Humanities at Imperial began with the ‘Touchstone Weekends’ retreats at Silwood Park, where students and staff explored the relationship between humanities and science in bucolic surroundings (pictured opposite). This popular initiative led, in time, to the lunchtime Humanities lectures, the music recitals, the introduction of a foreign language programme and the Imperial Horizons programme we know today.

“This year-long programme of events celebrates the history of humanities at Imperial, 70 years after the visionary ‘Touchstone Weekends’ at Silwood Park. But we also look at the future, reflecting on the importance of humanities and the arts in a STEMM education in the 21st century, on their contribution to the cultural and intellectual life of College and their role in building a cross-cultural community of staff and students.”

Professor Roberto Trotta, Director, Centre for Languages, Culture and Communication
HUMANITIES@70

2020 marks the 70th anniversary of humanities at Imperial College London, which started with the “Touchstone Weekends” at Silwood Park on March 11th 1950. We are celebrating this milestone with a year-long programme of events by exploring the rich and diverse history of humanities at the College, showcasing the wide variety of activities taking place today, as well as looking ahead at what the future might hold.

INTRODUCTION

Humanities today provide Imperial students with a rounded, global perspective on the world, add value to their STEM degree and contribute to their skills development and well-being. Imperial graduates greatly appreciate the opportunity to complement their studies with a different subject and approach.

HUMANITIES@70 AT A GLANCE

Humanities@70 Exhibition (Main College Entrance) 2–6 March 2020
Humanities@70 Reception (Main College Entrance) 5 March 2020
Blyth Centre Concert: “Florilegium” (Holy Trinity Church) 17 March 2020
V&A/Imperial Symposium June 2020
Future of Music Symposium 4 May 2020
Silwood Park visit 13 May 2020
StudentShapers Project Showcase 23 June 2020
The Art & Science of Saving Venice (SAF G16) Autumn, date tbc
Science Communication Seminar 13 October 2020 (tbc)
CLCC Research Seminar 29 October 2020

CURIOUS SINCE 1950

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Full details and latest information see: www.imperial.ac.uk/humanities-at-70
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A celebration of humanities at Imperial College London
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“Touchstone Weekends”

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