Viking burial site unearthed
Universities were first founded in Europe nearly a thousand years ago and their name derives from universitas meaning ‘the whole’, or ‘the total’. They were first established as specialist organisations of students and teachers. Research came much later. Core to their mission were scholarship, learning and the freedom to challenge existing dogma, something that we now often call academic freedom.

In the 21st century, universities across the world, and even within the UK, vary enormously. They have differing funding models from fully public, supported by the state, to completely private and independent. Some universities rely almost totally on distance learning, others have a mixed student body with some spending time on site or with overseas branches, while for others, almost all of their students are based on campus, enjoying the wider aspects of university life.

Universities can be diverse in their span of disciplines, or highly specialised and focussed. They may be viewed as charities or businesses, may specialise in teaching, or research, or both, and have many partners and stakeholders.

So, what if anything, can unite universities or provide a core definition, and indeed should there be any unifying characteristics? Perhaps it is time to remember the original defining features of scholarship, learning and academic freedom, but recognising the new challenges of the 21st century.

I tend to agree with the comments of Professor Sir Mark Richmond, one of our former Vice-Chancellors, who gave his interpretation of ‘academic freedom’ in 1998, when he was chair of the Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals (now Universities UK):

“The freedom to research in subjects of as yet unrecognised importance, the freedom to question received wisdom and the freedom to be protected from direct and narrow political interference by the government of the day. This is what we mean by academic freedom - not a licence to brood comfortably [in] ivory towers”.

These principles define the uniqueness of universities, but are also clear that we must have a recognised contribution to society, rather than simply look inwards and address our own individual whims and aspirations.

It is rather tempting to say that in 2011, it is impossible to define universities generally or individually for the future, given the many uncertainties that we face. Maybe so, but unless we grasp and define where we aim to be, iterate our future vision and decide what we will and will not do in the future, we will surely fall to market forces and political drivers.

So, what will be the role of The University of Manchester in 21st century society? How will we be defined? How will we be distinguished from the many other universities in the UK and across the world? These have been matters of extensive debate and consultation over recent months as we have been formulating our Manchester 2020 Strategy:

• Our ambition is not in any way curbed, though economic pressures mean that we will need ever greater focus on areas of excellence
• Our students must remain at our core; their satisfaction and future success will define the University
• We must find, support and nurture areas where we have unique research strength
• Our wider contribution to 21st century society, through our research and its applications and impact; our students and our staff; must be defining features

In conclusion I would say that The University of Manchester must aim for excellence, with accessibility and with impact and wider benefit.
**Viking burial site unearthed**

The UK mainland’s first fully intact Viking boat burial site has been discovered by archaeologists working in the Scottish Highlands.

The five metre-long grave contained the remains of a high status Viking, who was buried with an axe, a sword with a beautifully decorated hilt, a spear, shield boss and bronze ring-pin.

The Viking had been buried in a ship, whose 200 or so metal rivets were also found by the team.

The 1,000-year-old find, on the remote Ardnamurchan Peninsula, was made by the Ardnamurchan Transitions Project (ATP) which is a team led by experts from the Universities of Manchester, Leicester, CFA Archaeology Ltd and Archaeology Scotland.

The project brings together students and academics at what may be one of Britain’s most significant Viking sites.

Other finds included a knife, what could be the tip of a bronze drinking horn, a whetstone from Norway, a ring pin from Ireland and Viking pottery.

Co-Director of the project and archaeology Teaching Fellow Dr Hannah Cobb, from the School of Arts, Histories and Cultures said: “This is a very exciting find. Though we have excavated many important artefacts over the years, I think it’s fair to say that this year the archaeology has really exceeded our expectations.

“A Viking boat burial is an incredible discovery, but in addition to that, the artefacts and preservation make this one of the most important Norse graves ever excavated in Britain.”

**Jodrell Bank gets stamp of approval**

The Lovell telescope features in a new set of Royal Mail stamps which chart 26 iconic landmarks across the UK.

The landmarks chosen represent the 26 letters of the alphabet with Jodrell Bank’s Lovell telescope representing the letter J.
Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson has received an honorary degree from the University to mark his 25 years in charge of the club. The award also recognises his role in shaping Manchester’s worldwide reputation.

Sir Alex, 69, was presented with an honorary doctorate, the University’s highest honour.

Sir Alex said: “It’s always nice to be appreciated and recognised, and getting this recognition is testimony to all the hard work that has gone on at Manchester United in the last 25 years, not just by me, but by everyone at the club.

“The great part for me is still to be out on the field with the players and coaching them. As the game has changed, I have had to change with it; for example, sports science in the last decade has seen a phenomenal improvement and that has become a major development in the game.”

The University’s Deputy President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Rod Coombs said: “These two and a half decades of the Ferguson era at United have coincided with, and been a big part of, the renaissance of this city. That renaissance has been manifest in industry, in commerce, in architecture, in the arts, in our University, and in sport.

“Today we are celebrating the achievements of someone who has made a unique contribution at Manchester United, and through that, a unique contribution to the city of Manchester and its prominence in the world.”

The ceremony marked the University’s Foundation Day and honorary degrees were also presented to:

- Dame Lynne Brindley, CEO of the British Library
- Composer Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, patron of the University’s Music Society
- Harpal Kumar, Chief Executive of Cancer Research UK
- Andrew Witty, CEO of GlaxoSmithKline

The University’s former Co-Chancellor and former CEO of Tesco, Sir Terry Leahy, gave this year’s Foundation Day Lecture entitled: ‘A Revolution in Green Consumption’, making him the first non-academic in the University’s history to give the address.

Honour for Sir Alex

Rachel picks up chemistry award

Congratulations to Rachel Perry who has been named the best Chemical Engineering student in the country.

Rachel, 23, a 2011 graduate of the School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science, won the award for her final year design project.

She is currently working as a graduate process engineer at the ExxonMobil Fawley refinery near Southampton and said: “I’m indebted to everyone who supported and assisted me throughout my degree, both the staff and my fellow students.

“I’m honoured to have received this award and I hope I will go on to make the University proud.”

This is the second year in a row that a student from our University has won the award. Rachel follows in the footsteps of Dyfan Williams’ who won it in 2010.
£200 million investment into science.

Global Research and Technology Hub, as part of plans were laid out for the creation of a Graphene superfast internet connections and transistors.
touchscreen mobile phones, lighter aircraft wings, materials and its potential applications include in Physics for their work.

Graphene is one of the world’s most versatile 2004, and who were awarded the 2010 Nobel Prize Kostya Novoselov, who discovered graphene in Along with Universities and Science Minister David Willetts, he spoke to Professors Andre Geim and the University’s graphene laboratories last month.

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Graphene is one of the world’s most versatile materials and its potential applications include touchscreen mobile phones, lighter aircraft wings, superfast internet connections and transistors.

Plans were laid out for the creation of a Graphene Global Research and Technology Hub, as part of a £200 million investment into science.

In his speech to the Conservative Party Conference held here in Manchester, George Osborne said: “Tomorrow’s world is being shaped here in Manchester.

“The inventors could have gone anywhere in the world to do their research. But they chose The University of Manchester.”

The development of the Hub will act as a catalyst to spawn new businesses, attract global companies and translate the value of scientific discovery into wealth and job creation.

It will help develop the technology to allow manufacture on a scale that would open up promising commercial opportunities, incorporating a large doctoral training centre and advanced research equipment.

University President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell said: “The announcement is fantastic news for the University and for the city of Manchester.

“The pace and scale of graphene research in Manchester has escalated dramatically in the past year and its commercial potential is growing by the day. It is extremely important that the UK government clearly recognises the importance of investment in science as an economic driver.

“Graphene is one of the most important scientific advancements in recent times. We are proud of the world-class research carried out here and to have that recognised by the Government is a real vindication of the work we do.”

£50 million boost for graphene

Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne has pledged to invest £50 million into the commercial development of graphene.

The Chancellor’s announcement followed a visit to the University’s graphene laboratories last month.

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Student ventures further

John Wade, a first year civil engineering student in the School of Mechanical and Civil Engineering, has won the Venture Further competition

His innovative cavity protection system, Cav-Form helps to reduce a building’s overall carbon footprint.

He has patented the technology, which has already been prototyped. Said John: “Winning Venture Further is a fantastic boost for Cav-Form. The £8,000 prize money and support from Adastra Technology will provide a real boost in getting the marketing process up and running.”

Spanish network

Spanish scientists based here at the University are being encouraged to join a new network.

The new initiative, called ‘Comunidad de Científicos Españoles en Reino Unido’, has been set up by the Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs at the Spanish Embassy in London.

The aim is to create a network to encourage dialogue with the Spanish science and innovation authorities and deliver collaboration opportunities in the UK for scientists located in Spain.

For further information contact: Jose Ignacio Fernandez-Vera 0207 235 5555 ext 2253.

Developing future managers

The University is looking for the next generation of world-class project managers and has launched an international, industry-led MSc to find them.

Engineering and Physical Sciences Vice-President and Dean Professor Colin Bailey signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Nanyang Technological University (NTU) in Singapore to offer the MSc in Project Management, a qualification which was developed in conjunction with Rolls-Royce.

Among those who can benefit from the course are professionals, engineers and project managers, working within a wide range of sectors including energy, marine, oil and gas, construction, IT, aerospace and many others.

Grants for bioprocessing research

The University has secured two project grants worth a total of £1.6 million from the Bioprocessing Research Industry Club (BRIC).

Funding for the multidisciplinary project will be used to address the problems associated with the process of biopharmaceutical aggregation.

The second BRIC project grant will fund a project to investigate the predictability of biopharmaceutical protein production.

Tudor joins Kinki board

Emeritus Professor Tudor Rickards has been appointed to the board of international advisors to the Institute for Creative Management and Innovation, Kinki University, Japan.

The Institute has a mission to promote management innovation in education and research internationally.
HRH Prince Andrew, Duke of York, praised the achievements of astronomers and scientists at Jodrell Bank on a recent visit to the Observatory.

Accompanied by President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell and Professor Brian Cox, the Prince took the controls of the world-famous Lovell Telescope and was given a tour of the new Discovery Centre and grounds.

The Prince also planted the first tree in the new Sustainable Forest and signed the visitors’ book.

As part of a visit to science and innovation centres in the North West, the Prince took part in a round table discussion with several of the University’s leading academics about the future of UK science and the upcoming research projects at Jodrell Bank.

Central among these is the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) – the world’s largest telescope – whose headquarters will be based at Jodrell Bank.

Prince Andrew said: “It will be a really fundamentally big project and most of the work is being done at Jodrell Bank.

“It is going to be an incredibly important instrument, testing even some of Einstein’s theories.”

Dr Teresa Anderson, Director of the Discovery Centre, showed the Prince around the new centre, which included showing him a live print out of a telescope signal.

She said: “We’re very pleased that the Duke of York was able to visit Jodrell Bank and see both the Observatory and the new Discovery Centre, especially given his keen interest in inspiring the next generation of scientists.”
New director for Paterson Institute

Professor Richard Marais has been appointed as the next director of the Paterson Institute for Cancer Research.

Currently Professor of Molecular Oncology at The Institute of Cancer Research, Professor Marais will take up his post in February 2012. He succeeds Professor Nic Jones who was appointed Cancer Research UK’s chief scientist earlier this year.

Professor Marais said: “I’m delighted to be joining the Paterson Institute at an exciting time for cancer research in Manchester. The Paterson is already recognised internationally and we will build on this reputation over the coming years.”

Making a difference

The University’s contribution to society on a local, national and international level is being showcased by six flagship projects.

The projects have been chosen from a shortlist of 23, to highlight the work we do and how it affects people in Manchester and the North West; in the UK and right across the globe.

Commenting on the six flagships Professor Aneez Esmail, Associate Vice-President for Social Responsibility, Equality and Diversity said: “Social responsibility is a key goal for the University, equal in emphasis to research and learning.

“What we do through our social responsibility agenda makes a huge difference to the lives of thousands of people. The projects are just the first of many that will be chosen over the coming months to illustrate our commitment to this key goal.”

Here’s a brief outline of the six flagships – each will be featured in more detail in coming issues of UniLife:

Equity and merit scholarships
These assist talented, but economically disadvantaged international students. Our scheme was launched in Uganda in 2007 and has been extended to Rwanda, Uganda and Bangladesh. So far 311 students have benefited from the scheme.

Jodrell Bank Outreach
A wide range of activity takes place at Jodrell Bank to bring science to life for everyone from our students to local schoolchildren. Examples include the new Discovery Centre, regular ‘Meet the Scientist’ events and the Jodrell Bank Live Music Festival.

Legal Advice Centre
Local lawyers and barristers volunteer their time to supervise our law students who have the opportunity to apply their newly acquired legal knowledge and experience the practice of law.

Valuing older people
The Manchester Museum and the Whitworth Art Gallery run a programme called ‘Valuing Older People’ which aims to encourage older people to take part in cultural and learning activities. A great example is the ‘Reminiscence Programme’ which takes Museum objects into residential homes, day units and community centres across the region.

Volunteering
Students and staff from across the University carry out a huge amount of volunteer work, ranging from the Sports Volunteer scheme, which works with communities to support engagement with sporting activities, through to acting as School Governors and raising funds for many charities.

Manchester Access Programme (MAP)
MAP targets local sixth formers from less-privileged backgrounds and supports them to progress into higher education, whether here at Manchester or elsewhere within the UK. Since it began in 2005, 380 MAP students have been successful in gaining a place at Manchester with others going to universities including Cambridge, Imperial and UCL in London.

Poetry duo
Two recent PhD graduates from the University’s Centre for New Writing have been published in one of the world’s most prestigious anthologies.

The work of Vincenz Serrano – from Manila and Evan Jones – from Toronto – is on show in New Poetries V, an international showcase of up and coming young poets.

A hat trick of golds for Rebecca

Teenage swimming sensation Rebecca Guy has her sights firmly set on making the British team for London 2012, having scooped a hat trick of gold medals at the National Youth Championships.

Rebecca, originally from Bristol, is entering her second year at Manchester studying Philosophy and Spanish.

Commenting on her gruelling schedule Rebecca said: “A typical day involves getting up at 5am, cycling to the pool, training for two-and-a-half hours and then going into University. After a day of lectures, I normally head back to the pool from 4pm until 6.30pm, and then do about half an hour of land work every day.”

But her punishing regime has been rewarded with her latest medal haul which included gold in the 50 metre freestyle, 4 x 100 freestyle and 4 x 100 medley with the City of Manchester Girls team.
Development worker Linda Norgrove has been posthumously awarded an outstanding alumna award, a year after she was kidnapped and killed in Afghanistan.

Her award was collected at the University by her parents at a ceremony attended by some of her former classmates and lecturers.

Linda, who took her PhD at the University’s Institute for Development Policy and Management between 1999 and 2003 under the supervision of Professor David Hulme, would have been 37 last month.

Following her death, Linda’s parents, John and Lorna, set up the Linda Norgrove Foundation in her memory with the aim of carrying on her work in the country she was passionate about. So far, they have raised more than £300,000.

John Norgrove said: “From the outset, we were determined to avoid the road of blame culture and compensation, and to try to ensure that something positive might come out of the tragedy.

“The charity that we set up in Linda’s name to help women and children affected by the war in Afghanistan has gone from strength to strength, it has kept us busy in a positive way.”

At the event the Dean of Humanities, Professor Keith Brown gave an address, there was a citation by Professor Hulme and Dr Admos Chimhowu, her classmate on the PhD programme gave a lecture.

Professor Hulme said: “Linda’s death is such a sad loss for all of us and our thoughts are with her parents who have suffered so much and whose lives have been reshaped by the terrible event last year.

“Linda was highly regarded by her Afghani and expatriate colleagues – and had the analytical and practical skills to get things done in the most difficult of environments.

“She was one of the few people in the world to have the values and skills, to help improve living standards in such difficult contexts and fully understood how dangerous this work was.”

The Division of Development and Alumni Relations recognises the achievements of its former students with outstanding alumna awards.

They are given to former students who have achieved distinction within their profession, provided exemplary service to the University, or made an outstanding contribution of a personal humanitarian nature.

To make a nomination for a future award email: alumni@manchester.ac.uk

Tóibín's sell out event

Acclaimed novelist and journalist Colm Tóibín, newly appointed as Professor of Creative Writing at the Centre for New Writing, delivered the first in a series of high-profile public events to a sell out audience last month.

350 people gathered at the Martin Harris Centre to see the event which also welcomed the winner of the 2004 Booker Prize Alan Hollinghurst.

During the event Tóibín and Hollinghurst discussed their thoughts on gay fiction and what it is to be a homosexual and a writer.

The event marked the start of the Manchester Literature Festival 2011.

A Star lecture

President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell delivered a Star Lecture to 250 sixth form students as part of the Manchester Science Festival.

The lecture was entitled, ‘A stroke of bad luck: Understanding brain disease’.

The event had been developed by the University’s Recruitment and Widening Participation Team to provide teachers and students with access to exciting curriculum resources delivered by leading academics.

Sir Martin's Art For Harris Centre

Sir Martin Harris who was Vice-Chancellor of the Victoria University of Manchester between 1992-2004, recently paid a visit to the building which was named in his honour, the Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama.

During the visit Sir Martin officially unveiled a new piece of artwork which he and Lady Barbara Harris kindly commissioned and donated. The artwork was created by Manchester-based photographic artist and author Neil Rowland.
A thousand local unemployed people have now found work thanks to an initiative involving the University.

Not-for-profit agency Aspire has been working with our University and Manchester Metropolitan University to recruit local, unemployed people. The project has now recruited 1,000 local people to jobs within both universities.

Steve Grant, Assistant Director of Human Resources at the University said: “We found that very few local, unemployed people were applying for jobs here so in 2008 we engaged Aspire to help us to recruit more unemployed people and the project has had great success to date.”

The key has been to encourage very able candidates who are perhaps low in confidence or have misconceptions about what it’s like to work in a university.

Susan Griffiths from Hulme is the thousandth employee recruited by the universities. She had previously worked in administration and customer service but was made redundant from her previous role as a customer service adviser six months ago.

Aspire interviewed Susan and began to search for customer service and administration roles and placed her in a position in the Accommodation Office at the University.

Professor Barry Cooper

A piece of music composed by Beethoven and lost for over 200 years has been painstakingly reconstructed by Professor of Music Barry Cooper.

His reconstruction of the original slow movement of Beethoven’s String Quartet in G, Opus 18 Number 2, was heard for the first time since Beethoven’s day, when it was performed this month by the University’s resident string quartet Quatuor Danel and broadcast live on BBC Radio 4.

The movement was composed in 1799 but was discarded a year later and lost when it was replaced by a new movement now known to music lovers across the world.

However detailed sketches survive for every one of its 74 bars and Professor Cooper managed to put them together so that they fit perfectly.

1,000 jobs for local people

Politics students quiz Minister

Foreign Office Minister Alistair Burt MP dropped in on 100 international politics students for a discussion on Government policy.

The undergraduates and postgraduates quizzed him on Afghanistan, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the ‘Arab Spring’ and the prevention of terrorism.

The session was organised by Director of Undergraduate Studies Dr Piers Robinson.

Diabetes appointment

Professor Andrew Boulton from the School of Medicine has been elected as the President of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) and also the European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes (EFSD).

The Diabetes Unit within the School of Medicine has an international reputation for its work in the area of diabetic complications, particularly those involving the lower limbs.

Meet a physiologist

Visitors to the Museum of Science and Industry had the chance to ‘Meet a physiologist’ recently.

Physiologists from the Faculty of Life Sciences and Cardiovascular Research Group in the School of Biomedicine were able to showcase their research to more than 5,000 visitors to the museum.

The public had the chance to learn about human physiology including the heart, circulation, lungs, blood and kidneys in a series of experiments, games, arts and crafts.
Rebel hymns hit right note

The only surviving Chartist hymn book has been identified by English Literature lecturer Dr Mike Sanders.

He came across the ‘National Chartist Hymn Book’ in the local history section of Todmorden public library. It contains 16 hymns sung by the radicals who campaigned for democracy and workers’ rights.

A concert of the hymns was performed by Calder Valley choir Conista, at the People’s History Museum.

“It’s perhaps the first time they’ve been performed publicly since Dickens heard one of them during his visit to Preston in 1854,” said Dr Sanders, from the School of Arts, Histories and Cultures.

Concern over accuracy of suicide rates

The increasing use of ‘narrative verdicts’ by coroners may be leading to greater underestimation of suicide rates, warns Professor Nav Kapur, from the University’s Centre for Suicide Prevention.

Suicide accounted for 4,648 deaths in England and Wales in 2009.

However, since 2001, a growing number of coroners have given a “narrative verdict” which records, in several sentences, how, and in what circumstances, the death occurred.

In 2001, 111 narrative verdicts were recorded compared to 3,012 in 2009.

Professor Kapur said: “Accurate national suicide statistics are a vital indicator of population health.

“We need to be able to monitor changes over time to assess the impact of factors like the recession and to get an idea of how effective our suicide prevention measures are.”

New exhibit takes off

A new installation at the Whitworth Art Gallery takes a look at what life is like for one of the last remaining farmers living at the end of Japan’s Narita airport runway.

‘Air Pressure’ uses sound recordings and archive film to represent the sonic experience of living and working on the farm, which is surrounded by the airport.

The family who live on the farm have refused to move, despite pressure from the authorities, since the airport was planned and built in the 1970s.

‘Air Pressure’ has been created by Dr Rupert Cox, from the School of Social Sciences, working with a colleague from the University of Arts, London, and Professor Kozo Hiramatsu, Japan’s foremost acoustic scientist.

Rupert said: “Our globalised contemporary world has been made possible and shaped fundamentally by international air travel; but at what costs to our sense of place and our wellbeing?”

For more information visit: http://airpressure.posterous.com/
What a waste!

Cooking styles promoted by celebrity chefs are unlikely to cut Britain’s 8.3 million tonnes of household food waste, according to a University sociologist.

Dr David Evans’ study looked at the cooking habits of 19 Manchester households to see how much waste was produced.

Dr Evans, who works with The Sustainable Consumption Institute here at the University, says the pressure to cook fresh meals from scratch throughout the week can actually lead to waste.

Over eight months Dr Evans observed people preparing, cooking and shopping for food.

He found that they often struggled to find a use for leftovers, especially when trying to feed a family of fussy eaters who prefer tried and tested recipes to improvised concoctions.

He said: “Fresh food is perishable and so needs to be eaten within a pretty narrow timeframe. Our erratic working hours and leisure schedules make it hard to keep on top of the food that we have in our fridges and cupboards.

“It is perfectly understandable that people might forget, or be too tired to cook the food that they have at home and so end up going for a takeaway and throwing out the food they had already purchased.”

Cells CO₂ discovery

Scientists have discovered how living organisms, including us humans, avoid poisoning from carbon monoxide generated by natural cell processes.

Scientists have long wondered how organisms manage to control internal carbon monoxide production so that it does no harm.

Researchers, working with colleagues at the University of Liverpool and Eastern Oregon University, have now identified the mechanism whereby cells protect themselves from the toxic effects of the gas.

“Toxic carbon monoxide is generated naturally by chemical metabolic reactions in cells but we have shown how organisms avoid poisoning by low concentrations of ‘natural’ carbon monoxide,” said Professor Nigel Scrutton, who led the team in the Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre within the Faculty of Life Sciences.

“Working with a simple, bacterial haem protein, we were able to show that when the haem protein ‘senses’ the toxic gas is being produced within the cell, it changes its structure through a burst of energy and the carbon monoxide molecule struggles to bind with it.”

Hands-on DNA

Nowgen is playing a leading role in the national ‘Hands-on DNA’ network, a major initiative funded by The Wellcome Trust, which will enable over 6,000 school pupils across the UK to analyse their own DNA and investigate genetic variation.

Kate Dack, Nowgen’s Public Programmes Manager, said: “This network will give thousands more young people the chance to experience the excitement of learning about DNA in the lab.”
Zebra fish help tackle cancer

Researchers using Zebra fish to study the deadly skin cancer melanoma have been awarded a European Research Council grant worth €1.5 million.

Melanoma is caused by excessive ultraviolet rays in sunlight that transform skin cells from cells that produce a tan, known as melanocytes, to malignant cells.

Dr Adam Hurlstone and his team in the Faculty of Life Sciences are studying this process of transformation and looking at how to detect it sooner and faster, as well as developing therapies designed to prevent, delay or even reverse this change in the skin cells.

Zebrafish are used in the study since they have melanocytes in their distinctive stripes.

Scientists crack amazing star image

You might not be sure what you’re looking at here but it’s actually an amazing new picture of a star.

Nicknamed the Fried Egg Nebula, the picture shows the best ever image of a colossal yellow hypergiant star – one of the rarest types of star in the Universe.

At a distance of about 13,000 light-years from Earth, the monster star has a diameter about a thousand times bigger than our Sun and shines some 500,000 times more brightly.

The star and its shells resemble an egg white around a yolky centre, leading the international team of astronomers who found it, to give it its nickname.

One of the scientists involved was Professor Albert Zijlstra, from the School of Physics and Astronomy who said: “It's amazing that one of the brightest stars in the infrared sky had previously gone unnoticed. We are seeing a very rare event, when a star is beginning to blow off its outer layers, as a prelude to its final explosion as a supernova”.

Counting the cost of tummy upsets

Nearly 17 million people suffer from stomach upsets in the UK every year, leading to around 11 million lost working days, new research has found.

Lead researcher Professor Sarah O’Brien, from the School of Translational Medicine, said: “It’s easy to dismiss diarrhoea and vomiting as a trivial illness, but this study reinforces just how many lives are affected, and shows the impact it can have on health services and the wider economy.

“Our research confirms that public health policy should continue to be directed at preventing diarrhoea and vomiting by promoting good personal and food hygiene.”

Material world

The University is working with an international chemical firm to develop new materials which could be used to replace worn out body parts.

The agreement with Solvay SA will accelerate new projects, involving lead academics from across several Schools in the University’s Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences.

It represents a major investment by Solvay of more than £1.4 million over four years.

Bernd Wilkes, Senior Executive Vice-President of Solvay’s global business unit for Special Chemicals, said: “This marks an important milestone in Solvay’s open innovation programme of research and development.”
We have many members of staff who have dedicated almost all of their working lives to the University. Here we begin a new series of features focussing on some of these people and the contribution they have made to our University over the years.

“...I was very innocent,” she says. “I even wore long socks and hot pants. But it was like joining an extended family. We had parties, put on shows, played five-a-side in the gym and the rest. There was a really good atmosphere.”

She started off in the Department of Chemical Engineering, working with the then exciting new Electron Microscope, preparing metal specimens for analysis. She was encouraged to study for further qualifications on paid-for day-release. She got an ONC in Physics and an HNC in Metallography.

“It was different then,” she says. “The students were at their benches promptly at 8.30 am and they wore jacket, collar and tie. Each lab had an attendant, who would wash the glass containers and even scrub the floor for them.”

When Corrosion split off from ChemEng, Gill moved with it. In addition to everything else, she proved to be very good at art work and took on responsibility for graphs and drawings in papers and presentations – “unattributed, of course.” She also took on photography and was promoted to technician when she was 21.

“...In those days, there was scope for promotion, but you had to earn it by doing higher-grade work,” she says. “Another advantage was that there was money to buy equipment – if I needed a new camera, I could just buy it. If you needed a new cabinet, you just ordered it and it would be tailor-made on the spot.”

There were even breaks for afternoon tea, when a Mrs Appleby would prepare everything for staff and students.

The students have changed a lot over the years too. Gill remembers fondly the first overseas students on the course. Not so fondly remembered is Chief Bambo from Central Africa. “He had tribal scars on his cheeks and he wanted me to be his second wife and go back to Africa with him,” she says.

She turned him down, but she did marry her boss, Chief Technician Roger Brighouse. She was 24 and the marriage lasted only two years. However, they continued to work happily together for another 20 years, until Roger retired, and they are close friends. She and her present husband, Phil Shannon, have been together now for 30 years – and, with Roger, follow their keen interest in rallying. Gill, as you might have guessed, is also a motor mechanic of some repute.

As well as being photographer in the Corrosion Centre in her thirties, Gill developed her interest and skill in accounts. In 2004, she took charge of the Centre’s accounts and became Senior Technician. So, when accounts were devolved to cost centres, she naturally took on responsibility for running the Faculty accounts, setting up a team and training new members of it. “I was always interested in and good at maths,” she says. “I’ve been through all the financial systems and I really love accounts.”

In 42 years, she has had little time away. In 2000, she even came in in a wheelchair and then on crutches from her home in Bolton after a serious horse-riding accident, breaking her leg so badly that she was in plaster for 18 months. That shows the spirit of the woman.

“Even after all these years, I can honestly say that I still get up in the morning happy to be coming to work,” she says.

Gillian Shannon
She was ‘sweet 16’ and fresh from school in Chadderton when she started as a junior technician at UMIST on an annual salary of £352 – “not quite £1 a day”. That was 42 years ago. Now, Gill Shannon is Project Accounts Manager for the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Science.
Set back on Oxford Road, close to the hub of the Students’ Union, stands the outer shell of the old University refectory. You may have noticed that construction is well under way on the new Learning Commons, set to open in 2012. But what is a Learning Commons? And how will it benefit students?

What’s in a name?
The Alan Gilbert Learning Commons (AGLC) aim is a simple one – to provide students with an inspiring place to learn, discuss and develop their work. A £25 million investment, it will be one of only a handful of similar state-of-the-art university facilities in the UK.

The building and its services, named in memory of the University’s inaugural President and Vice-Chancellor, who died in July 2010, will be managed by the John Rylands University Library. Totally focused on student satisfaction, the Learning Commons will be a hive of activity when it opens its doors in summer 2012.

The origins of the Learning Commons concept lie in university campus life in the US, where research into how students like to study, resulted in the development of buildings in which students can meet to work together in a variety of different ways. In essence, a one-stop-shop for private and collaborative learning.

The AGLC will be managed by Rosie Jones who has just been appointed.

Why do we need a Learning Commons?
The Learning Commons is one of many steps being taken by the University to provide students with a first-class learning experience.

Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week (with reduced hours over the summer according to student demand), students will be able to satisfy all their study needs under one roof. Over 1,000 learning spaces will be available, from group study rooms (with plasma screens, movable white boards, IT equipment and soundproof walls) and open study areas (with a range of seating and tables), to private spaces and quiet zones.

There will be a huge emphasis on technology, with over 400 computers, multiple areas to plug in laptops, phones and iPods, plasma screens, interactive whiteboards and wi-fi access.

Students will be able to enjoy a break from study at the on-site cafe which will have walk-in access from Oxford Road. The area between the Learning Commons and the Main Library will be an attractive, landscaped outdoor area for students to take time out, or take their learning outside.

Sustainability will be a major feature of the new building. Carbon emissions will be limited due to – among other things – triple glazing, daylight sensors to prevent lights being turned on when unnecessary and a ‘green’ roof to top it off. This is where specifically selected plants will grow and flourish to provide a habitat for wildlife and will also act as building insulation.
Sounds impressive - any chance of a preview?

To experience a taste of things to come, the Joule Library in the Sackville Street Building has created a Learning Commons environment on a smaller scale.

On climbing the stairs to the freshly painted open-plan floor, you may be forgiven for thinking that you’re wandering around the latest Conran collection of muted greys and orange interspersed with rows of PCs, intelligent furniture (more of that later) and a variety of work areas. It all looks uber stylish and ultra modern.

Most importantly, the space is light, airy and comfortable, with a sense of calm. Already there are a number of people in each area working quietly in groups or focused on private study.

‘What’s really great, is that the students have already started to move furniture around to suit their study needs – which is what it’s all about’, says Debbie Allan, Customer Service Manager at the John Rylands University Library.

The intelligent furniture has seen an end to PC towers sitting under desks, with the computer memory positioned snugly inside each desk space, and just the monitors on top. ‘It doesn’t do your work for you,’ smiles Debbie, ‘but it does create more space for you to do yours.’

‘I like being able to choose what kind of study space to use,’ says one student user of the Joule facilities. ‘Access to PCs is good and the chairs are really comfortable,’ adds another. Students will be invited to give feedback on the new furniture at focus groups held in October, which will then influence what the University chooses for the finished building in 2012.

To experience the new facilities at Joule firsthand, visit the Sackville Street Building and head to floor E. You can get a real feel of what the Learning Commons is aiming to achieve in 2012 and benefit from the new hi-tech study areas for current students.
International Society
Visit some of the most beautiful and interesting locations around England, Scotland and Wales. There are visits taking place almost every weekend throughout the year.
Sat 12 Nov Oxford
Sun 13 Nov Peak District visiting
Sat 19 Nov North Wales visiting Caernarfon Castle and Portmeirion Village
Sun 20 Nov Whibly
Sat 26 Nov York’s St Nicholas Fayre Market
Sun 27 Nov Lake District visiting Windermere and the Dickensian Christmas Festival in Ulverston
Sat 3 Dec Lincoln Xmas Market
Sun 4 Dec Keswick Traditional Christmas Fayre

Chaplaincies
St Peter’s House Chaplaincy
11am Holy Communion
12.45pm Lunchtime (term-time only)
6.30pm Evening Worship (term-time only)
FOyer 10am – 5pm, weekdays
6.30pm Evening Worship (term-time only)
Sat 26 Nov, 7.30pm
Sun 27 Nov, 11am
Mon-Fri 11am – 3pm
327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)
0161 275 4959
email int.soc@manchester.ac.uk
www.internationalsociety.org.uk

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama
Thurs 10 Nov, 11.00pm
Walter Carroll Lunchtime Series - Quatuor Danel Lunchtime Concert
Two masters at the height of their powers: the wisdom and wit of Haydn meet the exquisitement and excitement of Shostakovich.
Thurs 10 Nov, 2.30pm
Quatuor Danel Seminar: ‘Viennese Worlds’
Thurs 10 and Fri 11 Nov, 7pm
Drama Independent Production
Me and My Shadow written by Michael Garstin
Fri 11 Nov, 7.30pm
Quatuor Danel Evening Concert
Savour the conduction of two very different Venetian genres, from one epic work lasting 40 minutes to a modern classic lasting just four.
Fri 11 Nov, 11.00pm
Remembrance Day
The Music Society marks Remembrance Day with this special lunchtime concert.
Sat 12 Nov, 7.30pm
University of Manchester Chamber Orchestra and Wind Ensembles
The concert opens with Mozart’s Wind Serenade and Scherzott’s Instant Music featuring soloist Matthew Howells, followed by two instantly recognizable chamber pieces.
Thurs 17 Nov, 11.00pm
Ebb Trio
Featuring international artists performing works for mezzo-soprano, viola and piano.
Fri 18 Nov, 11.00pm
Opera Scenes
Opera Scenes returns as famous scenes and arias are performed by talented students.
Wed 23, Thurs 24 and Fri 25 Nov, 7pm
University of Manchester Drama Society
It’s time for the Drama Society’s Autumn Showcase!
Thurs 24 Nov, 11.00pm
Sakhoba Folk Ensemble
Joining us all the way from Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia, Sakhoba showcases some of the most talented of the newest generation of musicians.
Fri 25 Nov
VAGANZA
The University of Manchester’s New Music Ensemble
1.10pm: The Ukrainians are Coming! Part 1
7.30pm: The Ukrainians are Coming! Part 2
Sat 26 Nov, 7.30pm
MNUO (Manchester University Wind Orchestra)
Manchester University Wind Orchestra kicks off its 15th season with a veritable kaleidoscope of colour!
Thurs 1 Dec, 1.10pm
MANTIS and Special Guest Julio d’Escriván
Ensayos for musical multimedia and occasional acoustic performances.
Sun 4 Dec, 7.30pm
The University of Manchester Chorus and Symphony Orchestra
The Manchester University Chorus begins the 2011-12 season with a performance of Bach’s Mass in B Minor accompanied by the Manchester University Symphony Orchestra.
The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama
Bridgeford Street, Manchester, M13 9PL
0161 275 8951
email boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk
www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre

Whitworth Art Gallery
CONCERTS
Sun 20 Nov and 4 Dec, 12.30 – 1.15pm, Free
Performances by RNCM students at the Whitworth
Enjoy music and art together.

EXHIBITIONS
Dark Matters, until 15 Jan 2012
Encounter phantasm glass in the mirror, captured spirits and playful shadows as the Whitworth’s spaces become populated by works of darkness and wonder.
Air Pressure, until 15 January 2012
Our globalised contemporary world has been made possible and shaped fundamentally by international air travel; but at what cost to our sense of place and our wellbeing? This multi-media installation explores the clash between traditional farming life Japan and the technology and economy of international travel.

ADULT EVENTS
Every Thurs, 8.30 – 9.45am, Free
Yoga
A fantastic way to start your day. Please bring your own yoga mat.
Every Tues in Nov, 11am – 12.30pm, Free
Tuesday Talks
Leading artists and curators offer an insight into contemporary art practice.
Wed 9 Nov, 12.30 – 1.15pm, Free
Behind-the-scenes Tour
Revealing the hidden treasures that visitors don’t normally get to see. Led by Christine Woods, Curator of Wallpapers. Reserve a place: christine.woods@manchester.ac.uk
Wed 16 and Sat 19 Nov, 2 – 4pm, £5
Crafternoon Tea
Monthly social art and craft workshop. Enjoy a cuppa and try your hand at art and craft techniques.
Sat 19 Nov, 11am – 1pm, £5
Alternative Camera Club
A series of photographic talks, discussions and critiques, co-curated with BlackLab.
Sat 19 Nov, 2pm, Free
In Memory of ‘Chroma’
Exploring the role of colour within science and visual art.
http://colourchroma.wordpress.com

FAMILY EVENTS
Every Mon, 10.30 –11.30am or 11.30am – 12.30pm, Free
Toddlastic
Hands-on workshops for under 5s and their grown-ups.
Booking is essential: 0161 275 7450
Every day, Free
Shadow Lab
Make a world of shadows using light as your creative tool.
Every Sun, 1.30 – 3.30pm, Free
Colourful Sundays
Drop-in creative workshops.
Opening hours
Monday to Saturday 10am – 5pm, Sunday 12 – 4pm
Entry to the Gallery is FREE
Whitworth Art Gallery
Oxford Road, Manchester
0161 275 7450
email: whitworth@manchester.ac.uk
www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth

Centre for New Writing
Our unique events bring the best-known, contemporary novelists and poets to Manchester to discuss and read from their work. Everyone is welcome, and ticket prices include a complimentary glass of wine or soft drink.
21 Nov, 6.30pm, £6/£4
Literature Live: Lavinia Greenlaw, John Glenday, Ali Smith
Martin Harris Centre
You will find details of our events on our website:
Website: www.manchester.ac.uk/arts/newwriting
Online journal: www.themanchesterreview.co.uk
The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama
Bridgeford Street, Manchester M13 9PL
0161 275 8951/8950
email boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk
www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre
The Manchester Museum

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

Unearthed: Ancient Egypt, until Sept 2012
Calling all budding archaeologists. We need your help! Visit Unearthed: Ancient Egypt so you can travel back to the 1920s and enter the storeroom of our Egyptologist, played on film by Terry Deary, author of Horrible Histories and Egyptian Tales. Help him investigate and record the objects he’s found.

An exhibition of bone specimens and artefacts excavated during the Archaeological Survey of Nubia (1907-1911), revealing the lives of the inhabitants of ancient Nubia, Egypt’s southern neighbour. Featuring material from the KNH Centre for Biomedical Egyptology and the Natural History Museum, London.

We Are Extincted, until 4 Dec
The Manchester Museum has teamed up with artist group Ultimate Holding Company to present an exhibition of 100 tattoos on an army of ambassadors for threatened species from around the UK.

The Museum Allotment, until Autumn 2012
Our allotment has been inspired by our new Living Worlds gallery which shows how we can all shape the future by the choices we make.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Most activities are free and drop-in. Some activities may need to be booked on the day and may cost up to £1.50. All ages

Big Saturday: Autumn on the allotment
Take part in craft activities and watch a family friendly film; see, smell and taste seasonal food during a food demonstration by Cracking Good Food; and get some top tips on pruning when we put the allotment to bed for the winter. Have a go at garlic planting and, for under 5s, there will be sensory treasure baskets to explore.

Fri 25 Nov, 11am – 12pm
Magic Carpet: Chocolate Storytelling and activity session. Book on 0161 275 2648, £1 per child, under 5s and their families/carers

TALKS, TOURS AND WORKSHOPS FOR ADULTS

Wed 16 Nov, 3 – 4.30pm, Drop-in, Free
Showcase lecture
From natural history to human ecology, the philosophy behind the new ‘Living Worlds’ gallery with Henry McGhe, Head of Collections and Curator of Zoology, The Manchester Museum.

Sat 26 Nov, 6.30-9.30pm
After Hours: Extinked
In 2009, as part of the arts and ecology project extInked, 100 tattoos on an army of ambassadors for threatened species. Meet some of the ambassadors and take part in 19th century drop-in camera workshops.

Wed 30 Nov, 3 – 4.30pm, Drop-in, Free
Showcase lecture
Enhancing the visitor experience: the virtual and physical recreation of a Chalcolithic roundhouse on Cyprus with Lindy Crewe. Wed 12 Nov, 12:30 – 1:30pm, Free

Every Tues and Thur, 12 – 1pm

Tours of the Vivarium
Zoology students from The University of Manchester will share their knowledge of the animals and highlight the conservation and education work that the Museum and University does. Monthly tours in Spanish and French.
Book on ManchesterMuseumVivarium@gmail.com

Opening hours
Open: Tues-Sat: 10am – 5pm
Sun-Mon (and Bank Holidays) 11am – 4pm
FREE Admission
The Manchester Museum
Oxford Road, Manchester, 0161 275 2634
www.manchester.ac.uk/museum

Gig Guide

Manchester Academy, 1, 2 and 3
Thurs 10 Nov
The Pigeon Detectives – £15 Adv
Tinchy Steward – £15 Adv
Blackfoot – £15 Adv

Fri 11 Nov
Opeth – £18.50 Adv
The Parlotones – £12.50 Adv
Fountains Of Wayne – £15 Adv

Sat 12 Nov
The Smiths Ltd (Smiths Tribute) – £10 Adv
Lacuna Coil – Straight Line Stitch – £15 Adv
Boom! + Finding Emo + A Little Bit Outlaw + New Avenue – £6 Adv

Sun 13 Nov
The Darkness – £25 Adv
Mon 14 Nov
The Big Pink – £10.50 Adv

Tues 15 Nov
The Estap Antikidote Tour – £17.50 Adv
Belllowhead – £16.50 Adv
Yuck – £9 Adv
Vintage Trouble – £10 Adv

Wed 16 Nov
KMFDM – £15 Adv
Madina Lake + Chiodos – £12.50 Adv
Wire – £14 Adv

Thurs 17 Nov
The Vaccines – £15 Adv EXTRA DATE
The Naked and Famous + Alex Winston – £14 Adv
Turissä + Chthonic + Kuas – £12 Adv

Fri 18 Nov
Axis of Awesome – £15 Adv (SEATED SHOW)

Sat 19 Nov
The Defenders + CW Stoneking – £13 Adv

Sun 20 Nov
J Cole – £16 Adv Doors 7pm

Tues 22 Nov
The Rubberbands – £10 Adv

Wed 23 Nov
Foster The People – £9 Adv (SOLD OUT)

Thurs 24 Nov
Hanson – £23.50 Adv
Zola Jesus – £10 Adv

Fri 25 Nov
An Evening with Dizzee Rascal – £25 Adv

Sat 26 Nov
The Complete Stone Roses – £15 Adv
Carl Palmer Band Performing the ELP album ‘Pictures At An Exhibition’ – £20 Adv

Sun 27 Nov
Textures and The Ocean + Alasias – £8.50 Adv

Mon 28 Nov
DJ Fresh – £12.50 Adv
Reckless Love – £10.50 Adv

Wed 30 Nov
Yellowcard & Saves The Day – £15 Adv

Thurs 1 Dec
Richie Hawtin presents Plastikman Live – £25 Adv
Electric Six + Swound – £11.50 Adv

Fri 2 Dec
Professor Green + Rizzle Kicks – £16 Adv
Ordinary Boys – £12 Adv

Sat 3 Dec
The Pigeon Detectives + Candour + Unknown Pleasures + Higher Night – £6 Adv

Sun 4 Dec
The Doors Alive – Tribute Band – £10 Adv
The Lancashire Hotpots – £12 Adv

Tickets from
Students’ Union, Oxford Road
Piccadilly Box Office @ easy Internet Café (0871) 2200260
Royal Court (Liverpool) 0151 709 4321

Students’ Union
Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL
0161 275 2930
www.manchesteracademy.net

John Rylands Library (Deansgate)

Wed 9 and Sat 19 Nov, 12 – 12.45pm
Leafing through
A collection close-up. From botanical to bark, discover more about our leafy collections and their contents.

Thurs 10 Nov, 5.30 – 7pm
Tales from the forest
Join us for a magical evening of story-telling.

Fri 11 Nov, 1 – 2.30pm
Unusual Views: Library tour for photographers
Take the opportunity to photograph the Library building from spectacular viewpoints not normally open to the public!

Sat 12 Nov, 12 – 1pm
Here be Dragons!
The walls and ceiling of the Library are full of strange and mysterious creatures - join our tour to seek them out!

Sun 13 Nov, 2.30 – 3.30pm
Explorer Tour: A peek behind the scenes!
Ever wondered where some of the Library doors and staircases lead to? Then this is the tour for you!

Tues 15 and Sun 20 Nov, 1 – 2pm
Finding the Green Man
A tour of the Library. Join us to find out more about Green Men and explore the Library to find their hiding places.

Thurs 20 Nov, 12 – 12.45pm
Tour and Treasures
Enjoy a closer look at material from the Library’s world famous collections and find out more about this magnificent building with one of our curators.

Wed 23 Nov, 1 – 3pm
Whimsical Wednesday: Creative marbling
Part of a series of sessions offering the opportunity to dip your toes into a creative activity, in a comfortable and supportive workshop.

Sat 26 Nov, 11am – 1pm
Hot off the press!
Take this opportunity to learn about the history of printing, to see the Library’s historic presses in action and to have a go yourself!

Sun 27 Nov, 12 – 1pm
Our Tour
Join us and two young volunteers on an alternative tour of the Library.

Sun 27 Nov, 1 – 4pm
The Green Man and the Wild Woods
Come and enjoy and afternoon of family friendly activities including badge making and mask making.

For further details of our events, please visit our website: http://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/deansgate/events/

Public opening hours
Mon 12-5pm, Tues 10am-5pm, Sun 12pm-5pm
Reader opening hours
Mon-Wed 10am-5pm, Thurs 10am-7pm, Fri 10am-5pm
FREE ADMISSION

The John Rylands Library
150 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 3EH
0161 306 0555
email jrl.visitors@manchester.ac.uk
www.manchester.ac.uk/library
Christmas by chancellors

Throughout December... both Chancellors Hotel and Christie’s Bistro are offering Christmas Lunches from £14.95 and Party Buffets from £12.95 per person

Ticketed Events...
Christie’s Bistro Buffet and Bop £25.00 per person
Chancellors Hotel December Gourmet Evening £49.95 per person
Chancellors Hotel New Years Eve Black Tie Gourmet Evening £75.00 per person

Don’t forget... Chancellors Hotel offers great value B&B rates throughout December for visiting family and friends or shopping trips to the city

For more information visit www.chancellorshotel.co.uk
or please call Chancellors Hotel on 0161 907 7414 or Christie’s Bistro on 0161 275 7702

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For all your travel needs, call:
0161 274 4444

We have discounted airfares on hundreds of routes worldwide. Call us to compare.

See our University travel guide at www.deltatravel.co.uk/man_uni.html

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT TRAVEL AGENT SINCE 1973

Delta Travel, 304-306 Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9NS
Tel: 0161 274 4444 Fax: 0161 274 3555; Email: btsales@deltatravel.co.uk
Training and Information Day for University Event Organisers

Thursday 12th January 2012
9.00am – 3.00pm

The Conference Sales and Events team are running a training session for anyone who books meetings, conferences, events or accommodation on behalf of the University.

You will have the opportunity to see the University’s principal venues and understand fully the services the University offers to support meetings and events with the chance to meet the teams involved and ask any questions.

The itinerary for the day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Programme</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Arrival tea/coffee and breakfast rolls and tour of Sackville Street campus venues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.00am</td>
<td>Coach pick up to Oxford Road campus for tour of key venues</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Depart for Victoria Park campus with tour and presentation from the conference sales and events team</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.15pm</td>
<td>Depart for Chancellors Hotel and Conference Centre for tour and lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.45pm</td>
<td>Optional visit to the ‘Taste Manchester’ Central Processing Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.30pm</td>
<td>Coach departure back to Oxford Road and Sackville Street campuses</td>
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Book now to secure your place for this important training session by calling 64100 or emailing meeting@manchester.ac.uk
Calling all budding Egyptologists and archaeologists. Manchester Museum needs your help!

Our new exhibition asks you to join our Egyptologist (played on film by Terry Deary, author of Horrible Histories and Egyptian Tales), to investigate and record all the objects he has collected from his years of exploration and discovery in Egypt.

He and his team have discovered lots of objects, including toys, farming tools, stone carvings and burial goods, which can help us understand the ancient Egyptians’ home life, working life, language and beliefs. He needs your help to complete the unfinished tasks.

Your task is to travel back in time to the Museum’s 1920s Egyptologist’s storeroom for your training, claim your archaeologist’s certificate and get to work.

Some of the objects in the exhibition will be going on display in the Museum’s new Ancient Worlds galleries, opening late 2012.

To create these new galleries, some objects from the Daily Life section of Ancient Egypt have been removed, but most of the mummies and the archaeology collection will stay on display until February 2012.

Unearthed: Ancient Egypt