctor Dave's problem page

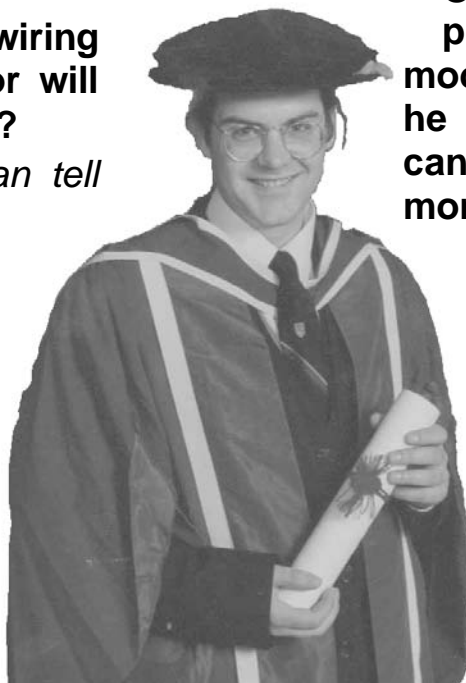
Doctor Dave Gathercole

Our resident Doctor kindly helps out some more confused soles with relationships, sex, and soldering.

Do you think it's worth rewiring that 150-pin connector, or will she just think I'm sadistic?

Probably, but then who can tell what she will think or why?

I mistakenly picked up a packet of heat-shrink instead of a packet of condoms last night. Do you have any tips for removal since the friction has caused it to reduce in size somewhat?



If it's stuck to your hand then I suggest acetone.

Otherwise you could try dry ice or liquid nitrogen and very, very gentle tapping.

Our darling Tech Dir professes not to be moody and irritable, when he quite clearly is. How can I make him love me more?

You could try rewiring that 150-pin connector.

Is it the first Friday after the second Tuesday or the second Friday after the first Tuesday?

Yes.

ELAINE

9/11/97

X

I DID
FIND
TWO
PENCE
🏠 🏠