

Imperial College
London

AUTUMN 2020

IMPERIAL *and* WHITE CITY



Check out
our exciting
programme
of events and
activities

The
Invention
Rooms

In this issue

- Discover the new Imperial Lates Online programme
- Find out what's been happening on campus and in the local area

Imperial in White City: Our new innovation campus

Imperial College London is a leading science and technology university. Our research has led to discoveries and innovations that have become part of our daily lives – including the discovery of penicillin and the invention of the hologram.

We're proud to be building a major new research campus in White City. Visit our website to learn more about our research, teaching and vision for the White City Campus.

www.imperial.ac.uk/white-city-campus



Open for science, innovation and fun

A big hello to all our friends and neighbours. We're delighted to be back with an exciting programme of science-themed events and activities for everyone in the community.

We know these are uncertain times, so we're delivering our activities in flexible ways to meet your needs – online, over the phone, and where it is safe to do so, in person with social distancing measures in place.

There's never been a better time to be inspired by science.

We can't wait to see you again!

Tom, Keisha and Priya from our Community Engagement team



Professor Maggie Dallman
Vice-President (International) and Associate Provost (Academic Partnerships)

Our community hub: The Invention Rooms

The Invention Rooms is our dedicated community space at the White City Campus. With cutting-edge facilities and community activities, we hope to inspire generations of inventors and makers from the local area and beyond.

We have a variety of workshops and community spaces, and a fantastic team of Imperial staff and students to help you turn your ideas into reality. You can find us on Wood Lane, close to the White City underground station.

Due to the ongoing disruption caused by COVID-19, we are currently delivering most of our community programmes remotely. We're gradually reopening and will be running some of our family activities this autumn – check our What's On listings for more details.

www.imperial.ac.uk/the-invention-rooms



We'd love your feedback

We hope you like our new design, which we've developed with the help of a group of local residents and partners. We'd love to get your feedback – please drop us a line with your ideas, comments and suggestions.

Would you like to be our newsletter editor?

We're looking for a new editor for our newsletter! If you or someone you know lives in the local area and has an editorial background and would like to work with us to develop our newsletter, please get in touch.

Getting in touch

Email: whitecity.community@imperial.ac.uk

Phone: +44 (0)20 7594 1103

Sign up for latest updates

Be the first to know about our upcoming events and activities by signing up to our community mailing list at:

www.imperial.ac.uk/white-city-campus/community

What's On

There's lots happening this autumn for all ages. Discover all our events and activities online, where you can book, find out more and sign up to our e-newsletter.

www.imperial.ac.uk/white-city-campus/community

Hands-on science for families

We're delighted to announce that our popular family science activities are starting again this October at The Invention Rooms for children aged 5–11. They will be with smaller numbers and additional cleaning procedures to keep everyone safe.

Saturday Science Club

Join us for our family friendly workshops to explore space, energy saving cars, chemical reactions and more. Our interactive activities will inspire children and support their learning at school. Afterwards, you can pick up more activities to do at home.

When: On select Saturdays – see website for details
Where: The Invention Rooms

If circumstances change in relation to COVID-19, we may need to run our family sessions online or offer packs for you to complete at home. Rest assured that our activities will always be free, fun and a great way to engage families in science.

Half term holiday activities

Inspire your family with science this October. We will be exploring all things chemistry, together with researchers working on the White City Campus! Activities include workshops and interactive demonstrations.

When: October half term (26–30 October)
Where: The Invention Rooms

How to book and find out more

We announce activity dates three weeks in advance through our community mailing list. You can book places on our website, where we also have links to recommended online resources:

www.imperial.ac.uk/white-city-campus/community



Maker Challenge

Our innovation programme for young people aged 14–18

The Maker Challenge programme is unique in the UK and is designed for local young people aged 14–18 to get hands-on experience of making and innovation. We welcome everyone – even if you've never made anything before!

Over a series of weekends and evening workshops, you will learn how to design a prototype. We'll give you a crash-course in 3D printing, laser cutting, woodworking, CAD, programming, electronics as well as other skills such as website design and creating a business.

Places are free.

Find out more

When: The programme runs during term time and the summer holidays.
Where: The Invention Rooms

To find out more or to apply, visit:

www.imperial.ac.uk/maker-challenge-programme

or contact us directly at makerspace@imperial.ac.uk.

In light of the current situation with COVID-19, some parts of the Maker Challenge Programme are being delivered online. All in-person activities will follow social distancing guidelines.





What the Tech?!

Free tech support for older residents

Aimed at local residents over 50, What the Tech?! offers informal help and advice about using phones, tablets or laptops, or with carrying out online tasks. Help is offered on an individual basis by our friendly team of staff and student volunteers.

In response to COVID-19, What the Tech?! now offers tech support and befriending over the phone, so you can talk to our lovely volunteers from the comfort of your own home and get the tech help you need.

If you'd like to use this service, just complete our online registration form. You can also email Keisha on k.khyne-sam@imperial.ac.uk or give her a ring on **+44 (0)7708 326 342**.



Find out more

www.imperial.ac.uk/white-city-campus/community/programmes/education/what-the-tech



*Photography of our events was taken before lockdown and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Agents of Change

A network for local women driving social change

Do you live or work in White City? Are you passionate about making a difference in your community?

Agents of Change is a unique place-based network for women who have an active interest in driving social change.

With over 200 members, the network is free to join and socials take place throughout the year. You will get access to a network of inspiring women who can help you to develop your community initiative. You can also share your knowledge, experiences and connections to support others.

Agents of Change is a collaboration of local women, working with Imperial College London, Hammersmith United Charities, Hammersmith and Fulham, and the Lyric Hammersmith.

Find out more

When: Socials take place four times a year

Where: The Invention Rooms or via Zoom

Visit the Agents of Change website to become a member and learn more about upcoming events:

www.agentsofchange-whitecity.co.uk



Upstream

Advice and support for local entrepreneurs

Upstream is a partnership between Imperial and Hammersmith and Fulham Council that supports local science, tech and creative businesses and startups through networking and events.

Upstream runs a number of regular series, including the Deep Tech Network with the White City Incubator, as well as 'My Entrepreneurial Journey' which features inspirational business leaders.

During lockdown, Upstream's new 'Recalibrate' series of workshops saw experts help businesses cope with the new normal, including how to build relationships online to achieve sales. Their 2020 London Tech Week programme focused on businesses that are changing the world for the better using technology.

If you want to know if Upstream can help you, email them for a one-to-one e-coffee. Many events include networking and are either free or are subject to a nominal fee.

Find out more

Visit the Upstream website and sign up to the Upstream newsletter at:

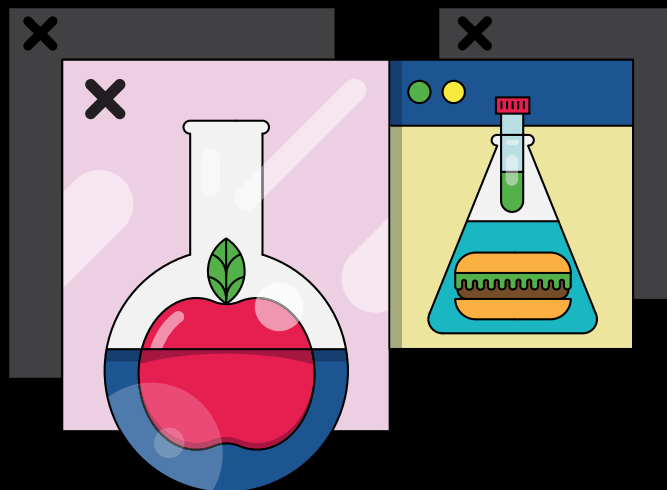
www.move-upstream.org.uk

IMPERIAL LATES

ONLINE

Science talks and events for adults

Tune in to explore cutting-edge science and engineering and get creative at Imperial Lates Online, our free adults-only series of science events and activities. Be inspired and join us online for a week of discovery as our researchers share the wonder of what they do.



Healthcare Heroes

28 September–4 October

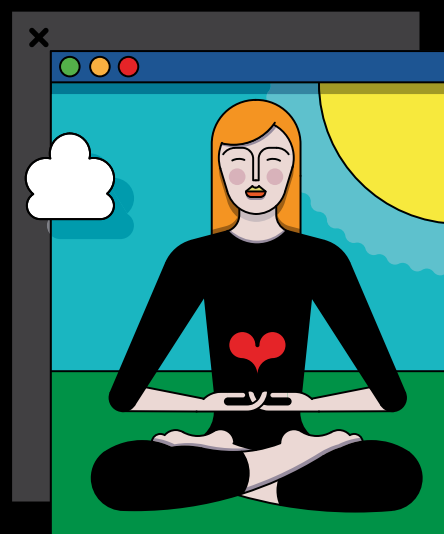
Hear personal stories from those working on the pandemic frontline and developing the hospitals of the future, as we celebrate the people who care for our nation.



Dinner plans

30 November–6 December

Explore the future of food – from the science of cooking, to the impact of our food choices on the environment and local economy.



Wellbeing

26 October–1 November

Discuss the science behind how we can stay positive and look after our mental and physical wellbeing.

X

How to register and find out more

Register for our next Imperial Lates Online to receive a full programme, including links to join our various live events.

Lates are most suitable for over 18s.

www.imperial.ac.uk/be-inspired/lates

THE GREAT EXHIBITION ROAD FESTIVAL

Join us for a celebration of science and the arts with the Great Exhibition Road Festival, an annual event with Imperial and research and cultural partners from across South Kensington.

This year, we're bringing a taste of the Festival to your home with new free online workshops, talks and family-friendly activities released each month from October 2020.



Find out about our latest events at:
www.greatexhibitionroadfestival.co.uk

News

Over the past six months, our communities have been working hard to respond to COVID-19 in so many different ways. Here we explore and celebrate some of the incredible work that's happened locally – from the heroic efforts of local community groups, to the research developments at Imperial.

In the community



Science at home

With schools closed, it's been a struggle for many families to support learning at home, especially if you don't have reliable internet or laptops to spare.

With Family Assist and Hammersmith and Fulham Council, we have been sending weekly emails with fun, hands-on science activities to help local families through this challenging time. We've also delivered more than 400 science activity backpacks to W12 residents with help from our local community partners. The packs contain everything needed for the activities and cover amazing science projects and experiments – from exploring invisible ink to making a solar powered robot.

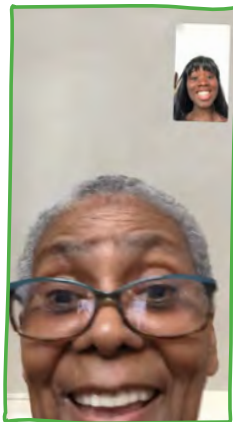
We're planning to create more packs in the coming months, but in the meantime, you can find all our activities on our website.

Removing digital barriers

In response to COVID-19, we've adapted how we support members of the community. What the Tech?!, the popular free technology support drop-in service for older residents is now supporting residents over the phone. Thanks to local organisations like the Urban Partnerships Group and White City Link-Workers, we've matched more than 70 local residents to a volunteer phone buddy who can offer up to two 30-minute calls every week.

Imperial student Neema is one of the What the Tech?! volunteers. "Helping the elderly to stay connected through technology during COVID-19 has been a heart-warming experience," she says. "It's opened my eyes to the many things we take for granted in today's society."

Neema was matched with local resident Josie (pictured), who was having difficulties making online payments. Thanks to Neema, Josie has been able to manage her finances online. "In the beginning I was not very good," Josie explains. "I was struggling to pay my bill online and Neema helped me to sort this, that's how it started. We talk now as friends and she is really lovely."



Celebrating our local partners



White City Mutual Aid Group

In response to the pandemic, there has been an explosion of Mutual Aid Groups across the country where local volunteers have been working tirelessly to support vulnerable people in their communities. The White City Mutual Aid Group is a great example and has been working with the council and other local groups to create a local support network. The Group is now surveying volunteers and local residents to identify who might be able to continue supporting the group, in case the community needs it again.

To find out more about the Group, contact Giles Piercy on **+44 (0)7710 381436**.

UNITED Coronavirus Response appeal

UNITED in Hammersmith and Fulham is an organisation that helps local residents create and fund community projects that promote togetherness. Since March, UNITED's Coronavirus Response Appeal has raised over £120,000 and has funded micro-grants for local groups helping members of the community affected by COVID-19 – supporting 100 projects run by 85 different groups to date. UNITED's Executive Director, Savraj Kaur said: "It's been incredible to see the spirit of giving. It just shows the power of community."

To learn more about supporting the appeal, visit:

www.unitedhf.org



Hammersmith and Fulham Foodbank

Pre-pandemic, the Hammersmith and Fulham Foodbank was one of the busiest in London, typically helping 250 people each week. During lockdown this soared to 2,000 people each week, with over 22,700 people provided with food between April and August. The Foodbank's 100-plus volunteers not only packed and delivered food parcels, but also connected members of the community with services such as legal advice. The volunteers also helped to identify vulnerable people potentially in need of medical or social assistance and are a vital source of conversation for those shielding. If you would like to donate money or to the Foodbank, visit their website at:

hammersmithfulham.foodbank.org.uk



Fundraising activities for UNITED's Coronavirus Response Appeal

Research and campus news



Professor Robin Shattock (left) with Research Technician Leon McFarlane working in the lab.

COVID-19 vaccine trial

A pioneering vaccine for COVID-19 is currently undergoing clinical trials across England. The vaccine, developed by Professor Robin Shattock and scientists from Imperial's Department of Infectious Disease, uses synthetic strands of genetic code, called RNA, which can mimic parts of the COVID-19 virus.

When injected into the muscle, the RNA makes copies of itself and tells the body's own cells to make copies of a spike protein found on the outside of the virus. This should train the immune system to recognise and fight coronavirus without having to develop COVID-19.

The first trial participants received the vaccine in June 2020 and the trial was expanded to six more sites across England in July. Professor Robin Shattock said: "The early results from pre-clinical data have been promising, and the expansion of our trial to additional centres will provide further data on the safety of the vaccine, and the immune response."



Supporting the NHS

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, a team of Imperial volunteers based at the I-HUB at the White City Campus, worked to produce thousands of disposable visors for NHS key workers at the height of the crisis.

By May, the team had produced 6,500 visors for Charing Cross Hospital and since then, tens of thousands of visors were distributed to Imperial College NHS Trust Hospitals. Commenting on the project, team member Ahreum Jung said: "I just wanted to do whatever I could to help."

Was there life on Mars?

Imperial scientists, Professors Sanjeev Gupta and Mark Sephton, are part of a team working on NASA's Perseverance Rover, which will look for evidence of life on Mars. The Rover began its seven-month journey to Red Planet in July as part of the NASA Mars 2020 Mission.

The scientists will study ancient river and lake sediments on Mars and help mission engineers search for rock samples that could be brought back to Earth on future missions. Commenting on the mission, Professor Sephton said: "With one carefully chosen sample from Mars, we could discover that the history of life on the Earth is not unique in the Universe. The samples we select and return will hopefully help us find out whether there was ever life on the Red Planet."

The mission is expected to reach Mars in February 2021 and will likely last for at least 657 days.

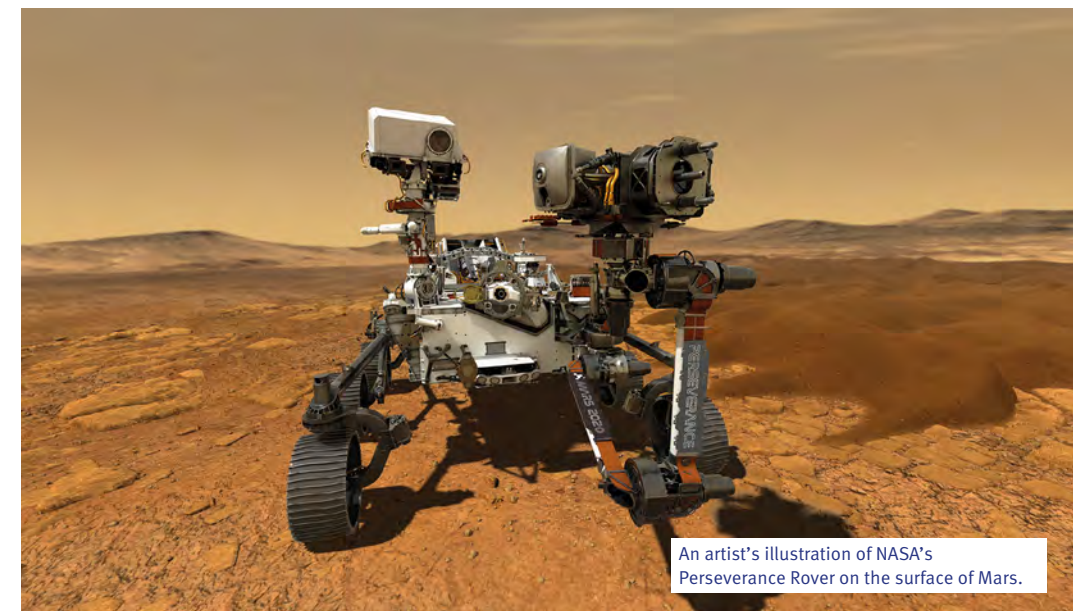


Scale Space launches

This autumn sees the launch of Scale Space, a new scale up community at the White City Campus. Based on the south site of the Campus, Scale Space offers a home to digital, technology and science startup businesses, allowing them to grow and develop. Scale Space is the result of a partnership between Imperial and Blenheim Chalcot, a digital venture builder, which supports companies by connecting them with services, people and resources.

Keep up to date with the latest research and developments from Imperial

www.imperial.ac.uk/news



An artist's illustration of NASA's Perseverance Rover on the surface of Mars.

Community spotlight



Bubble and Squeak

Every year, London produces 910,000 tonnes of food waste – that’s enough to fill seven million wheelie bins! It’s exactly this kind of waste that the social enterprise, Bubble and Squeak, are on hand to tackle.

Based in East Acton’s Old Oak Primary School and Old Oak Community Centre, the initiative helps redistribute surplus food via a stall run by the school’s children. Since lockdown, the team have pivoted to delivering food boxes right to local families’ doors, providing them with not only food but also a chance to chat and reconnect.

“We have been consistently impressed with the children’s ability to take on the role of managing the stall from concept to reality,” says Bubble and Squeak’s Director, Lydia Gandaa. “They are an extremely creative, thoughtful group of individuals constantly pushing the boundaries to make their community a better place to live.”

In the past, Bubble and Squeak has run a Science Club for local children, supported by Imperial’s Community Science Seed Fund and over the summer, ran a Digital Summer Series that included a new science activity and accompanying video every day.

During lockdown, the children turned their efforts to creating a good news-only newspaper called *The East Acton Times*. “This was an idea which came directly from the children and has been a huge success,” Lydia explains. “We hope they continue this as a regular feature in the locality.”



Science at home

Looking for science activities you can try at home with your family?

We’ve created a dedicated webpage with our favourite hands-on science activities developed by Imperial, as well as by other organisations such as the Science Museum, Natural History Museum, Design Museum and others.

Make a T. rex origami dinosaur

Design a clean energy vehicle

Write a secret message in invisible ink

Make ice cream without a freezer

Check out the resources at:
www.imperial.ac.uk/white-city-campus/community

Get in touch

Where to find us

Community Engagement Team
The Invention Rooms,
68 Wood Lane,
White City,
London W12 7TA

Opening hours:

We are currently open only for pre-booked events and activities. Please check our What's On pages for details.

Keep in touch

Visit our website and sign-up to our mailing list to stay up to date with our latest events and news.

Website:

www.imperial.ac.uk/white-city-campus/community

Email:

whitecity.community@imperial.ac.uk






Follow us on Twitter:

[@InventionRooms](https://twitter.com/InventionRooms)



WHITE CITY CAMPUS

Campus map

 Restaurants	 Sports facility	 Bike parking
 Cafés	 Campus shuttle	 Building entrance
 Shops	 Bus stop	 Pedestrian route
 Hospital	 Cycle hire	

Request our newsletter in another language

Jes li chcesz otrzymywac ten biuletyn w je. z. polskim, skontaktuj sie. z nami pod adresem:
whitecity.community@imperial.ac.uk

Haddii aad jeclaan laheyd nooca warqada aqbaartaan af Soomaali fadlan naga soo wac:
whitecity.community@imperial.ac.uk

إذا كنت تريد الحصول على نسخة من الرسائل الإخبارية باللغة العربية يُرجى الاتصال بـ:
whitecity.community@imperial.ac.uk

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