

# Captain's Log

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**Matthew Last**  
Chair Entity

**H**ELLO all, and welcome to the 43rd year of the Imperial College Science Fiction and Fantasy Society! I'm Matthew, this year's Chair-Entity, and as such it falls to me to provide a snapshot of what we get up to.

Firstly, Books! Over 10,000 of them! ICSF has an entire library full of fantastic fiction situated in the not-so-secretive West Basement of Beit halls, a mere pint glass' throw from the Union Bar.<sup>1</sup> Our collection comprises of great reads from across the sci-fi and fantasy spectrum, all of which can be loaned out to our members. We have an entire wall full of DVDs for your viewing pleasure and keep our shelves regularly topped up with all the new releases.

Secondly, Events! Whether it's movie marathons, bar nights or the odd excursion out to bookshops and cinemas, there is plenty to enjoy with your fellow bookworms and movie nerds. Soon approaching include our annual freshers' welcome event, Themed Fridays to celebrate the end of the week and our Halloween and Christmas parties. We even have our own convention; Picocon. A day full of talks from published authors, silly games and the odd bit of merchandise destruction.

Lastly, People! The library is a lovely social space where you can go and enjoy a relaxed lunchtime. Every day from 12 – 2pm you are welcome to join us as we watch some of our extensive collection of TV shows and films. Moreover, the society is full of friendly faces ready to chat and hold lively discussions about their favourite works of fiction. The society is very welcoming and inclusive, a fact I have known ever since I accidentally walked in on an EGM back when I was a fresher.

So, if you want to watch, read or discuss Pratchett, Potter, Trek, Who, Sanderson or more, come and find our shelves. You may find a few new favourites in the process.  $\Psi\Phi$

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<sup>1</sup>please do not actually throw pint glasses at the library.

# Welcome

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**L**OREM ipsum dolor sit amet.  $\Psi\Phi$



**Jean Lo**  
Editor

# Welcome to the Library!

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**Sintija  
Raudonyte**  
Head Librarian

**H**ELLO, reader! My name is Sintija, and I'm the Head Librarian this year. Unquestionably, the essence of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Society is our library in the West Basement of Beit Quad.

Now, whether you're new to Imperial, or a seasoned veteran, you will undoubtedly experience the dread of seeking an uncrowded, cosy space to have your lunch throughout the year. We offer a unique social space open from 12 to 2 in the afternoon every weekday where you can relax during your lunch break and bring your friends to discuss movies, books and anything even remotely related to science fiction or fantasy – or better yet, you can watch something from our collection of 2000+ DVDs on our TV screen. The library is often open late into the evening and some of our smaller events happen there, with the comfy darkness enveloping the room and friends chatting to each other, illuminated by the screen and fairy lights.

Even if you're not a huge sci-fi fan, you should consider dropping by: at the start of my first year, I had not yet seen a single Star Wars movie (blasphemy, I know) and by the end, I have not only seen the original trilogy and the prequels, but I was also roped into a roleplaying game happening in the Star Wars Universe. Some of my most treasured memories from my time at Imperial were made at the library.

I love not having to worry about buying books to read, as the library contains over 10,000 books and 600 graphic novels, all there for you to borrow the moment you join the society. We have a lot to offer and in the unlikely case of you not finding what you were looking for – you can always talk to me or put your suggestion on the request list, and we'll try to acquire it as soon as possible.

I hope to see you very soon!  $\Psi\Phi$

# Book Recommendations

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If you're looking to dive into the library's collection but are having trouble deciding where to start, here are some recommendations from the committee:

Matthew Last

— **Mort** by Terry Pratchett

*Death decides he needs an apprentice.*

Sequoia Trevorrow

— **One Way** by S.J. Morden

*Redemption on Mars? At what cost?*

Michael Figini

— **Futurama**

*Making great future predictions since 1999.*

Sintija Raudonyte

— **The Stranger** by Max Frei

*The book that taught me sarcasm.*

Harry Black

— **Jessica Jones Season 1**

*Near-perfect adaptaion of Alias comics run.*

Jean Lo

— **Kraken** by China Miéville

*An anatomy. A story about ink.*

Matthew Legg

— **The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy** by Douglas Adams

*Don't forget to bring your towel.*

Timothy Davison

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# Events Timetable

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**Matthew Legg**

Acting Publicity  
& Events Officer

**T**o all the men, women, mutants, aliens and otherwise unidentified creatures of Imperial: I'm Matt, ICSF's acting publicity and events officer, and I'm here to tell you about all of the events we have lined up in the coming weeks for you to enjoy.

Expect a torrent of events for the first few weeks of this term, with plenty of opportunities to meet fellow fans of sci-fi, fantasy, horror, and who-knows-what-else. Here are some of the regular events you can expect from ICSF:

**Lunchtime Showings** — From noon to 2pm nearly every weekday, the library can be found filled with people watching various TV shows and movies in our collection. Perfect if you have an hour to spare in-between lectures!

**Cinema Trips** — Come along as we go out as a group to see the latest fantasy and sci-fi hits in cinema, with tickets often discounted for members. This term's films of note include: *Joker*, *Zombieland: Double Tap*, *Maleficent: Mistress of Evil*, and *Jumanji: The Next Level*.

**Literary Lucky Dip** — Grab a free book! But with a catch: the mystery books will be wrapped up, with only a cryptic phrase written on the package to hint at what's inside.

**Bar Nights** — First round's on us as we discuss all things sci fi and fantasy with the refreshing taste of your favourite (alcoholic or otherwise) beverage on your lips.

**Book Crawl** — Where some societies have pub crawls, ICSF has book crawls! We'll be embarking on a journey around some of the best book and comic stores in London to find out what hidden gems they have on offer.

**Halloween Party** — On the eve of Friday November 1st, come as you are or dressed as your favourite character to our Halloween party! With showings of spooky(?) singalong classics like *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and *Dr Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*, come along for a night of singing, snacks, and even a fancy dress competition.

That should give you a taste of what kind of things we have in store this term. For more information about upcoming events this freshers, see the calendar on the opposite page. ΨΦ

<b>OCTOBER</b>		<b>NOVEMBER</b>		<b>DECEMBER</b>
WED 02	Wanna Go Wednesday 12:00-20:00 ICSF Library	FRI 01	Halloween Party 18:00-23:00 Dyson Library	FRI 13 <b>Cinema Trip</b> Jumanji: The Next Level
THU 03	Meet and Greet 18:00-24:30 Blackett 1004	TBC ??	Literary Lucky Dip	
FRI 04	<b>Theme Friday</b> Blockbuster Night	TBC ??	Bar Night	
	<b>Cinema Trip</b> Joker	TBC ??	EGM	
FRI 11	<b>Theme Friday</b> No details yet			
FRI 18	<b>Theme Friday</b> No details yet			
FRI 25	<b>Theme Friday</b> No details yet			

# Picocon

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**Harry Black**  
Picocon Sofa

**W**ELCOME to what is likely to be the first of many Sofa Ramblings™ this year. (Many of the following ramblings are likely to occur exclusively within the Sci Fi Library, especially as February arrives).

I am this years Picocon Sofa! If that makes no sense to you at all, then you are likely very new to this society. Picocon is the annual convention we run to raise money for charity and for the society, while also to celebrate Science Fiction and Fantasy in all its forms! The Picocon Sofa is the committee member most responsible for the convention. This year's Picocon will be the thirty-seventh.

Although — unfortunately — I am yet unable to confirm a date currently due to a room booking system that is only mostly functional on its best days, there is some good news on the way! I plan to run this year's convention a little differently to normal. For starters, the theme this year will be “Pride”: I am going to be using this Picocon as a way to celebrate LGBTQ+ stories and creators, as I myself am asexual and have found quite the overlap between LGBTQ+ stories and science fiction/fantasy stories. Of course, we will have Guests of Honour to give speeches and presentations. In previous years, we have hosted such fabulous names as Terry Pratchett and Iain M. Banks.

While the rest of the committee will be assisting me this year as they have done in every previous year, the position of Picocon Beanbag, my second in command, is presently unfilled. If everything I've said so far interests you and you would like to be involved, please consider running for this position at our EGM this term! For all announcements + useful information after this point, please do follow the Picocon twitter account @picocon.

Hope to see you all there! ΨΦ

# Whispers from the Basement

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Imperial College Science Fiction and Fantasy Society brings their weird and wonderful conversations directly to your auditory organs! Tune in for an hour of terrible banter, mysterious music, and possibly traumatising dialogue.

*Whispers from the Basement* airs every Wednesday afternoon 14:00 - 15:00 on IC Radio. Find updates about the show and listen to previous broadcasts on the IC Radio website at [icradio.com/shows/1016/](http://icradio.com/shows/1016/).

## Getting Involved

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### Mailing Lists

ICSF maintains two mailing lists, to which all members are welcome to subscribe:

- `icsf-list` is the society's core mailing list, which communicates announcements of ICSF events and important news about the society. This list does not generate an overwhelming amount of traffic, and subscription is a must if you would like to hear about film trips and other activities.
- `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.

Manage your subscriptions at [mailman.imperial.ac.uk/mailman](http://mailman.imperial.ac.uk/mailman).

### Social Media

For those who welcome our social network overlords, behold continuations of the library into the realms of cyberspace:



[facebook.com/groups/ICSF.imperial](https://facebook.com/groups/ICSF.imperial)  
*Sci-fi talk, news and events, amusing links.*



@Picocon  
*Announcements and excitement for our annual convention.*



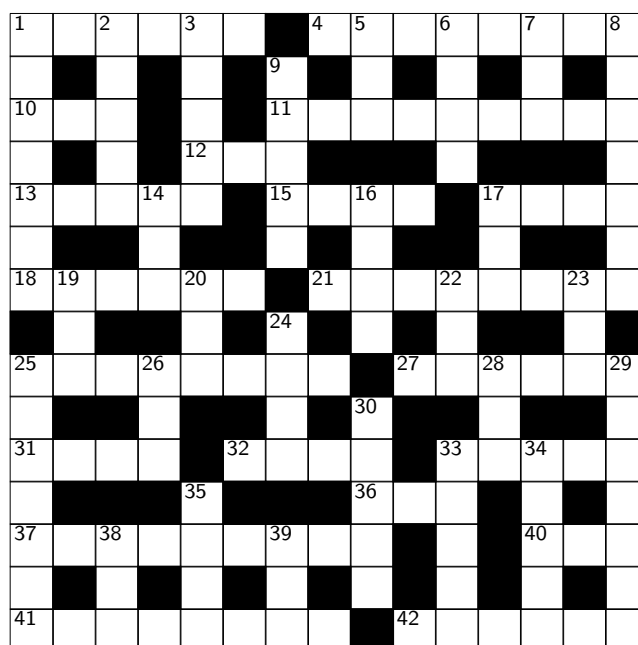
@Imperial\_SciFi  
*Sci-fi and fantasy, 280 characters at a time.*



@Imperial\_SciFi  
*Visions from the library.*



# Crossword



## Across

- 1 Mal Reynolds, Han Solo, Robin Hood (6)  
 4 The Spaceship in *Alien* (8)  
 10 \_\_\_\_ (3)  
 11 Rogues, thieves, conmen (9)  
 12 \_\_\_\_ (3)  
 13 Asimov, author of *Foundation* (5)  
 15 Fantasy's favourite alcoholic beverage (4)  
 17 McCaffrey, author for *Dragonriders of Pern* (4)  
 18 Release the sea monster! (6)  
 21 Giant skull home of The Collector (8)  
 25 Home of Aquaman (8)  
 27 Home of Jules Verne (6)  
 31 Anastrophic green mentor (4)  
 32 Looking for aliens (4)  
 33 Werewolf magic teacher (5)  
 36 Mister Anderson (3)

- 37 *E.T., A.I., Jurrassic Park* (9)  
 40 Lyrical stanza (3)  
 41 Knight of the Round Table (8)  
 42 Wesley Crusher's Starfleet rank (6)

## Down

- 1 Egyptian monument (7)  
 2 Latin name for Earth (5)  
 3 Origin culture of the Quetzalcoatl (5)  
 5 Stock fantasy race (3)  
 6 Cersei Lannister to Jaime Lannister (4)  
 7 Ring to rule them all (3)  
 8 \_\_\_\_ (7)  
 9 Douglas, author of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* (5)  
 14 \_\_\_\_ (3)  
 16 May, Petunia, Josephine (4)  
 17 Ketchum, protagonist of *Pokémon* (3)

- 19 Peter Pettigrew (3)  
 20 Forever and a day (3)  
 22 Horseman of the Apocalypse (3)  
 23 Giant mythological bird (3)  
 24 \_\_\_\_, the universe, and everything (4)  
 25 Language of the demons (7)  
 26 Alias (3)  
 28 And my \_\_\_\_! (3)  
 29 \_\_\_\_ (7)  
 30 The best way to consume media (5)  
 33 Gondor calls for aid! And \_\_\_\_ will answer (5)  
 34 Origin culture of the hero Māui (6)  
 35 Important to detective stories (4)  
 38 Starting point of many adventures (3)  
 39 The Living Planet (3)