Manchester arts: reaching around the world
Our University is to invest £1 billion over the next ten years to create a world-class campus for our staff and students. Here the President and Vice-Chancellor comments on these plans.

Our aim, initiated in ‘Project Unity’ in 2004 and clearly restated in our Manchester 2020 vision, is to create a world-leading university which will compete with the best universities in the world.

Part of this vision was that we would occupy a single, outstanding campus where: “Our beautiful historic buildings sit alongside new, state-of-the-art structures and facilities and where we integrate with our City and with our local communities.”

Our future success will depend primarily on our people, but they need outstanding infrastructure. Great progress has been made in the development of our campus. We have invested £750 million in new buildings and major refurbishments since 2004.

The latest, a testament to our inaugural President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert, is the Learning Commons, dedicated to student learning, which we already hear from the students is: “Fabulous, amazing, brilliant!”

We are already creating a beautiful campus, with open and welcoming spaces and outstanding buildings. Now is the time to build on the improvements to our estate, which will coincide with major developments along Oxford Road.

There is still much to do if we are to achieve our ambitious goals. Most importantly, we still occupy two campuses which we refer to as our ‘North Campus’ and our ‘Main – or South – Campus’.

A real priority must be to bring the University together onto a single site, where our staff and students can integrate, collaborate and share the best facilities. The costs of remaining on the North Campus in the long term would be extremely high, both financially and for our carbon footprint.

After extensive discussions amongst senior staff over recent months and remarkable achievements by Diana Hampson (Director of Estates and Facilities) and her team, we have developed a comprehensive plan for the University estate for the next ten years, with an estimated cost of approximately £1 billion.

This will lead to a transformational change to our campus which not only delivers a single site campus,
but also includes a programme of estates development that will impact on almost every area of the University for staff, students and visitors. Planning for ten years ahead is always difficult - never more so than in the current climate of change to universities and the wider economy. Hence, we have developed more detailed plans and funding for the first five to six years of our vision, including the relocation of the North Campus and development of many other priorities for the development of our estate and ongoing maintenance.

This first phase of our Estates MasterPlan, requires funding of about £700 million, and includes a continuing investment in the North Campus during the transitional period. Our Estates MasterPlan and the more detailed plans for the first six years were reviewed and approved recently by our Board of Governors and by the Board Finance Committee. So, we will now proceed.

We always have to make very difficult choices about how we deploy our limited resources, never more so than in this current period of wider economic uncertainty. But to ‘sit tight and wait’ will certainly not achieve our goals. Hence we must move forward with our Estates MasterPlan. We have, of course, built in major points of possible ‘pause’, which may be needed, should our financial circumstances change, but the plans presented to the Board were based on conservative estimates about income and assumed no income from disposals of vacated buildings or land.

Even these ambitious plans cannot deal with all of our estates needs, but they do take us forward in a time of economic difficulty with plans that I believe are not only deliverable, but are also essential for the next phase of achieving our ambitious goals. Further details of our Estates MasterPlan can be seen on page 5 of this issue of Unilife and are being communicated across the University.

Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell, President and Vice-Chancellor

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University lands global ambassador role

Manchester and Cambridge have become the first two UK institutions to receive the Siemens Global Ambassador award.

This prestigious status was given in recognition of the two universities’ wide-ranging research collaborations across business sectors and also their efforts to engage graduate talent with Siemens.

Welsh Minister appoints Manchester professor

Professor Mel Ainscow CBE is to lead a team which will ‘challenge and support’ the way Anglesey’s schools are run.

Mel is Professor of Education and Co-Director of the Centre for Equity in Education.

Honour for iconic author

This is the UK’s first monument to Clockwork Orange author Anthony Burgess – and it’s right here on campus.

Burgess, whose iconic tale of gang violence and retribution celebrates its 50th anniversary this year, studied English Literature here from 1937 to 1940.

The son of a music-hall dancer and a shopkeeper, Burgess grew up in Harpurhey and Moss Side.

Some of his earliest poems were published in the University student magazine ‘The Serpent’, including a love poem to his first wife and fellow student, Llewela Jones.

However, other than a plaque outside his flat in Monaco – where he lived for 17 years – no other monument exists to the world-famous author, who died in 1993.

Dr Andrew Biswell, Director of the International Anthony Burgess Foundation, said: “Although Burgess was one of the great English-language writers of the 20th century, he has always been neglected in the country of his birth.

“So I’m delighted that the University has decided to install the first British public monument to him.”

The plaque – unveiled by Professor Jeremy Gregory, Head of the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures, to mark the launch of the School – can be found on the Samuel Alexander Building.

• Read our special arts feature on page14.

Turner masterpiece reclaims glory

An oil painting by British master JMW Turner has been ‘rediscovered’ at the Whitworth Art Gallery.

The Margate seascape was bequeathed to the Gallery by prominent North West industrialist Sir Edward Tootal Broadhurst in 1922, and entered into the catalogue as a Turner.

However the authenticity of the painting was thrown into doubt by art world experts who branded it a fake.

Now, thanks to an investigation by ‘Art Detective’ and authority on British art, Philip Mould, and ongoing research by leading Turner expert Ian Warrell, the painting can reclaim its former glory as an authentic work by one of the world’s greatest painters.

The painting bears a striking resemblance to other late works by Turner in the National Museum Wales in Cardiff, which were re-authenticated as part of the BBC’s ‘Fake or Fortune’ programme broadcast last month.

It will be put on display in the near future, and can be viewed by appointment by contacting the Whitworth Art Gallery on 0161 275 7450.

Our University is to invest £1 billion over the next ten years to create a world-class campus for our staff and students.

The Estates MasterPlan, which was approved by the University’s Board of Governors on 10 October, will create a single campus and will involve the construction of new teaching and research buildings, student facilities and major improvements to the public realm.

The first phase of the plan, costing around £700 million, will be delivered over the next six years. It includes the building of a new engineering campus, new centres for the School of Law and Manchester Business School, a major refurbishment of the University Library, a bigger and better Students’ Union and a new Medical School for our students in Dover Street. There would also be investment in a Combined Heat and Power Facility, as well as a new car park and the refurbishment of the telescope at Jodrell Bank.

The University will also spend several million pounds to improve the public realm and landscaping in order to capitalise on the future improvements to Oxford Road, which will see wider pavements, tree-lined boulevards and the removal of all cars during 2015. Students will benefit from major IT upgrades, a new teaching block, refurbishments of several teaching rooms and extension to the Students’ Union Building.

Outline plans have been drawn up for a second phase which is expected to cost a further £300 million and would begin in 2018 and end in 2022. This second phase would create a Biomedical Campus around the existing Stopford Building, a new health centre for staff and students, and includes refurbishments in the Schools of Computer Science, Earth, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, Mathematics and Chemistry.

Director of Estates and Facilities Diana Hampson said: “Since the merger of the two universities in 2004, it has been our ambition to bring all of the academic activity together on a single site south of the Mancunian Way, which will improve efficiency, improve the student experience and reduce the University’s carbon footprint.

“This visionary building programme will give us one of the most modern campuses in the world, where the vast majority of our students will be studying in brand new or refurbished buildings.”

The new investment is in addition to the £750 million spent since 2004 which has already seen the completion of ten new buildings and many large scale refurbishments.

The completion of Phase One of the MasterPlan will see the University moving out of most of the buildings on the North Campus, although it will retain some of the buildings to the west of Sackville Street, including the Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre. The University is already working with partners from the City Council and New Economy to identify a suitable use for the buildings on the North Campus, which will be vacated by 2018.

The majority of Schools will not move out of their present base on the North Campus until the new engineering campus is completed in 2018 and the University will continue to invest in and maintain the North Campus to a high standard, with significant investment over the next six years.
New health chief

Professor Martin Gibson has been appointed Chief Executive of leading e-health software provider North West e-Health (NW eHealth).

NW eHealth, is a not-for-profit collaboration between the University, Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust and Salford Primary Care Trust. It’s one of the leading software developers for healthcare data and has deployed several ground-breaking products to revolutionise the way clinical trials are set up and run in the UK.

For more information visit: www.nweh.org.uk

Unique device brings the house down

It’s exciting when a big parcel comes to your door – and even more exciting when it’s so big you have to take the back wall down to get it in.

That’s what happened at the Dalton Cumbrian Facility (DCF) when it’s new Pelletron device for irradiation research arrived.

Not only that, the £3 million ion accelerator – which is used for nuclear energy research – is unique to the UK.

The DCF purchased the Pelletron with funding from the Northwest Development Agency.

Having a great time, hands on hearts...literally!

One youngster summarised his visit to the World Heart Day event run by University researchers as: “It’s extra awesome here!”

The event, hosted by the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI), involved a series of interactive – and often messy – activities designed to inform and enthuse both young and old about the cardiovascular system.

The event was organised by staff from the Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, in the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences, and the Faculty of Life Sciences.

Visitors began by donning surgical gloves and getting to grips with a display of real animal hearts.

Organiser Clare Austin said: “Despite the initial reactions of many, this was perhaps the most popular part of the event and was an excellent way of explaining cardiac anatomy.”

Co-organiser Ann Canfield added: “All in all it was an exhausting, but extremely enjoyable and worthwhile day. Our feedback confirmed that many of the 2,383 visitors to MOSI that day left with an enhanced knowledge of the cardiovascular system.”

Amazing space

Students have embraced their “awesome” new learning space, the £24 million Alan Gilbert Learning Commons, with gusto.

The Learning Commons – named after the University’s inaugural President and Vice-Chancellor – has been designed to give students a focal point for learning.

It boasts more than 1,000 study spaces, 400 PCs, 30 bookable group study rooms, Skype area and media screens for group work.

Students who are using the Learning Commons have described it as: “Amazing...well designed...nice and bright.”

One student summed it up best by saying: “I’m proud to be at Manchester – great work!”
Multimillion pound boost for cancer research

Cancer research in Manchester has been given a £12.8 million funding boost following a successful bid by the University to the UK Research Partnership Investment Fund (UKRPIF).

The funds – announced by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) – will part fund the construction of the new Manchester Cancer Research Centre (MCRC), on The Christie site in Withington and pay for new research equipment.

The MCRC is a partnership between the University, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust and Cancer Research UK, and the new building has been designed to help researchers and clinicians work together to make sure that discoveries made in the labs can be used to develop new personalised treatments for cancer patients.

Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences Professor Ian Jacobs said: “This funding recognises the excellent quality of cancer research in Manchester.

“The new MCRC research building will facilitate plans for expansion of our cancer research effort and provide an exciting opportunity in Manchester to accelerate our personalised medicine plans in cancer.”

The University’s successful bid was made possible due to external funding from business, charities and philanthropists, including AstraZeneca, The Wolfson Foundation and The Oglesby Charitable Trust.

A quartet of big hitters

Former chair of the Treasury Select Committee Lord McFall was just one of four important voices at a discussion outlining how our University can contribute to Government policy.

The event was part of a week of free sessions organised by the University’s new academic network ‘Policy@Manchester’, directed by Professor Colin Talbot from the Manchester Business School.

The other speakers included Financial Times ‘Undercover Economist’ Tim Harford, former FT public policy editor Nicholas Timmins and former Science Editor of The Times and Director of Communications at the Wellcome Trust, Mark Henderson.

Professor Talbot said: “One of the things that distinguishes top universities around the world is that, certainly in democracies, they are usually powerhouses of public policy ideas.

“Manchester is trying something a little different. We surveyed staff last summer and found we had around 350 colleagues engaged externally in various areas of public policy.

“Manchester as a city has upped its profile. The arrival of ‘Media City’ means there’s suddenly lots of media folk discovering there is intelligent life outside of the M25.

“Policy@Manchester will seek to capitalise on all that.”

Kostya’s carbon story

Nobel Prize winner Professor Sir Konstantin (Kostya) Novoselov is to give the inaugural Manchester Signature Lecture this month.

The lecture – The Story of Carbon in England, which discusses the illegal trade in graphite – is the first in a series of three hosted by the University College of Interdisciplinary Learning.

The lectures aim to showcase the talent, innovation, and knowledge of the University to a diverse audience, including students, staff, alumni and the local community.
Honours from maths to music

The University recognised the great and the good – from a mathematician celebrating her 100th birthday, to a pop star who provided the soundtrack to many a date – when it presented them with honorary degrees.

As part of our Foundation Day celebrations, honorary degrees were presented to:

- Mathematician Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw
- Simply Red lead singer Mick Hucknall
- Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, the founder and Chairperson of development organisation BRAC
- Sir Philip Craven, President of the International Paralympic Association
- John Timpson, businessman and owner of the Timpson retail business

Foundation Day also featured a lecture by former barrister and TV personality Clive Anderson, who asked “Is it time to have TV cameras in court?”

The School of Mathematics hosted a lecture in honour of Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, the former University academic celebrating her centenary and receiving one of the honorary degrees. Professor Sir Martin Taylor, of Merton College, Oxford, discussed the oddity of parity, in tribute to Dame Kathleen’s research on mathematical ‘magic squares’.

Born in Manchester, Dame Kathleen took her degree at Oxford University and has since combined her research with politics as Mayor of Manchester. She is passionately committed to encouraging interest in mathematics amongst young people. Deaf since the age of eight, she is an inspiring role model to many.

Alumni hear frog’s tale

University alumni in the United States learnt all about frogs and their conservation, thanks to a visit from the Manchester Museum’s Curator of Herpetology Andrew Gray.

Andrew spoke to a group of alumni in the heart of Silicon Valley, California, telling them about the endangered species he and his team are working to conserve here at the University.

He recalls: “It was a real pleasure to meet everyone and was a wonderful opportunity to present my work to a new audience.”

For more details see: http://frogblogmanchester.com/

Awards and successes

Faculty of Life Sciences PhD student Liz Granger has won the Society of Biology and Wellcome Trust Science Communication Award 2012, in the ‘New Researcher’ category. Liz was honoured for her projects during Science Week and Community Open Days.

Dr Erinma Ochu, also from the Faculty of Life Sciences, and who led the mass sunflower planting as part of Manchester Museum’s celebration of Alan Turing, has been awarded a Wellcome Trust Engagement Fellowship. The fellowships champion and develop upcoming stars in public engagement with science.

Jodrell Bank has a double celebration. Its Planet Pavilion Cafe has been named by The Guardian as one of Cheshire’s ten best budget restaurants. And its 2011 Live from Jodrell Bank Festival won the Best Outdoor Event at the Event Awards. The event, headlined by The Flaming Lips, was the internationally renowned astronomical research centre’s first ever music festival.

A team including the University, Nowgen, Contact Theatre and the Manchester Science Festival has scooped a European prize for best innovations in university outreach and public engagement. ‘Seeking Perfection’ – a creative project which explored human enhancement and involved 15 young people working with researchers – received the ‘Recognition of Distinction’ award as part of the ‘EngageU’ programme.
Double first for access

When Kamran Hussain was little, he wanted to be a binman. But – of course – his mother knew best.

She hadn’t been to university and wanted her son to have that opportunity. Ten years on, he is here at our University studying Criminology – thanks to the Manchester Access Programme (MAP).

“My mum always tells me the story of how I wanted to be a binman and it makes me laugh,” Kamran recalls. “I had no hopes of going to university before the Manchester Access Programme, but when someone came to school to tell us about it, I could see it was a great opportunity.”

MAP is the University’s flagship initiative for talented lower-sixth form students from less advantaged parts of Greater Manchester, who attend a state school and whose parents didn’t go to university.

This year MAP is behind a University double celebration – the programme received a record number of students, while the University admitted the highest ever proportion of students from ‘low participation neighbourhoods’ - postcode areas in the country where few people progress into higher education.

More than 9% of young students entered Manchester from areas with the lowest rates of participation in the UK. This was achieved despite the well-publicised increases to undergraduate fees.

First-year Kamran, who is 18 and from Longsight, says: “The programme was hard work but I’m glad I did it. I met lots of nice people and it gave me the confidence and skills to apply to Manchester. I feel like I have a headstart through my time on MAP and the additional financial support I receive.”

Kamran is receiving financial support from the University’s North American Foundation, which supports a number of students on the programme. Julian Skyrme, Head of Social Responsibility and Widening Participation, says: “I am delighted that we have set these two new records in what has been a challenging year for undergraduate recruitment.”

School opens the doors on new home

The School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science (CEAS) has opened the doors to its new home, the James Chadwick Building.

The five-storey building, on the corner of Booth Street East and Upper Brook Street, is part of a £30 million project to further expand the School, boasting outstanding research facilities and teaching laboratories.

Named after Sir James Chadwick, the Manchester alumnus and Nobel Laureate in physics, awarded for his discovery of the neutron, it also houses a sophisticated industrial pilot plant.

Head of School Professor Mike Sutcliffe said: “I would like to say thanks to our fantastic team, within the School and in the Directorate of Estates and Facilities, who have been working very hard to make this happen.

“This ambitious and modern building gives chemical engineering staff and students the environment they deserve. As one of a small group of elite chemical engineering departments within the UK, it is vital we have the facilities to match.

“Our broad research base in which engineers and scientists work seamlessly together enables us to study the design, operation and integration of different complex systems – particularly industrial, biological and instrumentation – and apply chemical engineering in a 21st century context.

“The new building will significantly enhance the student experience – allowing us to further develop cutting edge teaching methods underpinned by state-of-the-art laboratory equipment coupled with a modern, enabling learning environment.”
Meet...

Abdul Pathan, Multimedia Technician, University Language Centre

What is the best part of your job? Being in the University Language Centre is a bit like the United Nations in that we meet people from all parts of the world.

What is the hardest part of your job? We provide a wide range of foreign TV through TVoIP, and when channels disappear it's a bit of a headache to get a permit for roof access, due to health and safety issues.

Which teacher inspired you the most at school? My history teacher. He encouraged me a lot during my early education and he had a lot of patience.

What is your proudest moment? The birth of my granddaughter, Amelia.

What is your favourite karaoke song? It's Elvis Presley’s ‘Always On My Mind’. Although I must say I haven't yet had the courage to perform the song live!

If you could give any advice to your 16-year-old self, what would you say? Pick the subjects you enjoy most and work hard to accomplish your goal.

What's the one gadget you can't live without? My mobile phone – I feel lost without it.

What is your favourite film? I love all the James Bond movies, but there’s also a Bollywood classic called ‘Jodha Akbar’ that’s my favourite.

What is on your ipod? I don’t have an ipod, but if I did it would have my Arabic lessons on it.

Your bookcase? I like to read knowledge-based or factual books, particularly those by Jābir ibn Hayyān (Geber), a prominent polymath, and Muhammad Al Ghazali, a great philosopher.

Your TV? I particularly enjoy BBC4 documentaries about the planet and wildlife.

Who would you invite to your dream dinner party? I would invite Mohammed Ali and Nelson Mandela.

What law would you repeal? I'm not happy with the anti-terror laws which seem inconsistent and I believe this is probably why Amnesty International opposes them.

And what law would you bring in? I would bring in a law against NHS privatisation, and prosecute bank directors if they are found to abuse public funds.

What's your favourite holiday destination? I love India: it’s a very colourful place, the people are great, the food’s amazing, and everything is cheap.

What three things would you need if you were stranded on a desert island? I'd say a prayer mat, a fish cookbook, and a satellite mobile phone.

What's your biggest vice? Getting up late in the morning! I run on Abdul Standard Time.

How would you like to be remembered? I hated no-one and helped anyone in need.

Tell us the secret to life – in six words. Be content, thankful and not regretful.

If you could have any job in the world, what would it be? Believe it or not, this one. I’m a ‘techie’ who works with AV technology all day – what could be better?

Fresh look at Ancient Worlds

The Manchester Museum has unveiled Ancient Worlds, a major re-working of its internationally important ancient Egyptian and archaeology collections.

The highly anticipated, re-designed galleries opened to the public on 26 October, marking the centenary of the original opening of Egyptology galleries in Manchester in 1912.

The new galleries reveal the people and the stories behind the objects, bringing them to life. They give a sense of how we find out about people in the past through the things they left behind.

And the old is backed up by the new – digital interpretation gives access to different levels of information, research and additional objects via visitors’ own mobile devices.

The £1.6 million project included a major award from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Visit: wwww.ancientworlds.co.uk
These are just some of the spectacular images which touted for your vote as part of the University’s involvement in the Manchester Science Festival.

One is a rather pretty picture – showing the bacteria living on our hands. It was entered by Peter Eliot, from the Faculty of Life Sciences, who used a UV gel moisturiser to demonstrate the cracks of the hands are especially prone to housing bacteria.

Another picture shows a farmer using one of his two mobile phones deep in the mountains of Colombia’s coffee region. It was entered by Angelica Valeria Ospina, in the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, and was taken during the fieldwork of a PhD focused on the role of information and communication technologies in developing countries’ adaptation.

This year’s theme ‘Making a Difference’ had images demonstrating how University research is affecting the wider world and benefitting society.

See www.manchesterimagesofresearch.co.uk and www.manchestersciencefestival.com
Walk like an Egyptian

Scientific tests using replicas of two ancient Egyptian artificial toes suggest they’re likely to be the world’s first prosthetic body parts.

Dr Jacky Finch made replicas of the two toes which date from before 600BC. She then asked two volunteers, who were both missing their right toe, to wear them, both with and without shoes.

The results showed that both volunteers were able to walk using the toes, and they did particularly well when they wore replica ancient Egyptian sandals.

The Egyptian toes predate what is currently thought to be the world’s oldest prosthetic, a Roman leg, by 300 years.

The graphene-paved roadmap

Wonder material graphene could not only dominate the electronic market in the near future, it could also lead to a huge range of new markets and applications, a landmark paper by Professor Kostya Novoselov claims.

Writing in ‘Nature’, the Nobel Prize-winner has produced a ‘Graphene Roadmap’ which for the first time sets out what the world’s thinnest, strongest and most conductive material can truly achieve.

The paper details how graphene has the potential to revolutionise diverse applications from smartphones and ultrafast broadband, to anticancer drugs and computer chips.

The 16 million-year-old stowaway

CT scan of a 16 million-year-old mayfly in amber has revealed the first evidence of any creature using an adult mayfly for transport.

Using the scan, Dr David Penney from the Faculty of Life Sciences was able identify the animal as a tiny springtail that appears to have been riding on the back of the mayfly.

Due to the nervous nature of springtails, it’s very difficult to observe their behaviour, but evidence of them using a mayfly for transport explains why springtails are so widespread today.
Asteroid fragments hint at the origin of the solar system

University scientists are among the few in the world selected to analyse minute asteroid fragments which could shed light on the origin and evolution of the solar system.

The tiny pieces of rock – at 50-100 micrometers, smaller than a human hair – have been captured from asteroid Itokawa by the Japanese mission Hayabusa, and now delivered to School of Earth, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences researchers.

It is the first time samples from an asteroid have been returned to Earth. Only about 70 samples have been released for international analysis – seven of these are being studied at the University.

Manchester leads heart attack detection trial

Patients at two Manchester hospitals will be taking part in the trial of a heart attack detection system, led by University researcher Dr Richard Body.

Richard has pioneered the Manchester Acute Coronary Syndromes (MACS) decision rule to help emergency department staff decide if someone needs to be admitted and treated for a heart attack.

If successful, a larger trial across the NHS may follow.

Plain façade hides a colourful history of high notes

They are quiet and rather ordinary buildings, and now largely lost to the hustle and bustle of modern life.

But Methodist Halls – once “the best venue in town” – boast a colourful history.

And now a University researcher, Dr Angela Connelly, from the Manchester Architecture Research Centre, has documented the decline of these halls.

The Methodist Church built 99 around Britain at an equivalent cost of £90 million in today’s terms. It now owns only 18; 27 were bombed in the war or demolished; 19 are protected as listed buildings; others are theatres, bars or flats.

Dr Connelly says: “Because they do not look like churches or cathedrals, the public aren’t aware of those that remain at all – especially those which have been converted into other uses such as bars and pubs.

“It’s sad how many of these important buildings are no longer standing – quite moving when you read of the struggles the Methodists had to keep them going.

“But I would rather these buildings are used by the public – even as a bar – rather than lose them altogether as they are such an important part of Britain’s urban history.”

Did you know...

- Film shows warning people of the dangers of drink, held in Methodist Halls, inspired the movie giant J Arthur Rank. His father Joseph Rank, of the famed baking business Rank Hovis, provided much of the capital to build the Central Halls and the film producer, also a prominent Methodist, became interested in the movie industry after seeing the pioneering use of religious films at the Methodist Missions in the 1920s.
- The wife of the Methodist Times founder and reformer Hugh Price Hughes established the nation’s first ever crèche for working girls at the Westminster mission in the 1880s.
- The Kingsway Hall in West London was the first place where Pavarotti’s voice was recorded, back in 1964. The Hall was considered to have the finest acoustics in London for recording orchestral music.
- The UN Declaration was signed in Westminster Hall

Asteroid fragments hint at the origin of the solar system

University scientists are among the few in the world selected to analyse minute asteroid fragments which could shed light on the origin and evolution of the solar system.

Fashion industry blamed for horrors of Italian sweatshops

The appalling conditions of up to 25,000 migrant clothes workers and their families in northern Italy can be blamed on the fashion industry, according to University researcher Dr Jerónimo Montero Bressan.

Dr Montero Bressan, from the School of Environment and Development, says the state authorities are more concerned about Italy’s economic problems than the conditions of the workers, who produce clothing for well-known brands on the British high street as well as ‘high end’ fashion houses.

Mostly trafficked from China, the workers can be locked up for months, working up to 17 hours a day and earning as little as £240 a month.

He called for new laws in Italy to force companies at the top of the production chain to be made legally responsible for the working conditions in their subcontractors’ workshops.
The city of Manchester has always had a strong arts scene, one that has time and again taken the rest of the world by storm.

Its hall of fame includes writers Elizabeth Gaskell, Anthony Burgess and Jeanette Winterson; poets John Byrom and Lemn Sissay and painters Wynford Dewhurst, LS Lowry and Chris Ofili. In film, TV and theatre there’s John Thaw, Mike Leigh and Danny Boyle; while musicians range from The Hollies and Herman’s Hermits to The Smiths, Oasis and the Madchester scene.

It’s also home to both the Hallé and BBC Philharmonic orchestras, while Top of the Pops – and Coronation Street – were born here.

As broadcaster (and former Chancellor of our University) Brian Redhead once said, “Manchester ... is the capital, in every sense, of the North of England, where the modern world was born.” Or, as Ian Brown of The Stone Roses put it, “Manchester has everything except a beach.”

And our University has more than matched the inspirational output of its hometown...

From the streets of Gorton to the Hollywood hills and the war-torn refugee camps of Kosovo, arts at our University are making a difference to the outside world in a myriad of ways. Here, as the University opens its new School of Arts, Languages and Cultures, Unilife celebrates the arts here in Manchester...

Celebrating the arts in Manchester
The arts are mightier than the sword...

For a stark, and indeed, heartrending example of how the arts can make a difference to the world, look no further than 'In Place of War', which supports people and artists in war-torn communities.

“I have seen people in warzones risking their lives to keep participating in the arts,” says founder Professor James Thompson. “This is not some nice ‘extra’; it is a sense of being alive.”

James founded the project in 2004 after working with children affected by the war in Sri Lanka for Unicef in 2000. He was “shocked” to find a thriving arts scene, which included a children’s theatre group, such was the community’s determination to find a sense of happiness and normality among the chaos.

This inspired James to develop support for the arts in Sri Lanka and other areas of conflict, such as Kosovo, Rwanda, Israel and Palestine – bringing artists from various countries together, ending their sense of isolation and allowing them to gain recognition and share expertise.

More than that, the supported projects help the people themselves address issues such as access to education, women’s rights and HIV, as well as simply allowing them – and their children find enjoyment in their lives.

Now, inspired by the Arab Spring, it aims to develop social media networking for artists in Egypt.

Sometimes the war cuts back in, all too brutally. James has lost people he has grown close to twice – once when 24 former child soldiers in Sri Lanka were killed when their rehabilitation camp was attacked; another time when aid workers were shot as they travelled to the eastern Congo community where they and James had set up an education project.

One of them, Antoine Munyiginya, survived and James called on his Humanity Conflict Response Institute colleague, Professor Tony Redmond at the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences, to arrange surgery for Antoine’s wounded arm.

The arts are...
The University’s Language departments have enjoyed their fair share of public engagement too.

The Confucius Institute was behind the North West’s first Chinese lessons for primary school children. The Institute was set up in 2006 to disseminate and promote learning of the Chinese language. Two years later, 90 children at St Paul’s Primary School in Withington were speaking their first words - and able to communicate more meaningfully with their sister school in Beijing.

The classes started young - half an hour every week, for years one and two - and the project has now expanded to after school clubs for years three to six at that school and others in the region.

The Institute’s Deputy Director Karen Wang says: “Not only do the children get a lot out of it, it makes links with sister schools in China more fruitful as we are giving practical help with their communication. This gives those links substance.”

And it’s not just Chinese - the School’s work includes Multilingual Manchester, a web-based archive to document, protect and support more than 100 languages spoken in what is one of Europe’s most diverse cities. Languages spoken in Manchester include Yoruba, Urdu, Yiddish, Kurdish, Romani, Aramaic, Armenian, French, Punjabi, Bengali, Somali and Polish.

Project co-organiser Professor Yaron Matras also runs the Romani Project, which has worked with the travelling community for 20 years, again aiming to protect and support their language.

He says: “I am very happy with the continuity and longevity of the Romani Project. In that period more than 50 people have contributed to that project, reaching an audience of 200,000.”

His ambitions for Multilingual Manchester are just as strong, thanks to the supportive working conditions in Manchester.

“Manchester has always been culturally and linguistically diverse,” he explains. “Not only are there lots of communities here but also local authorities and services who have embraced cultural diversity. I have worked closely with these and between us we have achieved a lot.”

Another way the University engages with the local, national and international communities is through our students.

The Institute of Cultural Practices student placement scheme has seen 90 postgraduates a year working with 50 different arts venues and organisations.

They have assisted all sorts of people, from curators, archivists and librarians to producers, directors and event organisers, in art galleries, theatres, museums, libraries, educational programmes, festivals and community groups.

Programme Director Dr Simon Parry says: “The students get a feeling for the sector, how different organisations work and how they can apply their academic knowledge, while the venues get energetic students with lots of ideas and access to some of the research being carried out at the University.

“For example two students worked at the Pankhurst Centre last year and with just a couple of events, and very little supervision, let alone resources, increased the number and breadth of its visitors.

“This is a very concrete way of working with the people across the region. And students have been offered jobs on the strength of their work.”

The University’s students go on to have an even greater impact when they enter the world of work.

Toby Jones, who was presented with the Faculty’s Outstanding Alumnus Award this year, is one of the UK’s most successful and acclaimed actors.

He has appeared in more than 20 films, alongside stars such as Sigourney Weaver and Robert de Niro, having studied drama here from 1986 to 1989.

Toby says the University had “a lasting impact on both my career and my general outlook”, which has helped him overcome the doubts and fears associated with showbusiness.

Languages alumnus Sophie Raworth is similarly pleased she chose Manchester. Sophie, who graduated in French and German in 1991 and is now anchorwoman for the BBC’s leading news programmes, recalls: “I chose Manchester for the course, the city and the social life. I’m very glad I did.”

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THURSDAY 10th JANUARY 2013
UNIVERSITY VENUES INTRODUCTION DAY

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**Whitworth Art Gallery**

**Building on Things: Images of Ruin and Renewal** until 6 Jan 2013
Featuring works by Piranesi, Canaletto and Whistler alongside Tacita Dean, Patrick Caulfield and Anne Desmet.

*Jane and Louise Wilson* until Jan 2013
Featuring the world premiere of their new film *The Toxic Camera* alongside Atom Egoyan (*Nature Abhors a Vacuum*).

**Hockney to Hogarth: A Rake’s Progress** until Feb 2013

**AduLT EVENTs**

- **Each Tues, 11 – 12.30pm, Free**
  - Tuesday Talks
- **Every Thurs, 8.30 – 9.45am, £3, (booking essential)**
  - Yoga
- **Thurs 8 Nov, 6.30pm; (booking essential)**
  - Andrew Graham Dixon Lecture
- **Caravaggio: A Life Sacred and Profane**
  - Lecture £12.50 (students free with ID card).
  - Lecture and Dinner £48.
  - Sat 10 and Sun 11 Nov, 11 – 4pm, £35 (booking essential)
- **Serious About Art Weekend Course**
  - Textiles as Contemporary Art
  - Sat 10 Nov, 2.30 – 4.30pm, Free
- **Cuillin Sound in Concert**
  - Part 1: 2.30 – 3.15pm
  - Part 2: 3.45 – 4.30pm
  - Sun 11 and Sun 25 Nov, 12.30 – 1.15pm, Free
- **Performance by RNCM Students**
  - Weds 14 and Sat 17 Nov, 1 – 3 pm, £5, (booking essential)
- **Crafternoon Tea**
  - Fri 16 Nov, 6.15 pm, £6 (students free with student ID)
- **Movie Night: West Side Story**
  - Sat 24 Nov, 1– 3 pm, Free
- **Alternative Camera Club**
  - Sat 24 Nov, 2.30pm, Free
- **Poets and Players**
  - Weds 28 Nov, 2 – 5 pm, Free
- **Apocalypse Now: Thinking About Ruins and Radiation**
  - Fri 30 Nov, 6.15pm, £6 (students free with student ID)
- **Movie Night: Breakfast at Tiffany’s**
  - Fri 16 Nov, 6.15pm, £6 (students free with student ID)

**FAMILY EVENTs**

- **Every other Tuesday, 13 and 27 Nov, 12.15 -1.15 pm and 1.45-2.45 pm**
  - Baby Explorers
  - Sensory play for babies
- **Sat 17 Nov, 11 – 4pm, drop-in**
  - Big Saturday: Ancient Worlds
- **Fri 30 Nov, 10.30 – 11.30am and 11.30 – 12.30pm, Free**
  - Magic Carpet: Egyptian Tales
  - For under fives and their carers

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**What’s On**

**Manchester Museum**

**NEW ANCIENT WORLDS GALLERIES**

- Discovering Archaeology
- Egyptian Worlds

**EXPLORING OBJECTS**

**SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS**

All exhibitions at The Manchester Museum are FREE

- Alan Turing and Life’s Enigma, until 18 Nov
- *Breed: The British and Their Dogs*, until April 2013
- *Building on Things: Images of Ruin and Renewal*, until Jan 2013

**FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

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- Baby Explorers
- Sensory play for babies
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- Big Saturday: Ancient Worlds
- Fri 30 Nov, 10.30 – 11.30am and 11.30 – 12.30pm, Free
- Magic Carpet: Egyptian Tales
  - For under fives and their carers

**MUSEUM MEETS: MANCHESTER MUSEUM’S ADULT PROGRAMME**

- Weds 7 Nov, 6 – 8 pm
  - *Senwosret is Satisfied*: Life at Kahun
  - Thursdays 8, 22 Nov, 6 Dec, 10, 12 Jan, 7 Feb, 6-8pm

**WILDLIFE RECORDING IN GREATER MANCHESTER (6 week course)**

- Thurs 15 Nov, 6.30 – 9pm, drop-in
- **After Hours: Ancient Worlds**
  - Weds 21 Nov 3 – 4.30pm
- **Showcase Lecture**
  - *Chemical Imaging of Art, Archaeology and Palaeontology* with Phil Manning
  - Sat 24 Nov, 2 – 4pm
- **Urban Naturalist: Building Stones Scavenger**
  - Sat 24 Nov, 10-5pm and Sun 25 Nov, 10-4pm
- **Wildlife Photography Course**
  - Opening times
  - Open: Tues-Sat 10am-5pm
  - Sun-Mon (and Bank Holidays) 11am-4pm
  - FREE admission
  - The Manchester Museum,
  - Oxford Road, Manchester
  - 0161 275 2648
  - www.manchester.ac.uk/museum
  - Follow us on Twitter @McrMuseum
  - www.facebook.com/ManchesterMuseum

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**Mummys mask made of gilded and painted cartonnage (linen and plaster), to be placed over the head of a wrapped mummy. Ptolemaic Egypt. © Paul Cliff**
**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 10 Nov** Oxford (with guided tour)
- **Sun 11 Nov** Fountain's Abbey and Stockeld Park’s Christmas Adventure
- **Sat 17 Nov** Peak District Visiting Chatsworth House (at Christmas) and Bakewell

- **Sun 18 Nov** Manchester Walking Tour
- **Sun 18 Nov** North Wales Visiting Caernarfon Castle and Portmeirion Village

**Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre**

Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre offers a great day out for all the family. Come and explore the planets using our model of the Solar System. Find answers to the wonders of the Universe, listen to the sounds of the Big Bang and discover what the scientists are researching ‘live’ in our interactive Space Pavilion. The glass-walled café offers spectacular views of the iconic Lovell telescope and fantastic homemade cakes!

**Opening times**

- **10am-5pm**
- **For more information and prices please visit our website**

**John Rylands Library (Deansgate)**

**EXHIBITIONS**

- **Faces and Voices** until 25 Nov
- **What the Dickens?** Celebrating the bicentenary of the birth of Charles Dickens.
- **Fifty Years of A Clockwork Orange** until 27 Jan

(Please note, some of the images on display in this exhibition are not appropriate for viewing by younger visitors)

**EVENTS**

- **7 Nov 1 – 3pm, (booking essential)**
- Whimsical Wednesday Workshop: Turning Pages into Something New
- **Fri 9 Nov 2 – 3.30pm, (booking essential)**
- New Voices: Creative writing workshop

**MUSICAL EVENTS**

- **Sat 10 Nov 2 – 4pm, (booking recommended)**
- *Battling Beasts*: Creative Writing Event

**Be Dragons!**

- Sat 17 Nov and 1 Dec, 12 – 1pm, (booking recommended)

**The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama**

**LUNCHTIME CONCERTS**

- **Thurs 8 Nov, 1.10pm, Free**
- **Saxophone Ensembles**
- **Sat 10 Nov, 2pm, Free**
- **A Celebration of Ian Kemp**
- **Thurs 15 Nov, 1.10pm, Free**
- **Lionel Handy (Solo Cello)**
- **Fri 16 Nov, 1.10pm, Free**
- **Vocal Showcase**
- **Thurs 22 Nov, 1.10pm, Free**
- **Psappha**
- **Fri 23 Nov, 1.10pm, Free**
- **Vaganza**
- **Thurs 29 Nov, 1.10pm, Free**
- **Gweneth Jefferies and Simon Lepper: Harawi**
- **Fri 30 Nov, 1.10pm, Free**
- **Brass Band**

**EVENING CONCERTS**

- **Fri 9 Nov, 7.30pm, £13.50 / £8 / £3**
- **Quatuor Danel**
- **Sun 11 Nov, 7pm, £8 / £6 (under 16’s Free)**
- **Stockport Youth Orchestra**
- **Sat 17 Nov, 7.30pm, £10 / £6 / £3**
- **MUMS Chamber Orchestra and Wind Ensemble**
- **Fri 23 Nov, 5pm, £6 / £4 / £3**
- **Vaganza – Beat the Rush Hour Concert**
- **Fri 23 Nov, 7.30pm, £7.50 / £5 / £3**
- **Vaganza – Evening Concert**
- **Sat 24 Nov, 7.30pm, £10 / £6 / £3**

**The University of Manchester Chorus and Symphony Orchestra**

- **Whitworth Hall**
- **DRAMA**
- **Weds 21, Thurs 22 and Fri 23 Nov, 7pm, £5 / £4 / £4.50**
- **University of Manchester Drama Society Autumn Show**
- **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
Treasured

The University is home to some amazing objects. Each month in UniLife we ask a member of staff to share with us one of their favourite fascinating artefacts.

At the top of a spiral stone staircase, in a book-crowded alcove in the wondrous interior of the John Rylands Library in the city centre, Dr Maria Haralambakis patiently sifts through the vast collection of the Jewish leader and scholar Moses Gaster (1856-1939).

Born in Romania, but expelled for activism on behalf of the Jewish population in 1885, Gaster settled in England. He was a prolific writer and avid collector of books and manuscripts. Put end to end, his collection would fill 30 metres of shelf space.

The collection is so vast, Maria has chosen two objects. She has unearthed the only known original handwritten copy of a play dealing with the events leading up to the expulsion, which is dedicated to Gaster and features him as a character.

Written in 1886 by MM Ojzerkus, ‘The Emancipation of the Jews in Romania’ or ‘An Unhappy Love’ is a modest volume, but quite a discovery, since a Hebrew commentator had previously declared that “it is unknown whether or where Ojzerkus’s work survived.”

Her other choice is a beautifully illustrated Paterikon more than 200 years old. A Paterikon is a collection of stories about, and sayings attributed to, various saints, an important genre in the Byzantine tradition.

Bound in leather over wood covers and gold-embossed, it is written in Romanian Cyrillic in an exquisite hand, looking as fresh today as the time it was written in 1801.

It bears an image of Christ Pantokrator on the front cover and Theotokos (Mary) on the back.

Maria will now continue her research in Bucharest, whilst retaining her expert and enthusiastic work here.