

ICCU CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

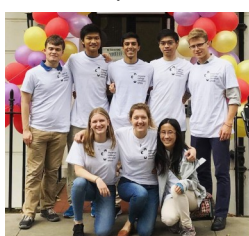
Christmas may be over but here's one more gift for you-the ICCU Christmas Newsletter! As we all enjoy a well earned break after a term of hard work, it is with pleasure that we look back on all God has done this Autumn at Imperial. We hope you enjoy reading about what we have been up to!

Freshers Week

This year we were able to kick off CU mission before freshers week by helping freshers from 4 halls move into their accommodation. We then had an events packed week with Freshers Fair, 3 'Skeptical' lunchbars, a 'Hangover Breakfast', Afternoon Tea for International students, several Club Missions as well as HUB. We had over 100 people sign up to the mailing list and had many new and returning students attend the events throughout the week. Over the following month we ran a 'Church Search', helping Christian freshers to find a Church family in London. Praise God for all the people we were able to meet and welcome over the week, as well as sufficient resources, smooth logistics and church workers providing extra sets of hands.



Fresher's Fair Stall



Move in team at Wilson Hall

Weekend Away

On November 10th the CU headed to a Scout camp in Hertfordshire for a fantastic weekend away. We had Sam Ashton from St. Andrews Chelsea speak on the Resurrection, as well as an Uncover training session led by Naomi from UCCF. We were reminded that we are raised with Christ, and encouraged to tell our friends so that they too can 'have a seat on the plane' that takes us to eternity. In addition, there was time for games, a bonfire complete with marshmallows and a rendition of Shine Jesus Shine, a countryside walk and of course the infamous crumble song! We enjoyed the time away from uni to build friendships, relax and learn more about God.



The group shot!



BONFIRE!!!



The traditional game of Sinky-Floaty

Carol Service

On the 8th of December we teamed up with other Christian societies at Imperial as well as the CUs at RCA and RCM to put on a great evening of Carols and Christmassy treats. Steven Foster spoke on the joy of Christmas and the impact it has on our lives today. Steven will be our speaker for Events Week so we hope those who attended will return for more! The service was well attended with many Uncover Lukes taken home. Pray that the conversations that were had after the service would continue next term.



The IC Gospel Choir



Royal College of Music students leading the carols



Singing all the carols



Fairy lights were plentiful

Club Mission

We have been able to serve our fellow students many times this term at Club Mission, where we set up a table in Beit Quad during big bar nights and give out free tea, coffee and biscuits. This provides us with a unique opportunity to show God's love on campus in a practical way, but also start good conversations. We are grateful for the willing CU members who volunteer their nights, as well as those unable to come but who pray. Please pray for follow up with those who have had gospel conversations.

Globe Café

Globe Café is our weekly meeting aimed specifically at international students where each week focuses on an aspect of university life, London or British culture. Give thanks for all the people who came to Globe Cafe this year and pray that they will continue to grow in faith. Pray for the wisdom for planning future events, and that we all in the Christian Union will have a burning desire for international students' salvation.

Skeptical

Skeptical is our weekly apologetics lunchbar where we host a short talk followed by Q&A, all over a free lunch. We have had questions this term such as 'Why isn't God more obvious?', 'Why would a good God allow suffering?', '2000 years: What is Christianity today?' and most recently 'Jesus vs. Santa'. Praise God for the provision of speakers, rooms, financial resources for the food and for the opportunity to share the gospel with those attending each week.

Curious?

Curious is a discussion group aimed at those who have come to Skeptical and want to investigate the claims of Christianity more, in a group setting. This term the group went through Uncover Luke, and next term will go through Uncover John. Give thanks for N, our one regular who investigated the Gospel for the first time this term. Please pray that the Lord would open N's eyes to accept Christ as Lord! Please pray for good rooms next term and that many will come regularly after Events Week with open hearts and minds and come to Christ.

HUB

This term in HUB, our weekly CU meeting, we have looked at the UCCF Doctrinal Basis and had a series in Acts. We were also joined by Tanya from the Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics for practical training on how to handle difficult questions. Pray as we trial a new format for HUB next term where we take a week off a month. Pray that we would remain united as a CU and use the extra time well.

Cookie for a Question/Ponder over a Pie

We were able to run 2 'food for a question' events this term and were able to chat to many students over a tasty snack. Thank God for the chance to speak with lots of people, hearing their ideas and sharing our thoughts on faith.



Plans for the upcoming term

Next term our main focus will be our annual Events Week, when the CU shifts into overdrive to put on a week of concentrated events between 5th-10th February. This year Stephen Foster from HTB will be speaking at the lunch events on the theme of 'Home', looking at the story of the prodigal son. We are trying for the first time this year having the evening events in Reynolds at Hammersmith. Please do join us in prayer for the week, that God would provide rooms, smooth logistics and sufficient finances. Also pray that many people would come and that the Spirit would spark their hearts.

Supporting us in prayer:

We seek to trust God in all we do and commit our work to Him in prayer. As well as the points mentioned above, please join us in praying for the things summarized below.

- Praise God for providing us with the financial, human, spiritual and physical resources to run events this term
- Praise God for the new freshers who have joined CU this year, pray that they would grow in their faith during their time at Imperial
- Praise God for all the new faces we have met over the term, and pray that they would spend time over Christmas thinking about Jesus, and would come back in the New Year eager to learn more
- Pray for unity on campus for sharing the Gospel
- Pray for preparations for events week, and for energy for those organizing it
- Pray that CU members would return in January refreshed both physically and spiritually, and that God would sustain them to live and speak for Christ
- Pray for wisdom and ideas about how to best reach International students at Imperial

Supporting us financially:

We are immensely grateful to all the financial support we have received from ICCU alumni as well as local and home churches. If you are willing and able to support us in this way, please email us at cu@imperial.ac.uk about making a donation, or go to goo.gl/26DapK to find out more.

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God to bring salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed— a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: ‘The righteous will live by faith.’” Romans 1: 16-17 (NIV)