

unilife

The free magazine for The University of Manchester

Cancer
patients
help break
new ground



Message from the President

Our research has the potential to change lives locally, nationally and globally. This month the President and Professor Luke Georghiou, Vice-President for Research and Innovation, explain how our relationships with businesses and other organisations ensure that our research has wider benefits for many years to come.



Welcoming our President's Doctoral Scholars

As a University, our research is directed primarily at new discoveries – perhaps sometimes not fully understanding what their eventual application or benefit may be.

However, our broader mission and the public investment we receive mean that we must also recognise the importance of the impact of what we do, and that we must do everything we can to ensure that these discoveries contribute to the benefit of society as a whole.

This also benefits our University. Working with external partners provides a source of stimulating ideas for our research and teaching, a means of ensuring that our discoveries are applied and brings opportunities to gain resources for reinvestment in our core activities.

A culture of enterprise and entrepreneurship, alongside fundamental discovery, helps our staff, students and graduates to

capitalise upon their ideas and develop their future careers.

Business engagement means working with companies. We also use this term to include our interactions with other external organisations such as the NHS and those in the cultural sector (for example the BBC, theatres, galleries, the music industry), charities and social enterprises.

Our University's strategy for business engagement has three key strands:

- knowledge exchange with existing organisations – whether contract and collaborative research, informal networking or continuing professional development
- commercialisation – bringing to market and/or application the ideas and intellectual property (IP) resulting from our research
- the people dimension – how we equip our students and staff with the necessary knowledge and skills to contribute to society.

We are doing well in all of these areas, and of course have ambitions to do even better.

We have 'strategic partnerships' with several major organisations which are critical to advancing and applying knowledge in a variety of domains. Many of these reflect the trend towards open innovation, whereby companies are increasingly keen to outsource research, keeping "in-house" only those activities which are crucial to their competitive advantage.

As examples, AstraZeneca and GlaxoSmithKline have entered a three-way partnership with us through the Manchester Collaborative Centre for Inflammation Research to advance understanding of that area.

We have worked with Manchester City Council to link our own Whitworth Art Gallery with the City Gallery, and both are now led by Dr Maria Balshaw, who aims to deliver wider benefit for us and the City.

Tesco is a key partner with its support for our Sustainable Consumption Institute.

We are working with the Red Cross/Red Crescent to deliver on the goals of our Humanitarian Conflict Resolution Institute.

We have won a global competition against some of the world's leading universities to become the hub of BP's \$100 million 'International Centre for Advanced Materials'.

Our near neighbour Siemens recently awarded us the accolade of becoming one of the first two UK institutions to be awarded Global Ambassador status. This is in recognition of our wide-ranging research collaborations with them and engagement of our graduate talent with the company.

These are just a few examples which will help to take us towards our 2020 target of trebling our research income from business and delivering wider societal benefit.

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Visiting our new medical training facilities



Meeting the Finance team

Commercialisation is important to the University, not primarily as a source of income, though we happily plough back any revenues into further research, but as a clear demonstration of our contribution to the economy and society.

We have the UK's most generous intellectual property (IP) terms for our staff and students to incentivise this activity. Our wholly-owned subsidiary UMI3 manages our IP, our portfolio of companies, operates our facilities for new ventures and provides financial support for new start-up companies.

By many measures we are in the leading group of universities in this area: 350 invention disclosures each year, with a portfolio of 50 spin-outs and over 100 licences and IP assignments over the last eight years. This activity is aided by a dedicated fund which allows us to develop the ideas to a point where outside investors can take them on. This year,

for the first time, we ran a staff competition for ideas for social enterprises. This allowed us to progress our goal of social responsibility at the same time as generating new businesses.

The joint first prize went to WeaveMCR, a social action platform, and Unconvention, a grassroots, DIY and independent global music community. Both were awarded investment, mentoring and accommodation.

Adjoining the campus, the award-winning Manchester Science Park hosts nearly 100 companies, the majority of which have links with the University. This is another way which we work with small and medium-sized firms.

Our people-related activities have also received external recognition. We were recently commended by the Higher Education Funding Council for England both for our work in

promoting employability of graduates and for the enterprise training we offer our students.

Despite these successes this is an area where we intend to do much more. This year we are investing in extending training and support in several ways. Enterprise will be available in the options for our undergraduates through our University College.

We are expanding the range and scale of our student and staff venture competitions and UMI3 is launching a service where those with ideas for IT and service-based businesses can get practical advice and support.

We are building on the success of the Manchester Enterprise Centre's tailored course for the NowNano Doctoral Training Centre by rolling out enterprise and business training to other postgraduates.

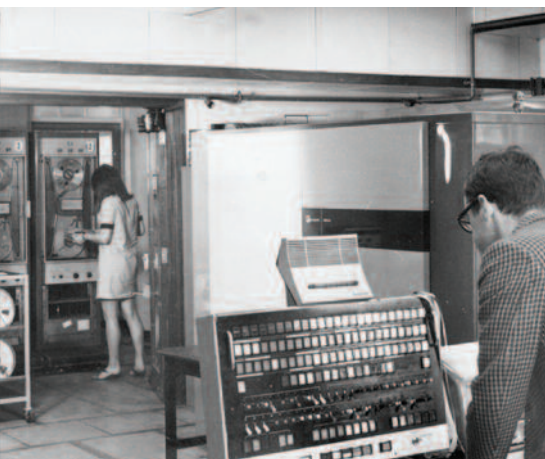
We value highly our engagement with business, but we should not lose sight of our core mission to discover new knowledge and guard academic freedom. We must demonstrate our independence, think very carefully about conflicts and ensure public disclosure of any commercial interests we engage with.

But with these caveats, better engagement with external organisations has great benefits for our University, many of which are not financial, but relate to our core goals.

Ensuring our work has impact beyond academia and yields economic, social and cultural benefits wherever the opportunity arises is vital to our future success.

**Professor Nancy Rothwell,
President and Vice-Chancellor**

**Professor Luke Georghiou,
Vice-President for Research
and Innovation**



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Institute collects green award

The University's Sustainable Consumption Institute Centre has been awarded a Green Gown award.

The award, in the academic courses category, was given for the Institute's innovative approach to sustainability.

The Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) give the awards. Other University finalists were The Manchester Museum for the 'Living Worlds' exhibition and the Halls of Residence students' energy saving initiative.



Prestigious post for Manchester professor

Professor Martin Humphries, Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences (pictured), has been elected as the Vice-President of the prestigious Academy of Medical Sciences.

The influential body is one of five National Academies and deals with public policy issues in healthcare.

Professor Humphries said: "I hope to develop strategies to facilitate the careers of biomedical scientists, foster more effective collaborations between academia, industry and the NHS, and advocate new approaches to improve the translation of research."

Quartet of big hitters talk policy at Manchester

A week of free events at the University highlighting issues affected by policy featured contributions by some of the nation's big hitters in journalism and politics.

The week was organised by 'Policy@Manchester', a new network bringing together academics from across the University, which is directed by Professor Colin Talbot who is based at Manchester Business School.

Speakers included Former Chair of the Treasury Select Committee and member of the Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards, Lord McFall.

Financial Times' 'Undercover Economist' and presenter of BBC Radio 4's 'More or Less' Tim Harford; former Science Editor of the Times and

Director of Communications at the Wellcome Trust Mark Henderson; and former Financial Times Public Policy Editor Nicholas Timmins completed the quartet.

Professor Talbot said: "One of the things that distinguishes top universities around the world is that they are usually power-houses of public policy ideas.

"There has been a marked international and UK growth in Masters-level provision of public policy and administration courses.

"We have recognised these developments and are trying something a little different here in Manchester. We surveyed staff last summer and found we had around 350 colleagues engaged externally in various areas of public policy. Policy@Manchester will seek to capitalise on all that."



Fluorescent bacteria gives a glow

Pupils get rare look behind the scenes

The Manchester Institute of Biotechnology (MIB) threw open its doors to the public last month for the first time since its launch in 2006.

Around 200 AS and A Level students were given a rare glimpse at life inside the research laboratories on a series of special tours. There was also an opportunity to talk with MIB scientists.

Sarah Haworth, a teacher from Thomas Whitham Sixth Form, said: "It really was fascinating for students to get first-hand experience of a university research facility and it was made all the more interesting by the enthusiasm of the researchers."

The event was part of a week celebrating the re-launch of the MIB as the Institute of Biotechnology.



Amber Irvine

© Picture courtesy of MEN

Cancer survivors dig for a future with 'More Tomorrows'

Inspirational cancer survivors Stan Parker, 73, and Amber Irvine, aged nine, took the first step in helping to build a new £28.5million University research building for Manchester Cancer Research Centre (MCRC) scientists.

The new facility, which will be one of the largest carrying out research into the disease in Europe, is being funded by Cancer Research UK, The Christie and the University.

Amber was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in 2009. Her mum Samantha said: "A cancer diagnosis is a huge shock for anyone, but it is devastating for a child and their family. We have faced some very tough times over the past few years,

but Amber has remained brave throughout the many hospital appointments.

"Amber is so thrilled to be breaking the ground for the new cancer research building, as it's such an honour. It's fantastic to know that Amber is playing a small part in helping to create a building which is going to save future generations affected by cancer – a disease which has had such an impact on our lives."

Stan, who was diagnosed with oesophageal cancer in 2004, which later spread to his liver, said: "I have received the most fantastic cancer treatment here in Manchester. It makes me incredibly proud to know that Manchester Cancer Research Centre researchers

will be on my doorstep and is going to make such a difference for people like me diagnosed with the disease in the future.

"Without the vitally important research into cancer which has happened in this city, I would not be alive today."

A fundraising campaign, called 'More Tomorrows', has been launched to deliver the remaining funding commitment of £16million needed for the new building. It is due for completion in Spring 2014, and is being constructed opposite the main site of The Christie and Paterson Institute in Withington.

For more information visit: www.moretomorrows.org



Stan Parker



MCRC Director Professor Nic Jones speaks to the media



Visitors get a close look at a medieval artefact

An illuminating experience...



Top tourism award for iconic library

The John Rylands Library on Deansgate has been named Manchester's 'Large Visitor Attraction of the Year' at the city's annual tourism awards.

The building, described by the judges as progressive and exciting, is one of the city's most famous landmarks as well as a world-renowned research library.

Built in the 1890s by Enriqueta Rylands in memory of her husband John, Manchester's most successful cotton tycoon, the Grade I listed building has enjoyed a new lease of life since reopening in 2007 following a £17 million conservation programme.

Jan Wilkinson, Director of The John Rylands Library, said: "We've worked tremendously hard to create a venue and programme of events and exhibitions which will appeal to all residents and visitors to Manchester."

Visitors got close up to the John Rylands Library's magnificent collection of medieval manuscripts – and even made their own – in the superb surroundings of our iconic building.

The Materials Matter event saw more than 100 adults and youngsters explore the materials used in the creation of wonderful objects from the Library's collections in a series of workshops as part of the Manchester Science Festival.

Adults were shown how the collections are made accessible whilst being safeguarded from risk of

damage and deterioration, and examined materials such as vellum pages and lapis-lazuli illuminations.

And families tried out medieval-style illuminated lettering and illustration as they made their own manuscripts.

Jacqueline Fortnum, Head of Public Programs at The John Rylands Library, said: "Everyone taking part thoroughly enjoyed having the opportunity to get close up with some of our rarely seen and very beautiful manuscripts."



A youngster creates her own illuminated page



Mummy parade in Piccadilly Gardens

A thousand revellers enjoy Mummy Walk

A thousand people faced their Halloween fears and flocked to Piccadilly Gardens to take part in the Manchester Museum Mummy Walk.

Featuring mummy dance, lantern and mask making workshops during the day, the event culminated in a twilight mummy walk and parade around the famous city centre Gardens.

As well as celebrating Halloween, the event – organised by the Museum, artist Sophie Tyrrell, musician Danny Henry, Circus House, CityCo and Piccadilly Partnership – marked the centenary of the first Egypt gallery to be opened at the Museum and the opening of the new Ancient Worlds galleries.



Egyptian god at large



Winterson wins Stonewall award

Manchester's Professor of Creative Writing Jeanette Winterson (pictured) is Stonewall's writer of the year for her memoir "Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?"

The Stonewall Awards exemplify the individuals and organisations which are critical in ensuring a positive representation of gay people in the media today.



Dentistry students at their welcome event

Welcome to your career in healthcare...

All Schools within the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences have held welcome events or affirmation ceremonies in the Whitworth Hall to officially greet all their new students.

The School of Dentistry and School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences held events with academics in full robes and with dental students wearing new

tonics and pharmacy students donning their embroidered lab coats.

Evening events were held by the Medical School and the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work. These featured speeches, presentations and quizzes, with alumni invited to tell students about their time at the University and their careers.

Meanwhile, in the School of Psychological Sciences, students took part in events to test their susceptibility to visual illusions – which included seeing inside their own ear canal!

Students were also led through their affirmation, which pledges their commitment to their profession and protection of the public. They then repeat this pledge when they graduate.

Manchester health post for council chief

Manchester City Council's Chief Executive Sir Howard Bernstein will be the next Chair of the Manchester Academic Health Science Centre (MAHSC).

MAHSC – a partnership between the University and six NHS organisations – conducts leading-edge research for patient benefit. It is one of just five Academic Health Science Centres in the country, and the only one in the North of England.

Clean car, clean start

The University has teamed up with Rochdale-based charity Petrus to launch a car cleaning company on campus to help disadvantaged people back into work.

President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Nancy Rothwell was the first customer of UniValet, a social enterprise providing paid on-the-job training for local people who have been without a job for some time, or who may have never worked.

While working for UniValet, a not-for-profit company, they will also attend The Works, a training and advice centre with sites in Moss Side and Ardwick, to help them find long-term employment.

UniValet's Team Leader Darren Vickers, who was homeless and out of work for 18 months before seeking help from Petrus, said: "We're all very excited about this new initiative and it's



The President meets the UniValet team

great to see somewhere like The University of Manchester opening its doors to support local people in this way. Hopefully, this scheme will really take off, and then expand to include other big employers across the city."

UniValet's services will be available to all members of staff. You book via an online form with prices starting from £10.

The UniValet team use an environmentally-friendly waterless system and will operate a wash and wax service in the University's car parks across the campus.

To book, visit: www.manchester.ac.uk/univalet/

Out of this girls' world

Cosmic cupcakes and a pop-up planetarium were the order of the day at a special 'all-girls' event at The Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre.

The 'Girls Night Out' was a sell out with more than 100 girls and women taking part in a huge range of astronomical themed events.

These included a lecture on solar physics from Professor Philippa Browning, a chance to view moon rocks and take a closer look at Jupiter and its moons through telescopes.

Dr Teresa Anderson from the Discovery Centre, who helped to organise the event, said: "A recent report by the Institute of Physics found that only 20% of physics undergraduates are women.

"So we decided to take a new approach to inspiring girls to consider studying physics at university, and this event run by female physicists really appealed to a whole new audience.

"Everyone loved it and we now have a massive waiting list for our next event in February. Even better, we've been contacted by lots of schools who want us to run events for their GCSE and sixth form girls."



A visitor with her cosmic cupcake



Professor Philippa Browning discusses solar physics



Made in Manchester

Budding fashionistas took part in a new event designed to promote student placements and opportunities in the competitive field of fashion.

The School of Materials collaborated with the Careers Service to put on the event called 'Made in Manchester'.

Around 15 prestigious companies including Next, Tommy Hilfiger and Arcadia, attended and more than 300 of our students studying Design and Fashion Business took part.



Atlas supercomputer in use

Atlas supercomputer celebrates half a century

A series of events to mark the 50th anniversary of the Ferranti Atlas supercomputer, developed here in Manchester, is being held during December.

The events will celebrate the work of Professor Tom Kilburn and others, along with local company Ferranti Ltd.

The first production Atlas was inaugurated at the University on 7 December 1962 by Sir John

Cockcroft, the Nobel Prize-winning physicist.

At the time of its inauguration, Atlas was reckoned to be the world's most powerful computer.

The Atlas anniversary event will bring together, probably for the last time, the industrialists, academics and end-users who contributed to a world-class project which had a huge impact on the UK's scientific computing resources in the 1960s.

High hopes on the high seas

A Manchester graduate is taking on the challenge of a lifetime – by rowing across the Atlantic with his best friend to raise funds for breast cancer research in honour of his wife, who was diagnosed with the disease and is also a Manchester graduate.

Geography graduate Nick Rees and Ed Curtis will row from the Canary Islands to Antigua, a journey of almost 3,000 miles.

Their inspiration is Nick's wife Ellen, diagnosed with breast cancer in 2009 aged just 33. Nick says: "Ellen has shown incredible strength to get through it. She is our inspiration and knowing the money raised will help fund new treatments and save lives is our motivation."

The pair are hoping to raise £250,000 for Breakthrough Breast Cancer. To find out more visit: www.breakthroughatlantic.com



Nick Rees and Ed Curtis



Haptic technology shows three ancient items

Museum is first with the magic touch

The Manchester Museum has become the first museum in the world to use new technology to give visitors unprecedented access to ancient artefacts which are too precious to be handled.

The 'haptic' technology tricks the mind into feeling the sensation of touch, when in fact there is nothing there at all.

The ground-breaking technology will also help visually impaired visitors enjoy the Museum's artefacts in a totally new way.

Developed with funding from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, the 'Probos' system has been unveiled at the Museum's new Ancient World galleries.

Using a control device held in the fingertips, users can explore the surfaces, shapes and sounds of ancient objects which are usually inaccessible in glass cases.

Christopher Dean, from the company behind Probos, said: "We are using haptics to tell the story of each object. Explorers of the hippopotamus bowl can really feel, not only the hippos, but also the

crack that runs along its centre. The bowl even sounds cracked when you tap it virtually – something you wouldn't dare do in real life!"

Sam Sportun, Collections Care Manager at the Museum said: "We know that people like to touch objects and we hope that the device will allow our visitors an experience through touch and sound of a few of the important objects in our collection which remain inaccessible behind the glass of the showcase."

Giving kids faith in the future

Three students have had their work to help kids in care build their confidence and see a future in higher education rewarded.

Hannah Taylor, Rachel Mumford and Wendy MacDonald, all from the School of Psychological Sciences, produced and ran the Success4Life programme, along with fellow students from the Manchester Metropolitan University.

They were among the first winners of our Postgraduate Widening Participation Awards.

The programme – involving 14 children from years 7, 8 and 9 in six Manchester schools – was a great success with all 14 of the children invited 'graduating'.

"It has really helped me feel more confident," one youngster reported back. "Last year I was dreading my English presentation. This year it has been much easier because I have learnt to express my views in front of others."

The trio – who were supervised by clinical tutor Dr Ruth Butterworth and Emma Lewis at the Directorate of Student Experience – got so much out of it, they agreed to volunteer again.



Rachel Mumford and Wendy MacDonald discuss self confidence and the image of celebrity

Wendy said: "The most moving and inspirational aspect of working with this group was watching their growing confidence in speaking about their thoughts and feelings, knowing they were going to be taken seriously. What I gave to this group was as nothing compared to what I received from my time with these resilient, funny, smart young people."

David Allison, academic lead for widening participation from the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences, said: "I hope that the success of this team and their programme will encourage and inspire more postgraduate students to get involved with widening participation."

Behind the scenes...

We know that it takes a lot of hard work behind the scenes to make our University tick. This month we take a look at how staff and students came together to help the School of Law improve the student experience.

For living proof of the power of teamwork, go to the School of Law.

The School has found that "a concerted effort" on three counts – academics, Professional Support Services (PSS) staff and students – has paid dividends.

In the National Student Survey (NSS), which surveyed final year undergraduates to assess their satisfaction with their university experience, the School of Law went from 70% in 2011 to 87% in 2012, with Criminology achieving 100%.

David Gadd, Head of Criminology, explains: "Eighteen months ago we had a bad result; however we knew that our staff were good at teaching and built from that strength.

"After a focused dialogue with students, we found that the main issue was feedback, so we began work to address this. We also identified the staff who were good at supporting the students and introduced new initiatives, such as the Criminology Careers programme."

Head of School Administration Alison Wilson adds: "It was a concerted effort on both academic and PSS staff part.



Chloe Hancock (left) and Nina Napier in the School of Law's moot room

"We listened to our students and responded to their concerns. Often when they realised why something was not possible they understood and accepted the outcome. In addition, students often contribute good ideas."

The School's Director of Student Experience, Professor Rodney Brazier, agrees that a strong relationship with the student body is essential: "We listened to students, not least through a vibrant Staff-Student Committee.

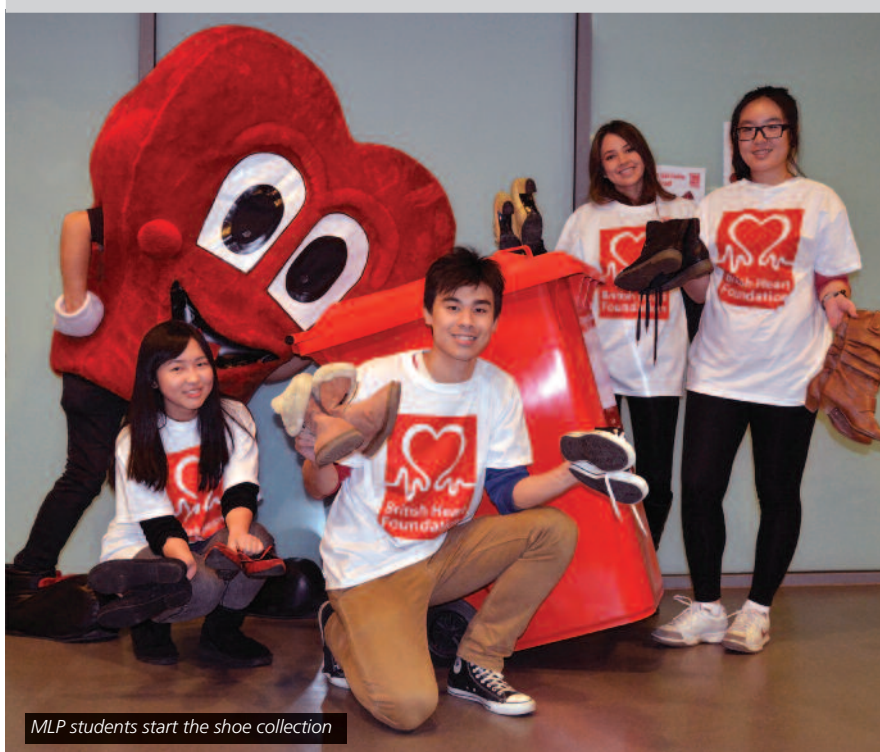
"The School's student representation system is excellent, and is aided by frequent meetings of the School's Student Experience Director, the Student Law Society President and the Head Student Representative."

As a Student Rep, third year Law and Criminology LLB student Nina Napier helped set up the improved

communications systems. Nina says: "It's definitely improved and we have seen a lot of integration between staff and students, more staff presence and greater communication. It was a lot of work, but entirely worthwhile. The feedback from the students has been fantastic."

Chloe Hancock, third year Law LLB student, agrees: "Now we have concise email bulletins, good exam feedback, more contact time and academic staff who give us support, which is all really helpful."

Professor Clive Agnew, Vice-President for Teaching, Learning and Students, concludes: "A rise to 83% is a significant increase for a university of our size and this success is thanks to huge efforts by staff across the campus. We must now build on this success to achieve further improvements in student satisfaction."



MLP students start the shoe collection

Save a heart, drop a shoe

The University is holding a 'Shoe Amnesty' in a bid to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation.

Manchester Leadership Programme (MLP) student volunteers who are leading the campaign, are hoping to collect a minimum of 559 pairs of shoes – representing the number of people who died of coronary heart disease in Manchester last year.

The students are holding a 'Shoe Week' as part of the campaign between 3 and 7 December, during which the Foundation's mascot 'Hearty' will be seen around campus.

The Shoe Amnesty will run until the end of January.

Several donation bins have been placed around campus so you can donate your unwanted shoes. Each pair of shoes brings in about £6 on average to the charity.

Bhagwan Manku, a third year dental student, said: "Having family members who have experienced heart disease, I am keen to support the British Heart Foundation. The fact that most of the money we raise will directly benefit the Manchester community makes this campaign even more rewarding."



Huazhi Yang and Amber Zaheer check out the floatation tank

Students 'inspired' by industrial strength new School

In last month's UniLife we told you about the new home for the School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Sciences – the James Chadwick Building.

Since then, we've met just some of the students who are settling into their new home and asked them what they thought of it.

First-year Amber Zaheer was so amazed, she chose to study chemical engineering here at Manchester. She explains: "I was going to do maths, but my visit here on the open day changed my mind – it is so amazing. The facilities are so good – the computer clusters are excellent and the labs give each group enough space to focus on what they doing."

Biotechnology MSc student Huazhi Yang agrees: "The layout is spacious and bright. I'm really impressed because in my previous university we didn't have this highly advanced technology."

Abdur-Rauf Ali, third year MEng Chemical Engineering with Energy and Environment, adds: "It has been good working on equipment which is industrial scale because it gives you an idea of what you will be working on in industry. This gives you a lot of confidence."

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.

Head of School Professor Mike Sutcliffe said: "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."

Dark and brooding image wins public vote

This image of hundreds of birds flying over a Soviet-era war memorial in the Ukraine has been voted as Manchester's best Image of Research.

Members of the public chose Benjamin Tallis's photo 'Borders Beyond Borders' as their favourite out of 15 stunning photos taken by University researchers.

The PhD researcher from the School of Social Sciences submitted the photo to raise awareness of the consequences of borders and how they're controlled.

Benjamin says he was honoured to be chosen as the winner: "Winning this competition can only help break down the borders that mean the accident of birth determines who can travel freely and who cannot."



Fourth-year medical student Amabel Dessain investigates body language

The art of communication

Some of our medical students have just completed a seven-week communication programme focusing on body language and facial expressions, inspired by the Whitworth Art Gallery's collections.

They had the chance to see how different artists explore the human figure and how art can convey emotions, personality and character.

Working alongside photographers, painters, sculptors, curators and museum educators, the students developed a greater understanding of their own body language and the impact it has on those around them. All of which will prove invaluable to them in their medical careers.

Thousand-year-old jokes bring out cleric's funny side

A little-known 11th century guide to gate crashing containing gags by an otherwise revered Muslim preacher from Baghdad has been translated into English.

Dr Emily Selove from the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures, who carried out the work, says the book by al-Khatib al-Baghdadi challenges ill-informed ideas about Arab culture and history.

'The Art of Party Crashing' is a tongue in cheek compilation of stories, advice and anecdotes on gate crashing a party.

The writer, a renowned scholar of the Prophet Mohammed's teachings, wrote the book to remind readers "that every serious minded person needs to take a break."

Dr Selove said: "The reality is that the Baghdad of 1,000 years ago was actually rather bohemian – it wasn't perfect by any means – but not the violent and repressive society you might imagine it was."



Party in Baghdad

Manchester trio land prestigious grants

Three of our early career researchers have been recognised as future research leaders by the Economic and Social Research Council.

Dr Laia Becares, from the Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research, has been awarded £187,928 for three years for a project looking at ethnic inequalities in child development.

Dr Jonathan Darling, from the School of Environment and Development, has been awarded £200,271 for three years for a project investigating the politics of urban asylum in contemporary Britain.

And Dr Stefania Marino, from the Manchester Business School, has been awarded £202,336 for three years for a project entitled 'Migration and Trade Union Responses. Analysis of the UK in a Comparative Perspective.'

Brian's prize

Professor Brian Launder has been awarded an international prize in recognition of his work with fluid mechanics.

The Nusselt-Reynolds Prize is awarded to scientists and engineers in the areas of heat transfer, fluid mechanics and thermodynamics.

Researchers investigate NHS reforms

University researchers have published the first in-depth study into how the government's planned shake-up of the NHS is progressing.

The reorganisation of the NHS in England, which will see new groups led by GPs take responsibility for spending some £60 billion of public money, has generated much debate and discussion over the last two years.

The Department of Health-funded Policy Research Unit in Commissioning and the Healthcare System (PRUComm) published its first major report – with research led by Dr Kath Checkland from the School of Community Based Medicine – last month.

And another research project suggests controversial pay-for-performance schemes may help to save the lives of NHS patients.

A 'significant' fall in mortality rates for certain conditions emerged in a study into the use of incentives at hospitals in the North West of England.

Matt Sutton, Professor of Health Economics, said: "Researchers have generally concluded that paying bonuses to hospitals for improving quality of care does not affect patient health, but our study contradicts this view."



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Researcher Alex Makin at work

Tapestry is more than it seams

A University researcher has thrown new light on how the world-famous Bayeux Tapestry was made over 900 years ago.

Alex Makin says the same group of people were likely to have worked on the 70 metre-long masterpiece under the same manager or managers.

Her conclusion casts doubt on the widely accepted theory that nuns based in different locations across England made the tapestry in nine sections which were then stitched together.

However, questions still remain over how many embroiderers worked on the Bayeux Tapestry, which is on permanent display at a museum in Normandy, France, who they were and where their 'workshop' or 'workshops' were located.

The PhD researcher, based in the University's English and American Studies department, said: "Some people argue that the style of some figures is so different they must have been embroidered by different people. But my view is it's not the embroidery which is different – but the way the characters were drawn."

Biotech funding boost

The University's Manchester Institute of Biotechnology has won two grants from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC).

Professor Nicholas Turner has been awarded £4.4million to work on identifying biological alternatives to chemicals that are currently derived from fossil fuels. The funding adds to a £500,000 grant from the pharmaceutical company Glaxo Smith Kline which will be working in collaboration with Professor Turner.

The second BBSRC grant of £4.5million is being shared across a number of academic institutions, including Manchester. The money is also partnered by a £500,000 grant from the agrochemical company Syngenta. Professor Jason Micklefield will be working with colleagues at the universities of Bristol, Cambridge and Warwick to understand more about how the beneficial compounds in microorganism can be exploited to develop new agricultural chemicals.



Part of the Bayeux Tapestry



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Arthritis study reveals why gender bias is all in the genes

Researchers have pieced together new genetic clues to the arthritis puzzle in a study that brings potential treatments closer to reality.

It could also shed light on why more women than men succumb to the disabling condition.

Rheumatoid arthritis – which affects more than 400,000 people in the UK – is a complicated disease with lifestyle factors thought to play a role. But it's also known that a person's genetic makeup influences their susceptibility to the condition.

Scientists, led by Professor Jane Worthington from the University's Arthritis Research UK Epidemiology Unit, have discovered 14 new genes that can lead to rheumatoid arthritis, adding to the 32 other genes they had already identified.

The team believes it has now discovered the vast majority of disease-causing genes for the condition.

New report gives emissions warning

A report from the Tyndall Centre has warned that whilst the US is burning less coal due to shale gas production, millions of tonnes of unused coal are being exported to the UK, Europe and Asia. As a result, the emissions benefits of switching fuels are overstated.

US CO₂ emissions from domestic energy have declined by 8.6% since a peak in 2005; however, the researchers warn that more than half of the recent emissions reductions in the power sector may be displaced overseas by the trade in coal.

Lead author Dr John Broderick comments:

"Research papers and newspaper column inches have focussed on the relative emissions from coal and gas.

"However, it is the total quantity of CO₂ from the energy system that matters to the climate. Despite lower-carbon rhetoric, shale gas is still a carbon intensive energy source.

"We must seriously consider whether a so-called 'golden age' would be little more than a gilded cage, locking us into a high-carbon future."

NOW AVAILABLE TO STAFF!

FOOD IN ADVANCE

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Top up your staff ID card with money to spend on food and drink across campus and save 10% on every purchase.

Terms and conditions apply please see website for more details.

www.manchester.ac.uk/foodoncampus

UNIVERSITY VENUES INTRODUCTION DAY

THURSDAY 10TH JANUARY 2013

9.15am – 3.00pm

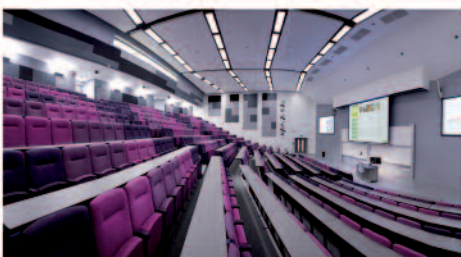
The Conference Sales and Events team are running a training session for anyone who books meetings, conferences, events or accommodation on behalf of the University.



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.



Staff House Conference Centre



Renold Building



Dalton Ellis Hall

The itinerary for the day	
Time	Programme
9.15am	Arrival tea/coffee and breakfast rolls and tour of Sackville Street campus venues
11.00am	Coach pick up to Oxford Road campus for tour of key venues
11.40am	Depart for Victoria Park campus with tour and presentation from the conference sales and events team
12.35pm	Depart for Chancellors Hotel and Conference Centre for tour and lunch
2.00pm	Visit to the 'Taste Manchester' Central Processing Unit
2.30pm & 2.45pm	Coach departure back to Oxford Road and Sackville Street campuses



Chancellors Hotel and Conference Centre

Book by 20th December 2012 to secure your place for this important training session at www.manchester.ac.uk/kioc



Entry in the Designer Bookbinders Annual Competition by Alan Fitch, 2012 at The John Rylands Library

Manchester Museum

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

All exhibitions at The Manchester Museum are FREE

Ancient Worlds

Three new galleries – Discovering Archaeology, Egyptian Worlds and Exploring Objects

Breed: The British and Their Dogs until April 2013

All Other Things Being Equal until June 2013

Building on Things: Images of Ruin and Renewal until Jan 2013

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Most activities are free and drop-in, some activities may need to be booked and may cost up to £1.50, all ages

Every other Tues 11 Dec, 8 and 22 Jan, 10.30 – 11.15am, 12.30 – 1.15pm and 1.30 – 2.15pm, free

Baby Explorers

Sensory play for babies

Thurs 27 Dec – Mon 31 Dec and Weds 2 Jan – Fri 4 Jan, 11am – 4pm

Christmas Hols: Collage Calendars Make 2013 calendars inspired by the Museum's collections

Fri 28 Dec, 10.30 – 11.30am and 11.30 – 12.30pm, free

Magic Carpet: Animals in Winter

For under five's and their carers

Sat 8 Dec, 11 – 4pm, free

Big Saturday: Winter Festival

Fri 25 Jan, 10.30 – 11.30am and 11.30am – 12.30pm

Magic Carpet: Rainforest

Sat 26 Jan, 11am – 4pm

Big Saturday: Ecuador Big Saturday

MUSEUM MEETS

Wed 5 Dec, 3 – 4.30pm, free

Showcase Lecture: Archaeological Geophysics at the Saqqara Necropolis, Egypt

Fri 7 Dec, 6.30 – 9pm, free

Student Social

A student-curated social event in the new Ancient Worlds Gallery.

Thurs 13 Dec and Thurs 24, 2 – 3pm

Geology Identification Drop-In Sessions

Starts Mon 7 Jan, 2.45 – 4.45pm

10 Week WEA Course: The Natural World – British Wildlife

Sat 19 Jan, 10am – 4pm

How Did Ancient Egyptian Statues Work?

Thurs 24 Jan, 6.30 – 9.30pm

After Hours: Breed

Sat 26 Jan, 2 – 4pm

Urban Naturalist: Bird Watch

Every Tues and Thurs (except school holidays), 12 – 1pm

Tours of the Vivarium (live animals)

Every Weds and Thurs, 1pm

Taster Tours

Opening times

Open: Tues-Sat 10am-5pm

Sun-Mon (and Bank Holidays) 11am-4pm

Christmas opening

27-31 Dec: 11am-4pm

24-26 Dec – 1 Jan: CLOSED

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

What's On

The John Rylands Library (Deansgate)

EXHIBITIONS

What the Dickens? until 21 Dec

Celebrating the bicentenary of the birth of Charles Dickens.

Fifty Years of A Clockwork Orange

until 27 Jan

(Please be advised that some of the images on display in this exhibition are not appropriate for viewing by younger visitors).

In Great Decripitude until 27 Jan

Kinokologue until Sat 15 Dec

Designer Bookbinders Annual Competition until 27 Jan

Young Bookbinders Award until 27 Jan

Capturing the City – Drawings by Anthony McCarthy until Sun 27 Jan

EVENTS

Weds 5 Dec, 1 – 3pm (booking essential)

Whimsical Wednesday Workshop:

Christmas Cards

Thurs 6 Dec, 7 – 8pm doors open at 6.15 pm for Reception (booking essential)

10th Annual Rylands Poetry Reading

Fri 7 and Sat 8 Dec, 12 - 2pm (booking essential)

Medieval Season: Feast Your Eyes and Eat Like A King

Sun 9 Dec, 1 – 4pm

Medieval Season: Christmas Crafts

Tues 11 and Fri 14 Dec, 1 – 2pm (booking essential)

It is not only fine feathers that make fine birds...

Thurs 13 Dec, 6 – 7pm (booking recommended)

Medieval Season: Jest and Japes and Jolly Tales

Sat 15 Dec, 2 – 3pm (booking essential)

Medieval Season : Gargoyles R Us Architectural Tour

Sun 16 Dec, 2 – 3pm

Hark!

Raise your voice and help raise funds for the Wood Street Mission.

Weds 9 Jan, 11 – 3pm (booking essential)

Whimsical Wednesday Workshop:

Chine-collé Printmaking

Tues 15 Jan, 2.30 – 3.30pm (booking essential)

Explorer Tuesday: A Peek Behind the Scenes!

Thurs 17 Jan, 12 – 12.45pm (booking essential)

Tour and Treasures

Sat 19 Jan, 1 – 2pm (booking essential)

A Clockwork Orange: Curator Tour

Sat 19 Jan, 12 – 1pm (booking recommended)

Here be Dragons!

Weds 23 and Sun 27 Jan, 1 – 2pm (booking essential)

Sticking with the Needle

For further details of our events, please visit our website.

Public opening times

Mon 12-5pm, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm,

Sun 12pm-5pm

Reader opening times

Mon-Weds 10am-5pm, Thurs 10am-7pm,

Fri-Sat 10am-5pm

FREE ADMISSION

The John Rylands Library

150 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 3EH

0161 306 0555

email jrl.visitors@manchester.ac.uk

www.library.manchester.ac.uk/

deansgate/events

Whitworth Art Gallery

EXHIBITIONS

Building on Things: Images of Ruin and Renewal until 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 *Atomgrad* (Nature Abhors a Vacuum).

Hockney to Hogarth: A Rake's Progress until Feb 2013

Aisha Khalid: Larger Than Life

until 27 Jan 2013
Examining the relationship between hand and machine embroidery.

ADULT EVENTS

Each Tues, 11–12.30pm, free

Tuesday Talks

Every Thurs, 8.30–9.45am, £3
(booking essential)

Yoga

Sun 9 Dec, 12.30–1.15pm, free
Performance by RNCM students

Weds 12 Dec and 16 Jan, 1–3pm, £5
Sat 15 Dec and 19 Jan, 1–3pm, £5
Crafternoon Tea

Sat 15 Dec and 26 Jan, 1–3pm, free
Alternative Camera Club

Sat 15 Dec, 7.30–10.30pm, free
Hockney's New York Loft Party

Sun 16 Dec, 12.30–1.15pm, free
Performance by RNCM students

Sat 19 and Sun 20 Jan, 11–4pm, £35
(booking essential)

Anglo-American Art and The Sixties

Using the Hockney to Hogarth exhibition as a starting point to delve into the New York art scene of 1961.

FAMILY EVENTS

Every Weds, 10.15–11.15am or 11.30–12.30pm, free (booking essential)

Art Baby

Every Mon, 10.30–11.30am or 11.30–12.30pm, free (booking essential)

Toddlerstastic

Every Sun, 1.30–3.30pm, free
Colourful Sundays

For more information on our exhibitions and events, please visit our website.

Opening times

Mon-Sat 10am–5pm, Sun 12–4pm

Christmas closure

24 Dec – 1 Jan

FREE Admission.

Booking line 0161 275 7450

The Whitworth Art Gallery

Oxford Road, Manchester

0161 275 7450

email whitworth@manchester.ac.uk

www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth

Gig Guide

Manchester Academy 1, 2 and 3

Mon 3 Dec **Dappy** - £15 (Rescheduled)
Original tickets remain valid
Needtobreathe - £10
Yeasayer - £15

Tues 4 Dec **Red Fan + El Caco** - £10
Thurs 6 Dec **Waka Flocka Flame** - £25
God Is An Astronaut - £12.50

Fri 7 Dec **Electric Six** - £12.50
Rancid - £20
Stolen Peace The 'Devil Hammer' single Launch Party + The Logicals + F.I.G.M.O. + Ruby Tuesday - £6

Sat 8 Dec **The Glitter Band** - £14
The Stones - £10
Katania - £14

Tues 11 Dec **The Rasmus** - £12
Thurs 13 Dec **It Bites** - £17.50

Fri 14 Dec **Action Bronson** - £12.50
Sat 15 Dec **Jessie Rose + The Naughtys + The Minz + Chaddy** - £8
The Hives - £17.50
Molotov Jukebox - £10

Sun 16 Dec **Atonement Fest 2012**
Featuring Silent Screams + Martyr Defiled + The Elijah + I'll Stay in Memphis + Enginevein - £10
Ellie Goulding - £22.50

Mon 17 Dec **Thunder** - £30 (1 x CD with every ticket purchased)

Fri 21 and Sat 22 Dec **The Sword** - £10
Danny & Ben from Thunder (seated show) - 18.50

Passenger + Stu Larsen - £9
Sylois - £10
Anberlin - £11

Sun 27 Jan **Tickets from Students' Union, Oxford Road Piccadilly Box Office @ easy Internet Café (c/c) 0871 2200260 Royal Court (Liverpool) 0151 709 4321 (c/c) Students' Union Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL 0161 275 2930 www.manchesteracademy.net**

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 8 Dec **Lincoln Christmas Market**

Weds 26 Dec **Boxing Day Sales Visit to Chester and Cheshire Oaks**

Opening times
Mon-Fri 9.30am–7pm (during term time)
Mon-Fri 9.30am–5pm (during vacation)

Small World Café opening times
Mon-Fri 11am–3pm

327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)
0161 275 4959
email int.soc@manchester.ac.uk
www.internationalsociety.org.uk

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!

There are no public events in December

EVENTS

Thurs 17 Jan, 7.30pm (booking essential)
Lovell Lecture: Exploding Stars

Weds 23 Jan, 7.30pm (booking essential)
Exploring the Night Sky: Life on Mars

Opening times
10am–5pm

Christmas closure

Dec 17–26 and 31
Jan 1–2

For more information and prices please visit our website

Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre
Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 9DL
01477 571 766
www.jodrellbank.net

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama

Thurs 6 Dec, 1.10pm, free
Quatuor Danel

Thurs 13 Dec, 1.10pm, free
Richard Casey and Ian Buckle (Two Pianos)

EVENING CONCERTS

Tues 4 Dec, 7.30pm, £10 / £6 / £3
Ad Solem: University of Manchester Chamber Choir

Thurs 6 Dec, 7.30pm, £10 / £6 / £3
MUMS: Manchester University Big Band

Fri 7 Dec, 7.30pm, £13.50 / £8 / £3
Quatuor Danel

25–27 Jan, all day, £60 / £30 (single day), £20 students

Open House

A fantastic opportunity to receive coaching and attend workshops given by the four members of Quatuor Danel. Further details available at www.arts.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre/danel

LITERATURE

Thurs 6 Dec, 6.15pm, free (but booking essential)

Literature Live: Geoffrey Hill

Sun 9 Dec, 6.30pm, £12 / £7
Jeanette Winterson "in Conversation" with Simon Armitage, Val McDermid and Jackie Kay

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

Chaplaincies

ST PETER'S HOUSE CHAPLAINCY

Sun 9 Dec, 6.30pm

International Carol Service
St Peter's House

Tues 18 Dec, 12.15–12.45

Staff Christmas Carol Service

Whitworth Hall
Retiring Collection for the Rainbow Children's Charity.
All welcome

Sundays, 11am **Holy Communion**, 12.45pm **Lunch (1st Sun)**

Sundays, 6.30pm **Evening Worship** (term-time only)

Wednesdays 12.15pm **Eucharist**
Weekdays, 10am–5pm, **Foyer** (an area where students and staff can relax and meet friends)

RC CHAPLAINCY AVILA HOUSE
Mass Times (term-time only)

Weds Dec 12, 7pm

Carols by Candlelight

Holy Name Church

Sunday, 7pm (Holy Name Church) next door to the Chaplaincy

Mon, Tues, Thurs and Friday, 5.30pm

Chaplaincy Chapel

Weds, 1.05pm Chaplaincy Chapel

THE JEWISH STUDENT CENTRE AND SYNAGOGUE

Hillel House, Greenheys Lane
0161 226 1139

Email Rabbi Mati Kos:

rabbikos@mychaplaincy.co.uk

MUSLIM CHAPLAINCY

South Campus Mosque, McDougall Centre

Jamaat (Group Prayer) Daily

Juma Prayer Friday 1.15pm

Honorary Imam: Imam Habeeb

h_chatti@hotmail.com

North Campus Mosque

Basement of Joule Library

Sackville Street Building

Jamaat (Group Prayer) Daily

Juma Prayer Friday 12.30pm

The role of Volunteer Muslim Chaplain is to provide pastoral support, guidance and a listening ear to Muslim staff and students
Chaplains' email: a.sami99@yahoo.co.uk, assia_shah61@yahoo.co.uk



Birds of a feather

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.

An elegant white seabird, which has been a source of fascination to naturalists since it was first discovered nearly 200 years ago, is one of the many prized possessions under the care of Henry McGhie, Head of Collections and Curator of Zoology at the Manchester Museum.

"I've always been obsessed by birds," he says. "This particular bird is completely fascinating and one of the rarest species in museum collections – and we have two!" It is called Ross's Gull, being named after the famous polar hero James Clark Ross, who collected the first specimen in Greenland in 1823. Its scientific name is *Rhodostethia rosea*, because it turns bright pink in the summer.

"This bird has an amazing life," says Henry. "No-one knows for sure where they spend the winter. In summer they mainly breed in Siberia; those that don't breed spend the summer in the Arctic Ocean on their way to the North Pole."

The Museum's specimens were caught by American explorer John Murdoch on the First International Polar Expedition in 1882. Eventually, they found their way into the collection of the famous ornithologist Henry Dresser, who negotiated persistently with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington for nearly 30 years until he finally got the specimens he wanted. The Museum acquired them in 1899 with the rest of Dresser's collection.

Here they lie, side by side in a drawer as study skins, the term used for animals whose outer body has been preserved around cotton wool rather than them being stuffed and positioned, and with glass eyes.

Much has been written about Ross's Gulls, not least by Henry. "They are extremely beautiful birds, very uncommon and very precious," he says. "To me, these preserved specimens help to remind us of the truly wonderful things that exist out there in the wild and I think we're very lucky to have them here."