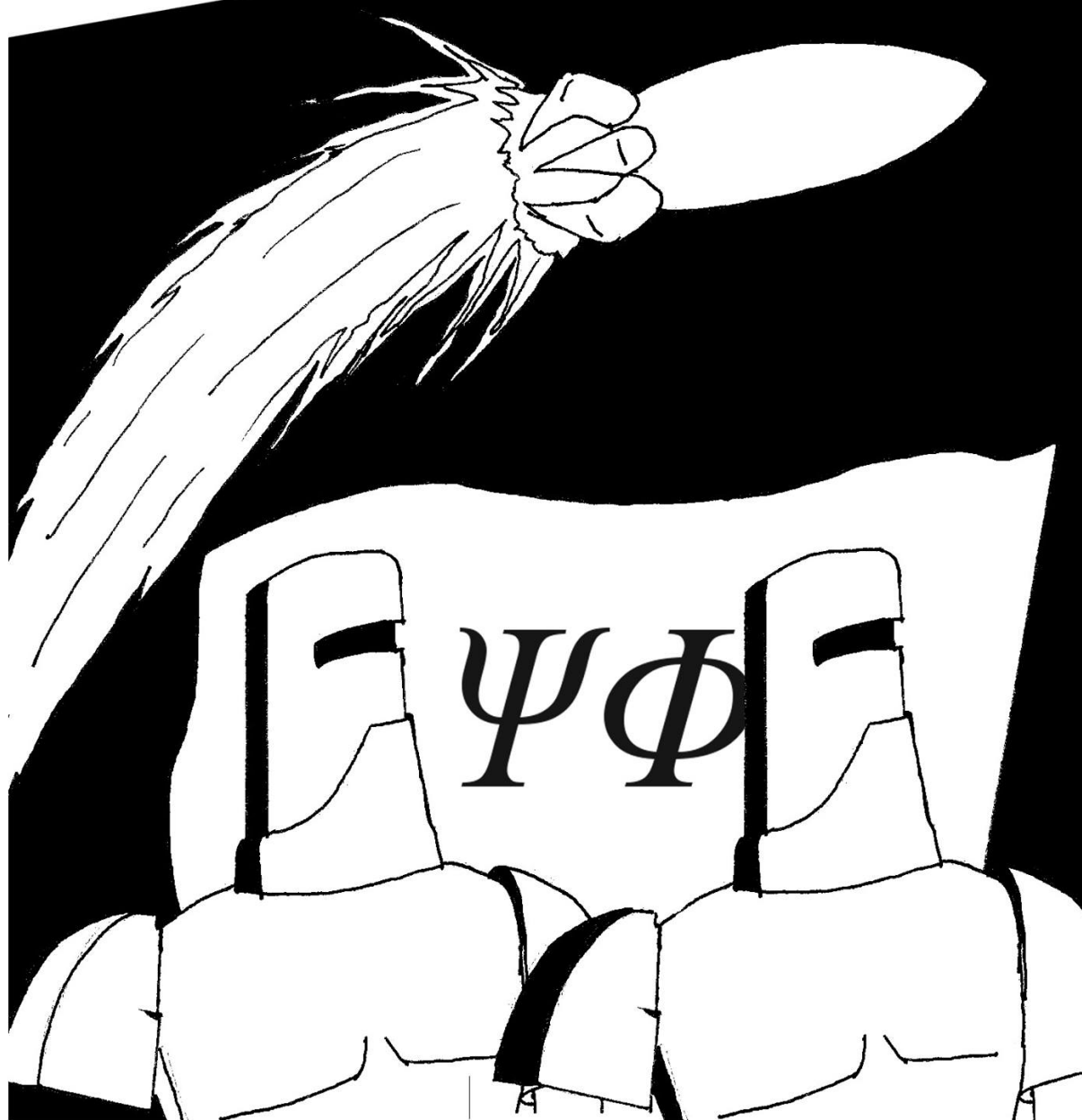


WYRMITONGUE





Welcome

Hello there! Welcome to Wyrmtongue, the newsletter of the Imperial College Science-Fiction and Fantasy (ICSF) society. Inside this issue you will find society news and information about the exciting things happening this term and the rest of the year.

– Amelia Owens, Acting Editor



Captain's Log

Hi everyone. First things first, welcome back to ICSF and Imperial in general! To the Freshers, let me be one of the ever-increasing horde of people wishing you congratulations on making your way here, you deserve it.

Now that your peaceful/chaotic/exciting (choose one or more) summer has ended, and the inevitable tide of lectures and labs is resuming, we are happy to be able throw open our doors and provide you with a lunchtime respite away from all of that stress. Without fail, we'll be there watching something involving laser or swords, socialising, and just generally whiling the time away until we have to face the real world again. Everyone's very friendly, newcomers are always welcome, and no-one bites.

And what kind of Acting Chair Entity would I be if I didn't take any opportunity possible to mention our lending library of over 9000 (yes, over 9000!) books, DVDs, and comics? All of which are available to our members - and if by some fluke of chance we don't have a particular book just let us know and it'll be in the library lickety-split (has anyone actually said lickety-split since the 1800s?).

If our library, the size of which still staggers me, doesn't convince you to join by itself then let me try and sweeten the deal. In addition to your ability to be able to access more media than you could feasibly consume in over a decade, we also run various events throughout the year. Past events have included: subsidised cinema trips to see the latest blockbuster (read as: comic book/Star Wars/book adaptation movie), bar nights which are popular with both drinkers and non-drinkers, as well as more specialised events. We even get seasonal with a Halloween event full to the brim with cheesy costumes, cheesy pizza, and even cheesier sing-a-long nonsense, and a Christmas event full of mince pies, classic Christmas films, and assorted other Christmas-y things.

Last, but certainly not least: we run a convention, Picocon. An actual, real, true-to-life convention with guests and panels and everything, but I'll let our Picocon Sofa talk to you about that particular event.

To the Freshers among you I hope this 'zine gives you an idea about our society, and if I can end this with one piece of advice: Don't Panic, you'll do fantastically. Acting-Chair out.

– Henry Wild, Acting Chair Entity



Welcome to the Library!

Hello, I'm Amelia, the Head Librarian (eek!), and I would like to welcome you all to ICSF's amazing library! Down in the East basement of Beit Quad you will find our huge collection of all things science fiction, fantasy and gothic horror (and other less genre things which happened to take our fancy).

As soon as you buy membership, all 9000 books, 200 DVDs and 600 graphic novels become yours to borrow when the library is open. Just ask me or one of the other committee members (there should always be one present) and we will help you take items out. If the thing you desperately want isn't there you can request it, either by writing it on the request list in the library or by tweeting the library twitter account.

During the week, the library is open from 12-2pm, and will invariably be filled with people watching genre TV and having nerdy discussions about life, the universe and everything. It's a great place to hide from responsibility and eat your lunch. It often stays open until late into the evening as well, so you can stay to marathon a TV series or even to 'work'. To find out if the library is open and what's on, check the webcam on the front page of our website.

Last of all, the size of the library can be daunting, so if you are stuck for where to start, check out the recommendations by committee members on the next page.

– Amelia Owens, Librarian

Book Recommendations

To give you some ideas about what to take out of the library, here are some recommendations from the committee members of books to borrow.

Henry Wild

— **Elantris** by Brandon Sanderson *Demigods suddenly become zombies, problems ensue.*

Amelia Owens

— **Fated** by Benedict Jacka *Probability mage. Giant spider. Modern London.*

Katherine Read

— **The Martian** by Andy Weir *If Robinson Crusoe worked for NASA.*

Beth Windo

— **Railsea** by China Mieville *Dystopian future run by national rail.*

Edward Da Fonseca

— **Tech, Lies and Wizardry** by J.S. Morin *Firefly, but with magic and aliens.*

Jian Li Chew

— **Terminal World** by Alastair Reynolds *Last city standing. Fallen angel. Adventure.*

– The Committee



Events Timetable

As you may have gathered by now, the SciFi society runs loads of fun events over the year, involving everything from movie marathons to Cthulhu carols. There are many exciting events in the first few weeks, which you can find out more about on the timetable on the next page. The fun continues over the year so be sure to subscribe to the mailing list to stay updated.

Lunchtime Showings

Most lunchtimes (12 - 2pm) you will find the library full of people watching various TV shows and movies. For the first few weeks we will be showing some of the most well known movies and TV shows to give you an idea of the genre, but after that it's up to whoever gets there first.

Literary Lucky Dip

Did someone say free books? Yes, we did! But there's a catch - the books will be wrapped up with only a few words on the front to describe what's inside.

ICSF Barnights

Barnights are a great opportunity to meet and discuss everything SFF related, and many other things too!

Book Crawl

Forget pub crawls, ICSF has book crawls! Join us on a trip round London's best book and comic stores for a chance to discover where they are and what they have to offer.

Halloween

On Monday 31st October we will be having an all-singing all-dancing party in the library with showings of horror classics such *The Rocky Horror Show* and *Dr Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*. Also to look forward to are a fancy dress competition and a table in the bar!

Cinema Trips

Outings to see genre films are arranged throughout the year. This term we hope to go and see **Doctor Stange** and **Star Wars**.

Arrangements for tickets will be circulated using the `icsf-list` mailing list.

Henry Wild, Chair of Vice

ICSF Autumn Term Events

Week	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat*
Week 1 3rd October		Freshers Fair! Viewing: <i>Firefly</i> [†]	Viewing: <i>Futurama</i> [†] 6pm: EGM	Viewing: <i>Buffy</i> [†] 6pm: Meet and Greet [‡]	Viewing: <i>Star Trek: The Original Series</i> [†]	1pm: Luke Cage Marathon
Week 2 10th October	Viewing: <i>Adventure Time</i> [†]	Viewing: <i>Red Dwarf</i> [†]	Viewing: <i>Hitchhiker's (film)</i> [†]	Viewing: <i>X Files</i> [†] 6pm: Literary Lucky Dip	Viewing: <i>Black Mirror</i> [†] 6pm: Bar Night	11am: Book Crawl
Week 3 17th October			Collaboration with Gaming Society [§]			Marathon [§]
Week 4 24th October			Cinema Trip: Doctor Strange [§]	6pm: Book Club [§]		
Week 5 31st October	6pm: Halloween Night					

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To make sure you hear about later events in the year, subscribe to our mailing list.

* There are currently no events planned on Sundays, but members are always welcome to get the key out and enjoy the library.

† These are our usual lunchtime viewings, taking place in the library. They are 12-2pm (the whole of lunchtime) unless otherwise stated.

‡ Warning: this event may contain traces of pizza.

§ Precise date and content TBC by popular opinion.



Picocon

Hello and welcome, freshers and those slightly longer in the tooth. ICSF is a rather old society, which means positions get funny names. I am your Sofa, which means that I'm in charge of Picocon, our student run literary convention that'll be held on the 18th of September 2017.

This is the 34th one we've ever held, and they've been going on every year since the early 1980s. In previous years, we've had Terry Pratchett, Michelle Paver, and Charles Stross as guests of honour, and will have another three guests this year. These authors each give an hour long talk, taking questions and discussing topics with the audience, before we have all of them together for a group panel session. Other events include turkey readings, where we regale you with the worst of modern literature until you pay us to stop, and the destruction of dodgy merchandise, where plastic abominations are shattered with the aid of liquid nitrogen and a large hammer. All the proceeds from these events go to the Raising and Giving scheme (RAG).

The theme for this year is futurism – advances in artificial intelligence and robotics mean that the theoretical utopias/dystopias of fiction are becoming an increasingly relevant topic. While things are looking good for technology in areas such as driverless cars, organising events must sadly still be performed by less automated methods – and to help me with this we have our esteemed beanbag, Edward da Fonseca.

We're also running an art competition – design a logo for the convention and we'll show the work on all our promotional material. You'll also get a shirt with your design on. Previous examples can be seen on our website, or in the large box of old shirts if you ask any committee member. The deadline for entries is the 1st November, so please send these or any questions to icsf.picoconsofa@gmail.com.

– Beth Windo, Picocon Sofa *

* More comfortable than a chair

Getting Involved

Mailing Lists

ICSF maintains two mailing lists, which all members are welcome to subscribe to. Like all official Imperial mailing lists, they use mailman. **icsf-list** is the society's core mailing list, which contains announcements of ICSF events and important news about the society. This list gets quite a low volume of traffic, and *is a must if you want to hear about film trips and other events*. **icsf-committee** is our 'management' list — but it gets used a lot more widely than that. Here you'll be able to contribute your opinion to the running of the society. You can manage your subscriptions at mailman.imperial.ac.uk/mailman.

Social Networks

For those who welcome our social network overlords, we also have a Facebook group, which is pretty much a continuation of the library into the realms of cyber space — facebook.com/groups/ICSF.Imperial (or search for 'Imperial College Science Fiction').

New this year is a library twitter account. Follow [icsf_librarian](#) for updates on new additions and recommendations.

EGM

This year we also have three committee positions to be occupied: Chair, Editor and Tech Priest. The elections will take place on Wed 5th October at 6pm. So if you like making 'zines, fixing the webcam or just generally bossing people around, now is your chance!

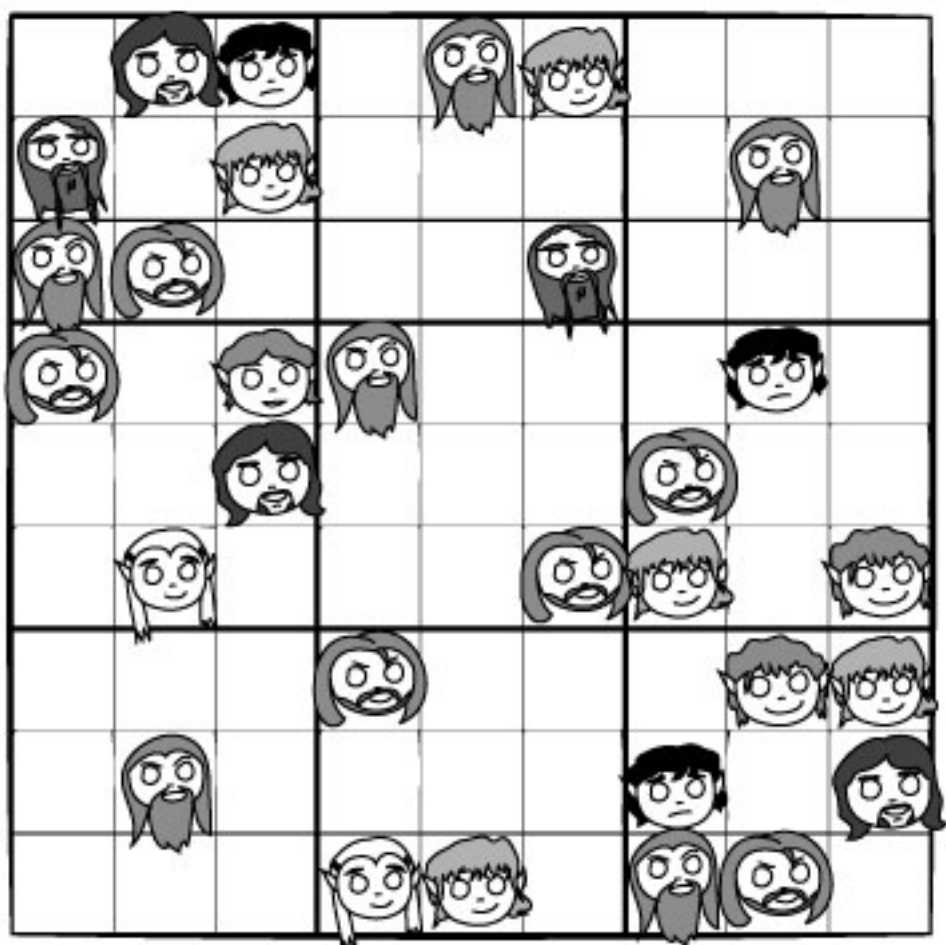
If you don't intend to run, the meeting will still be a good way to get to know this year's committee and more about how the society is managed.

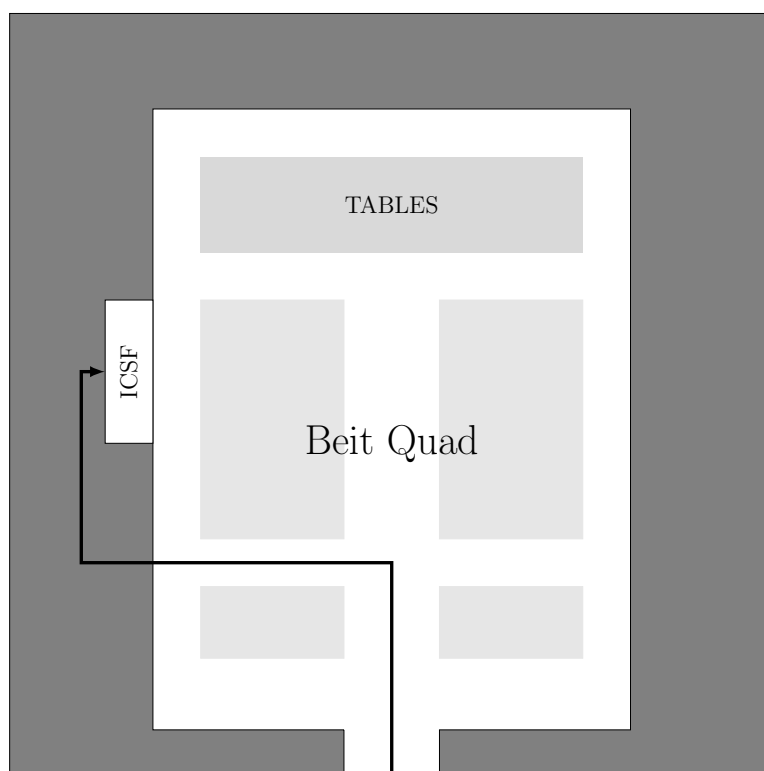
Steampunks



For those of you who would rather drink tea than mead and would rather wear goggles than armour, ICSF has a Steampunk daughter society. Events can be arranged subject to interest. Check out the facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/icsps/.

Mount Sudoomku





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