

your Manchester

Reaching for the stars

Stargazing Live with Professor Brian Cox

New President's Vision

Double Nobel Prize

Boost for Jodrell Bank

Coronation Street Stars



Your Manchester Magazine

The magazine for
alumni and friends

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Nobel Prize success

Professors Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov

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Two of our physicists are recognised for their discovery of the first two-dimensional substance: graphene – a new super-strong, super-thin material which has the potential to revolutionise a range of applications such as electronics and aircraft design.



Simply the best

Our students are excelling themselves and not just in their studies; Joseph Akinagbe (above) scooped the prestigious National Union of Students Student of the Year Award 2010.

p14

Stargazing at Jodrell Bank

Professor Brian Cox presented *Stargazing Live* for a massive television audience from Jodrell Bank. He was joined by Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell and comedian Dara O'Brian.



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Professor Alan Gilbert

We remember the great achievements of this University's inaugural President and Vice-Chancellor.



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Coronation Street stars



Love Manchester

Prince William and Catherine Middleton weren't the only ones to meet at University. Read about our Mancunian romances.

p26

Welcome to Your Manchester

Welcome to the latest edition of *Your Manchester* which covers a very eventful year for the University.

I want to begin by paying tribute to my predecessor, the late Alan Gilbert. You can read more about Alan's achievements and how to contribute to the Alan Gilbert Memorial Fund on pages 42-45.

Alan handed over to me a University that is in great shape and I welcome the opportunity to build on this legacy. The core driver for all of our activities continues to be our *2015 Agenda*, but we are now looking beyond 2015 to identify our future priorities in the fields of Research, Higher Learning and Social Responsibility.

As a University, we face increasing pressures to undertake research that is of economic benefit. This is important, but we also rigorously defend the value of fundamental research such as that which led to the award of the 2010 Nobel Prize in Physics to Andre Geim and Kostya Novoselov for their discovery of graphene (read more on page 20).

We continue to work hard to improve the student experience through better personal support and feedback, improved co-ordination of support services and greater use of online learning. Construction is well advanced on the 'Learning Commons', a new student learning facility at the heart of the campus, which will be named in honour of Alan Gilbert. We particularly welcome our outstanding students from across the world, who add to the diversity of the University.

I am determined that public engagement and social responsibility will be a defining feature of this University, such that we will be not

only a distinguished, but also a distinctive, university. We are developing a strategy and detailed plans that will build on our many successes in this area, such as the Manchester Access Programme (see page 40), the Whitworth Art Gallery (page 36) and the Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre (page 33) featured in this magazine.

This University, like all British higher education institutions, faces a period of uncertainty and severe financial pressures, but we are in a relatively strong position thanks largely to the collegiality and the commitment of our staff and students and the wonderful support of our quarter of a million alumni around the world.

Meeting Manchester alumni on campus and on my international travels has been one of the real pleasures of my early months as President. I have been really impressed by your affection, pride and support for the University.

Your continued support will be the key to our future success.

Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell
President and Vice-Chancellor



Your Manchester News

Breaking news and discoveries at your University

New fee accompanied by investment in access

Alongside the announcement of plans to charge a headline fee of £9,000 per year to UK and EU undergraduates from 2012, the University has committed funds to help ensure that talented students have the opportunity to study at Manchester, regardless of background or ability to pay.

University plans include provisions for financial support of up to £3,000 per year in fee-waivers and bursaries for less well-off undergraduates.

Alumni will also continue to play their part with generous support through *Your Manchester Fund*. Graduates of the University's pioneering Manchester Access Programme (MAP) will benefit from additional alumni-funded scholarships on top of the standard University bursary schemes (you can read page 40 for more information including about how you can lend your support).

The University already has one of the highest proportions of students from low income backgrounds and one of the most extensive programmes of engagement with schools and colleges from disadvantaged areas. There are plans to triple investment in outreach work to £1.2 million per year and to increase the number of students progressing through the MAP by 50%.

Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell said: "The University's Board of Governors agreed to the headline fee of £9,000 very reluctantly, but we believe that this is necessary to ensure and improve the quality of teaching and the wider experience that we offer to all of our students."

The University's fee proposals for 2012/13 are subject to approval by the Office for Fair Access.

To read more about changes to fees visit: www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate/fees/changes



John Rylands University Library is revamped

The recent redevelopment of the Main Library ground floor has transformed the facility into a bright, open space with flexible seating for individual or group study, quick access PCs and dedicated areas for self-issue, return and enquiries.

The £1.8 million investment from the University, the Wolfson Foundation and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) was welcomed by staff and students alike.

University Librarian and Director of The John Rylands Library Jan Wilkinson said: "The need for the refurbishment was overwhelming following feedback from students and staff. The Library has now significantly furthered its commitment to provide an innovative, flexible and accessible library space."

Sara Zaheer, studying Medicine said: "My first reaction was 'Wow, it's really modern!' – It looks great and is really comfortable to work in."

Study facilities on Blue Floor One were improved at the same time thanks to generous support from Manchester alumni through *Your Manchester Fund*.

The Library is delighted that so many alumni have given generous support through schemes such as *Adopt a Book*. For more information visit: www.manchester.ac.uk/library/adoptabook



Nuclear Energy Technology showcased

The Centre of Nuclear Energy Technology (C-NET) was launched earlier this year, showcasing the centre's expertise in research, testing, simulation and skills development in nuclear fuels and reactor technology.

Professor Tim Abram, Director of C-NET, said he was pleased to have welcomed so many people from industry to the launch event: "The idea of C-NET is to produce great science and academically-excellent engineering, but also to meet the needs of industry and to place Manchester at the forefront of this technology."

"It's important that we are engaged strongly with industry and use our expertise to drive value for industry – and to bring them to the North West region," Professor Abram added. "Manchester is home to the UK's largest community of nuclear researchers, so it's appropriate that C-NET should be based here."

Professor Andrew Sherry, Director of the Dalton Nuclear Institute, said: "The fact that Manchester has a number of industrial partners linked-in really shows that the programmes, the people and the facilities here are the best in the UK."

For more information visit:
www.manchester.ac.uk/c-net

Jodrell Bank to be home to world's largest radio telescope

Jodrell Bank Observatory has been selected as the headquarters for a £1.1 billion project to build the world's biggest radio telescope, the Square Kilometre Array (SKA), an international project which is designed to answer many mysteries about the Universe.

It is hoped that the SKA will reveal secrets such as how planets and galaxies are born, the nature of dark energy and will help to detect signs of alien civilisations. It will precisely pinpoint the positions of the nearest 100 million galaxies.

The SKA takes its name from a one kilometre collecting area which is made up of thousands of small telescopes, giving 50 times the sensitivity and 10,000 times the survey speed of the best current-day telescopes. Signals from individual antennas will be combined to form one giant telescope.

Minister for Universities and Science, David Willetts, said: "The Square Kilometre Array is a project of global significance. This is evidence of the high reputation of Britain's



management of international science projects. It is great news for Britain, Jodrell Bank and The University of Manchester in particular."

Professor Richard Schilizzi, Director of the SKA, said: "The move to Jodrell Bank Observatory comes at a crucial time as this grows from a concept to an international mega-science project. The new location and facilities will support the significant expansion that's planned."

So far, partners from 20 countries are involved and construction is planned between 2016 and 2024. The SKA's location is yet to be decided. Suggestions so far include Australia and Southern Africa.

The new headquarters at Jodrell Bank will open in January 2012.

For more information visit:
www.jodrellbank.manchester.ac.uk/research/SKA

Turning a page in history

For the first time a complete manuscript of one of the world's most important and largest copies of the Qur'an can be used by students and scholars.

The book's ornate pages, which are the size of a large plasma television, are kept at The University of Manchester's John Rylands Library. However until now, scholars have been unable to study the precious Qur'an of Kansuh al-Ghuri because it was too fragile.

Experts at the John Rylands are using digital technology and the internet to capture 950 images of the pages (between 80 and 120 megabytes each) allowing their study in intricate detail. The Chester Beatty Library in Dublin will supervise the digitisation of two separated leaves discovered there in the 1970s.

The digitised resource will be freely available for research, teaching and learning using 'Turning the Pages' technology on a dedicated website.

The project has been funded by The Islamic Manuscript Association, an international non-profit organisation dedicated to protecting Islamic manuscript collections.

Project manager Carol Burrows, Collection and Research Support Manager at The John Rylands Library, said: "Because of its size and weight, reading room access has been severely restricted to all but a handful of scholars. It can't be used in exhibitions, seminars or public close-ups.

"It'll certainly be challenging to photograph this enormous manuscript, but we have constructed dedicated equipment which will help us do this."

Historians disagree on when the Qur'an was written – opinions range from the second half of the 14th century to the end of the 15th. Analysis of digital images should help scholars to date the manuscript more accurately.



Dr Andreas Christmann, Senior Lecturer in Islamic Studies in the School of Arts, Histories and Cultures, said: "By digitizing the entire manuscript and adding the missing chapters, it will produce an almost complete manuscript of magnificent size and splendid craftsmanship. I'm delighted scholars, including students, will have free access to studying this text, which will provide a great stimulus for further research."

To read a blog about the project visit:
<http://gatewaytothekoran.wordpress.com>



Imaging technology reveals intricate details of prehistoric spider

A 49 million year old spider trapped inside a piece of opaque fossilized amber has been photographed by scientists using the latest computer imaging technology.

The remarkable x-ray images reveal that the fossil, which can barely be seen even under a microscope, is related to the Huntsman spider.

"Using computed tomography we were able to produce 3D images and movies of astounding quality to show that the fossil is unquestionably a Huntsman spider and belongs to a genus called Eusparassus. This lives in the tropics and also arid regions of southern Europe today – but evidently lived in central Europe 50 million years ago," said Professor Phil Withers in the School of Materials.

The amber fossil is from the Berlin Natural History Museum. As well as documenting the oldest ever Huntsman spider through a short film (available on YouTube) the scientists showed that even specimens in historical pieces of amber which look very poor can yield vital data when studied by computer tomography.

"More than 1,000 species of fossil spider have been described, many of them from amber," said researcher Dr David Penney, from the Faculty of Life Sciences. "The problem is that these old, historical amber pieces have reacted with oxygen over time and are now often dark or cracked, making it hard to see the animal specimens inside." Until now, that is.

For a short video of the captured images visit: <http://tiny.cc/HuntsmanSpiderCT>

Science historian cracks 'the Plato Code'

The world of philosophy has been shaken up with the news that a University of Manchester academic has cracked the 'Plato Code' – the long disputed secret messages hidden in the classical scholar's work.

Plato is widely regarded as Ancient Greece's greatest philosopher and his ideas formed the foundation of Western culture and science. But our understanding of his work is being turned on its head thanks to research by Dr Jay Kennedy from the University's Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (CHSTM).

Dr Kennedy said he began to suspect some time ago that Plato was using highly symbolic language, possibly to hide the true meaning of his work which worshipped science and maths and was regarded at the time as a dangerous threat to traditional religious teaching.

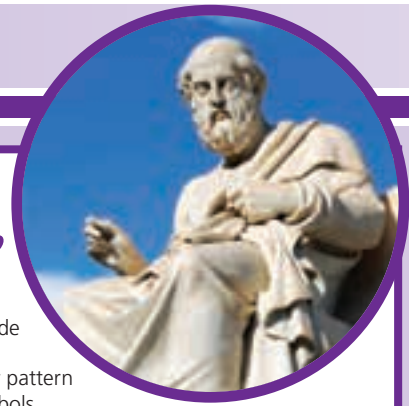
"His work felt allegorical to me and I began to believe that there was a hidden meaning to his words," he said. "Now I have cracked the code, I can show rigorously that the books do contain codes and symbols and that unraveling them reveals the hidden philosophy of Plato. It's really very exciting!"

The code uses a regular pattern of symbols inherited from the ancient followers of mathematician Pythagoras who had declared that the planets and stars make an inaudible music, a 'harmony of the spheres'. Plato imitated this hidden music in mathematical symbols in his own work.

Dr Kennedy has been working on two books, which are due out shortly, to expand on his theory, and he has been inundated with requests from academics, newspapers, publishers and even Hollywood producers wanting to know his story. "We are just at the beginning now," he says. "There is probably a generation of work ahead to overturn the literal reading and revise what we believe about Plato."

"Plato's importance cannot be overstated. He shifted humanity from a warrior society to a wisdom society. Today our heroes are Einstein and Shakespeare – and not knights in shining armour – because of him."

To find out more about CHSTM visit: www.chstm.manchester.ac.uk



HIV drug could prevent cervical cancer



A widely used HIV drug could help to prevent cervical cancer caused by infection with the human papilloma virus (HPV), according to University researchers.

Working with colleagues in Canada, a team of scientists has discovered how the antiviral drug Lopinavir attacks HPV by switching on a natural viral defence system in infected cells.

"Lopinavir selectively kills HPV-infected, noncancerous cells, while leaving healthy cells

relatively unaffected," said Dr Ian Hampson, who carried out the research with his wife Dr Lynne Hampson (both pictured) in the School of Cancer and Enabling Sciences.

"This is very significant because these cells are the closest thing to being like the ones found in a precancerous HPV infection of the cervix. In addition we were also able to show that Lopinavir kills these HPV-infected cells by re-activating a well-known antiviral system that is suppressed by HPV."

In many developing countries HPV-related cervical cancer is still one of the most common women's cancers accounting for approximately 290,000 deaths per year worldwide.

Current vaccines are expensive and do not protect against all types of HPV. An inexpensive treatment that could eliminate early-stage HPV infections before these have developed into cancers would have therefore have great health advantages.

Read more about Dr Ian Hampson's *Insights* lecture on page 29.



Museum showcases the Living World

The Manchester Museum has unveiled its £400,000 groundbreaking Living Worlds gallery.

The radical shift in the Museum's relationship to its audience sees a move away from traditional academic collecting towards a more experiential and campaigning approach.

The result is a reinvention of one of the Museum's key gallery spaces which encourages audience debate and interconnectivity with the outside world.

It sees the Museum's mammals gallery transformed by an award-winning European events company, *villa eugénie*, whose previous

projects include catwalk productions for fashion icons like Chanel and Dior.

Henry McGhie, Head of Collections at the Museum, commented: "We are trying to get people beyond thinking of the environment as an 'issue', but to connect their lives with nature for their health and well being, as much as for the good of the environment. Living Worlds will encourage them to explore their own ideas about how they would like the world to be."

The project has been supported by several generous funders: the North West Development Agency, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and the Wolfson Museum and Galleries Improvement Fund.

To find out more about this exhibition visit: www.livingworlds.co.uk



Archive safeguards Manchester's "precious" mix of languages

A web-based archive will document, protect and support the more than 100 languages spoken in one of Europe's most diverse cities.

Professor Yaron Matras from the School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures says the site will for the first time provide detailed information on Manchester's linguistic culture.

Languages spoken in Manchester include Aramaic, Armenian, Bengali, French, Kurdish, Polish, Punjabi, Romani, Somali, Yiddish, Yoruba and Urdu.

Professor Matras said: "Around two thirds of Mancunian schoolchildren are bilingual – a huge figure which indicates just how precious our linguistic culture is."

"This initiative will encourage communities to maintain their heritage languages at home and in their businesses without being compromised by the ever-present English."

The site has been contributed to by University of Manchester linguistics students and already contains reports on some of the languages spoken in Manchester.

Professor Matras added: "So little data on this area is available – but we do know that in Manchester's schools, 65 different languages are spoken."

"This project is a unique response to the challenges of a multicultural and multilingual environment. We hope it will help inspire others to celebrate Manchester's cultural and linguistic diversity."

To access the archive visit: <http://mlm.humanities.manchester.ac.uk>

**Your
Manchester
News**



Do you want to hear more news from your University? Sign up to *Your Manchester Online* www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester and click on *Your Manchester News*.

New President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell is undaunted by the task ahead as higher education once again faces serious financial cutbacks

A close-up portrait of Dame Nancy Rothwell, a woman with short blonde hair, wearing a dark jacket and a gold necklace. She is looking slightly to the side with a gentle smile.

Continuing our ambitious journey

Many alumni will recall previous governments' attempts to squeeze the funding of universities, the savage cuts of the early 1980s being perhaps the most memorable.

So the news that universities are once again trying to defend themselves against a downturn in government support will probably resonate with a gloomy sense of déjà vu.

The political and economic scene is different this time around of course, but the potential for harm is very real and it is difficult to imagine a more challenging time for Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell, the first female Vice-Chancellor in the University's 186 year history, to have taken the helm.

Dame Nancy took over as President and Vice-Chancellor on 1 July 2010. As a scientist, she is determined to ensure more research at the University achieves world-class standards by attracting the best academics and providing them with the best facilities.

And she is equally determined to make sure the University meets the growing expectations of its undergraduates.

Dame Nancy is continuing with the research that has earned her an international reputation. She believes this unusual approach will make her a stronger Vice-Chancellor, keeping her closely in touch with the inevitable pressures the University will face.

"I am sure there are Vice-Chancellors at some universities who do some research, but it is unusual for a university of this size," admits Dame Nancy, who currently oversees a research group of about 25 scientists with significant external funding.

"I do love research and discovering things," she adds. "But this will also keep me anchored to what it's like at the coal face, understanding the impact of funding difficulties or the pressures of teaching on the ground."

Dame Nancy – who is also Vice-President of the Royal Society, President of the Society of Biology and a Non-Executive Director of AstraZeneca – has been based at Manchester since 1987. She stresses that she would not have considered taking the top job had it not been for her 'inspirational' predecessor, Alan Gilbert.

"Alan Gilbert's contribution to the University has been enormous," Dame Nancy says. "I consider it to be a real privilege to have worked with him and I would not be in this position now were it not for him. He was an individual of enormous integrity. He was very concerned about doing the right thing – even if it was not the cheapest or the easiest option" (read more on page 42 about Professor Alan Gilbert's legacy).

Despite the financial challenges looming ahead, Dame Nancy is determined that the speed of the ambitious journey towards excellence will continue apace.

A brief biography of Dame Nancy Rothwell

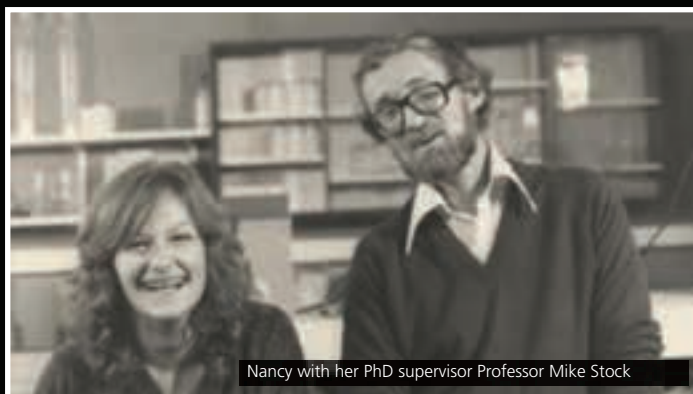
Lancashire-born Nancy Rothwell obtained a First Class degree in Physiology in 1976, a PhD in 1978 and a DSc in 1987 from the University of London. Her early research identified mechanisms of energy balance regulation, obesity and cachexia. In 1984 she was awarded a Royal Society Research Fellowship and relocated to Manchester in 1987. Nancy received a Professorial Chair in Physiology in 1994, then a Medical Research Council Research Chair in 1998. In 2003 she won the prestigious Pfizer Research Prize, in 2004 was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society and in 2005 was made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE). She was also recently appointed as Deputy Lieutenant for Greater Manchester.

Dame Nancy was Vice President for Research in the newly-merged institution from 2004-07. She then held the role of Deputy President and Vice-Chancellor from 2007-10.

She takes a strong interest in the communication of science and in 1998 delivered the Royal Institution Christmas Lectures, televised by the BBC.

Dame Nancy's current research investigates the role of inflammation, the body's defence-mechanism which sends extra blood to sites of infection, virus and injury and switches on repair and recovery processes. Conditions like obesity and atherosclerosis can also stimulate inflammation and, if over-activated or occurring at the wrong place or time, can contribute to cancer, diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis and brain disorders including multiple sclerosis and stroke.

She has recently served as President of the British Neuroscience Association, as a council member of the Medical Research Council, the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and Cancer Research UK.



Nancy with her PhD supervisor Professor Mike Stock



Sir David Attenborough with Dame Nancy



"The University has already come a long way," she says. "We have made huge progress in developing our estate and buildings. There is now a recognition that The University of Manchester is a real challenger to be among the best universities in the world. But there is still a long way to go."

During her own undergraduate days at the University of London, Dame Nancy was keen to take an active role in university life. As well as obtaining a First in Physiology, she learned how to play bridge, darts, table football and squash, helped to run the Entertainments section of the Students' Union and was secretary of a number of student societies – including the rugby club.

She clearly relished her time as an undergraduate, but too often now, she says, students' experiences of university and of living in the Manchester community are too narrow.

"Often students live in halls or student houses, they come onto the campus for lectures and then go home again," said Dame Nancy.

"I feel that they could gain more from their university experience and I think they could contribute more too. I would like to see students more aware of what is happening in the University, of its facilities and of the opportunities available." This ambition is a key theme for the future, she added, alongside world class research and teaching.

Looking to the future, Dame Nancy is convinced that higher education is about to face a period of 'unprecedented change' as a result of the current economic climate.


"Clearly we will have to prioritise. We will have to look at the value of everything we do. We will have to ask, can we afford to do this? And, can we afford *not* to do it?"

"It's difficult to balance optimism for the future with what is going to be a really

difficult time. I have no doubt that the next year or so will be hard."

People have asked her why she wants to take on the role of President and Vice-Chancellor now: "I see this as an exciting opportunity to build on the great success of this University. I am particularly keen to work with our many partners and stakeholders locally, nationally and internationally.

"Our alumni are particularly important to the future of the University and I hope that we can involve them in many of our activities. Overall, I reiterate what I have stated often and openly, that the quality of student education and wider experience is critical to the future success of the University. Many see me as first and foremost a researcher (which I still am), but I have always said that we are a University, not a research institute – and I have always chosen to work in the former rather than the latter!"



Manchester is pioneering new ways of approaching the challenge of our ageing population

An age old problem

An impressive number of people are currently living to 100 or more in this country – more than 11,000 at the last count. But by 2050 it is estimated there will be approaching a quarter of a million centenarians. Good news for them, but the trend gives the health service, not to mention the Treasury, plenty to worry about.

The Co-Directors of the new Manchester Interdisciplinary Collaboration on Research into Ageing (MICRA) are Professor James Nazroo, Dr Neil Pendleton and Professor Alistair Burns. According to them, the challenge of an ageing population is as much a priority as our changing climate. Their view was echoed by the Government when it appointed two 'older people' Tsars last year; Professor David Oliver became the National Clinical Director for Older People and

Professor Burns was appointed National Clinical Director for Dementia.

MICRA has been established to develop a new joined-up approach to the challenge of an ageing population. Its leaders have expertise in medicine, social change and central government via many diverse academic disciplines. The aim is to make MICRA a force for well-informed ageing strategy with a voice at the heart of government.

The University is already established as a centre of expertise. For example in the School of Chemistry, Professor Douglas Kell led ground-breaking research which indicated that drinking green tea and eating brightly coloured – particularly purple – fruits and vegetables might reduce

the risk of some diseases related to old age, including Alzheimer's.

It is the collaborative approach which really marks out MICRA, though. Working with the general public as well as think-tanks and other interested groups, links are being formed between seemingly unrelated disciplines. The aim is to deepen our understanding of ageing and the way individuals and society are affected, to go beyond looking at singular problems from a medical or health care perspective: "We have a number of individuals and groups who do excellent work around ageing, but there hasn't been a great deal of dialogue across groups, so the *raison d'être* for MICRA is to establish Manchester as an interdisciplinary centre for ageing," said James Nazroo, Professor of Sociology at



our Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research.

MICRA is engaging economists, engineers, town planners and geriatricians as well as medics and social scientists. Professor Nazroo thinks this approach can enhance the reach of MICRA's work: "It falls in line with the wish of funders and policy-makers – rather than dealing with academics across isolated pockets, we encourage academics from different disciplines to come together around a big social question." This can also improve the quality of the research. "New theories and applications can be borrowed from otherwise untapped disciplines and two colleagues from separate backgrounds can challenge each other's core assumptions," Professor Nazroo adds.

Number of Centenarians in the UK



The Office of National Statistics in 1981 recorded 2,600 centenarians in the UK. In 2009 this figure had risen to 11,600 and by 2034 estimates project there will be as many as 87,900.

It is the assumptions of the general public that MICRA wishes to challenge, too. "When we think of older adults, we tend to think of people who need more from society, more services and support," says Dr Neil Pendleton, Senior Lecturer in Geriatric Medicine in the School of Medicine. "What we need to understand is that ageing humans are a diverse group of people who age in very different ways and at varying rates; physically, socially, psychologically. They're as diverse a community as middle-aged and younger adults who wouldn't want to be lumped together as one group either.

"It's very likely that through paid or unpaid employment, older adults are going to have a much more active role in shaping our communities and environment.

"So, in place of our common perception of older adults as dependent resource-users, I think we're going to begin to recognise that the dominant group of older adults are positive and active resource-generators," he added.

This chimes with other non-academic agencies including the 'Valuing Older People' team based in the Manchester City Council's Joint Health Unit. Jane Morris (MSc in Social Oncology, 1990) is a research officer in that team and couldn't agree more. 'Valuing Older People' sets out to improve the quality of life of older people in the City and to create an environment in which older people would choose to stay. "As the title suggests, we want to challenge what a lot of people think when they think of older people, for example the 'demographic time bomb', welfare-dependency or the need for better pensions. We want to work *with* them rather than *for* them, recognising their contribution to democracy and their communities," says Jane.

The scheme has been such a success that in July 2010 the World Health Organisation recognised Manchester as part of its 'Age-friendly' programme. Manchester was the only UK city recognised and one of only nine cities worldwide. When asked if she

would choose to grow old here Jane is quick to reply: "Yes, I've lived here for a long time, since I was a student. I'm very proud to have studied here too. I actively choose to continue to live and work in Manchester and am delighted with the work we're doing with MICRA."

Professor Alistair Burns, Professor of Old Age Psychiatry in the School of Medicine, did his part in opening up an ageing-related topic in a *Your Manchester Insights* lecture in Autumn 2010. (Read a report on his talk 'Dementia: What the future holds' on *Your Manchester Online*). He explained that dementia is a massive yet under-recognised health issue worldwide. If the cost of dementia was a national economy, it would rank 19th largest in the world, between Indonesia and Turkey. According to the Alzheimer's Research Trust's *Dementia Report 2010*, for every dementia patient in the UK the cost to its economy is over £27,600 per year. This is more than four and a half times the cost for each cancer patient. Yet funding for research into dementia is inversely proportioned compared to cancer – for every cancer patient in the UK, £295 is spent annually through government and charity investment. For dementia the figure is just £61.

But we should not despair at these statistics. With centres like MICRA and national champions like Professor Burns, the focus and energy is there to make a real difference not only to dementia but to all the issues which relate to ageing. The biggest change we can make may be in our own way of thinking. Professor Burns' favourite piece of advice for avoiding diseases related to ageing wasn't the usual 'eat well, get plenty of exercise,' but to maintain a positive, enthusiastic attitude towards life: 'think young'.

To find out more about MICRA visit: www.manchester.ac.uk/micra

To read a report on Professor Burns' *Insights* lecture visit: www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchesteronline



The University's very own election pundits were in great demand from journalists seeking to demystify the twists and turns of last year's general election campaigns

Academics take poll position

When Gordon Brown made his visit to Her Majesty The Queen to launch the 2010 General Election, journalists and commentators began feverishly following events.

The University made its own contribution to the campaign with the formation of an Expert Media Group, launched just before the then Prime Minister fired the starting pistol on 6 May 2010.

Interest in the University's expertise was considerable – with requests coming from overseas as well as across the BBC including the News Channel, *World at One*, *Breakfast News*, the World Service, Five Live and the Radio 4 *Today Programme*.

Two of the world's leading news agencies, Reuters and Bloomberg, contacted the group for their expertise on issues such as the profiles and fortunes of particular constituencies and parties, the launch of the manifestos and the leaders' television debates.

At the forefront of the University's efforts to demystify the sometimes bewildering twists and turns of the campaign were three established pundits – Dr Andrew Russell, Dr Jane Green, and Dr Rob Ford – all based in the School of Social Sciences.

Another expert to contribute extensively was Professor Geoff Beattie, resident psychologist on *Big Brother* and one of the nation's top body language experts. Professor Beattie made some interesting observations for the BBC News Channel, Radio Five Live, the *Daily Mirror* and the *Independent on Sunday*.

Professor Ludi Simpson spoke on ethnic diversity in the election battleground of Barking and Dagenham and Professor Colin Talbot's analysis of the effects of the Conservative Party's proposed spending cuts on jobs made headline news across national broadcasters and newspapers.

In addition, research by the Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change highlighting the dependence of jobs on the state – especially in the regions – has also been referred to in numerous outlets including BBC Two's *Newsnight*.

But it was the University's election analysts – or psephologists – who had been in almost daily demand.

Dr Russell said: "It's so easy for people to misinterpret the blizzard of election polling data used by newspapers and broadcasters so a research-led interpretation of important trends and effects is a hugely valuable part of any election campaign."

"I was heavily involved in media coverage of the 2005 election but the 2010 election saw a definite gear change with the Media coming to Manchester as one of its first ports of call."

"It's very important as academics that we concern ourselves with public engagement and election time is a crucial opportunity for us to showcase our research findings and expertise."

Dr Green said: "In a context in which the parties each have a message to give, the need for objective interpretation is clear. I sat with Matthew Parris in Bush House on election night, where our job was to cut through the political messages of the three politicians also present."



Dr Andrew Russell and Dr Jane Green



Dr Jane Green interviewed by the BBC's Bill Turnbull



Professor Geoff Beattie

Dr Ford said it was a great privilege to be working as an analyst for the BBC: "I was one of the first to see and examine the results as they rolled in. My job was to take a great torrent of data from exit-polling and constituency declarations and to identify the key stories of the night."

Dr Green was the BBC World Service's election pundit; Dr Russell co-presented the results show on BBC Radio Manchester as well as carrying out his traditional role as BBC TV North West's election analyst.

Dr Ford spent the evening of 6 May with the Media – providing instant analysis of the results for the BBC's election night special.

Dr Russell was in demand again when the local elections and Alternative Vote referendum rolled around. He delivered commentaries for four days non-stop on BBC radio channels, Bloomberg and BBC1's weekly *Politics Show*.

To read more about the expert media group visit: www.dcern.org.uk/media_group

Three Manchester alumni each became a Member of Parliament (MP) at the 2010 election, they are:

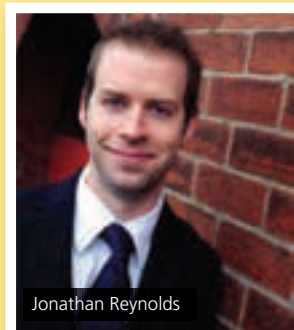
- **Chi Onwurah**, MBA 2002, the new Labour MP for Newcastle-Upon-Tyne Central and Junior Shadow Minister for Business, Skills and Innovation.
- **Jonathan Reynolds**, BA Politics and Modern History 2001, the new Labour MP for Stalybridge and Hyde and one of the youngest MPs to be elected in 2010.
- **Chuka Umunna**, LLB English Law and French Law 2001, the new Labour MP for Streatham and Parliamentary Private Secretary to Ed Milliband.



Chi Onwurah

Other alumni MPs include:

- **Margaret Beckett**, HND Metallurgy 1964, Labour MP for Derby South since 1983 and formerly Foreign Secretary.
- **Nick Brown**, BA Arts, Histories and Cultures 1971, Labour MP for Newcastle East and Wallsend since 1983 and formerly Minister of State for Work and Pensions.
- **Liam Byrne**, BA Politics and Modern History 1992, Labour MP for Birmingham, Hodge Hill since 2004 and Shadow Secretary for Work and Pensions.
- **Anne Coffey**, MSc Psychiatric Social Work 1980, Labour MP for Stockport since 1992.
- **Mark Hendrick**, MSc Computer Science 1985, Labour MP for Preston since 2000.
- **Tony Lloyd**, Dip Business Administration 1976, Labour MP for Manchester Central since 1997 and Chair of the Parliamentary Labour Party.
- **John Mann**, BA Econ 1982, Labour MP for Bassetlaw since 2001.
- **Austin Mitchell**, MA History 1958, Labour MP for Great Grimsby since 1977.
- **John Pugh**, PhD Philosophy 1996, Liberal Democrat MP for Southport since 2001.



Jonathan Reynolds



Chuka Umunna

Our Students Simply the Best

Meet our entrepreneurs, scholars, journalists, performers and athletes who have excelled at what they do



Joseph Akinragbe

Joseph, a third year BA Economics and Social Studies student, is the current International Officer of the Students' Union. During his time at University, the young entrepreneur has achieved remarkable success. Named the National Union of Students Student of the Year 2010, Joseph has won the award for his work as President of Manchester Entrepreneurs – the student society which supports future business and community leaders. He has a passion for entrepreneurship with a belief in its power to provide a platform for change: "We wanted to redefine what entrepreneurship meant, to overcome the perception that it's only about business and making money – we broadened our membership from a majority of Business School undergraduates to 25% from Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics subjects and 40% postgraduates." Joseph has a hatful of commendations to his name and was elected as world youth leader with One Young World – a project supported by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan among others. "Entrepreneurship is a mindset," he said. "It's about looking around you and providing innovative solutions to problems. It's also looking forward and changing the way we live."

Chelsea Dickinson



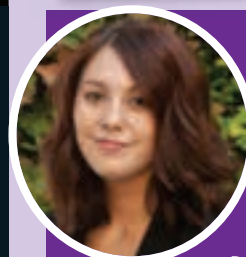
Ancient History student Chelsea has recently won Gold in the Best Newcomer category of the Student Radio awards for her show on University student radio station, Fuse FM. Chelsea was recognised for her outstanding work and dedication in a ceremony hosted by BBC Radio 1 personalities Fearne Cotton, Greg James and Huw Stephens. Chelsea first became involved with Fuse FM as a first-year student. After initially finding her show proposal rejected, she was given the opportunity to present a one-off show. She impressed station bosses, was offered a regular show on Sunday lunchtimes and quickly progressed to Station Manager. Building on her recent award, Chelsea spent last summer promoting student radio as part of her work at a New York camp for underprivileged children. She said: "Fuse FM is truly the best thing I've done this year. I love the fact that student radio captures people's imaginations."

Josh Carroll



English Literature student Josh has been awarded the prestigious NUS Student Journalist of the Year 2010 after impressing a judging panel which included *Times Higher Education* Editor Ann Mroz, and Director of the Helena Kennedy Foundation, Ellen Dawson.

Jennie Agg



Jennie is a former editor of the Students' Union newspaper, *Student Direct*, and an English Literature and Drama student who was awarded Student Journalist of the Year 2010 by the leading mental health charity *Mind*. Jennie was honoured for her contributions to the understanding of mental health issues.

Samuel Shillito

Having recently achieved a First in his BSc Biomedical Sciences degree, Samuel has won the Society of Biology's Top Student Award in recognition of outstanding academic achievement. The award aims to encourage graduate bioscientists to remain in the bioscience field. Samuel is now following on from his success by continuing to study for a Masters level medical degree.



Astrid Tishler

Astrid, an Environmental Science student, was named the North West's International Student of the Year 2010 in the prestigious *Shine!* competition run by the British Council. One of twelve regional winners, she travelled to London to meet a final judging panel, before going on to have her achievements honoured in a national awards ceremony. To reach the final, Astrid, who is from Estonia, wrote a personal 'letter home' in English, detailing the out-of-class achievements which are helping to make her time at university so rewarding. As well as being honoured by the British Council, Astrid also became the President of the Estonian and Estonian Friends' Society during her time in Manchester.

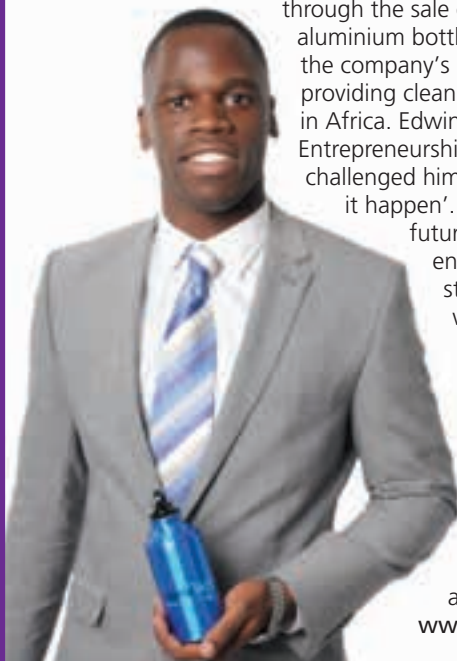


Edwin Broni-Mensah

Edwin, 25, who is a PhD Mathematical Science student (who has recently submitted his thesis,) was named top Black British Graduate by *Future Leaders* magazine in 2010. Edwin was acknowledged for his entrepreneurial skills after setting up his own company and achieving a First Class degree in Mathematics and Computer Science. In 2010 he launched *GiveMeTap* which raises money for drought-stricken countries

through the sale of a special aluminium bottle. Seventy per cent of the company's profits go towards providing clean water and irrigation in Africa. Edwin was inspired by his Entrepreneurship lecturer who challenged him to go out and 'make it happen'. He said: "In the future I want this enterprise to have a strong presence worldwide, starting with a firm-footing at the London Olympic games. Basically I want to keep people hydrated in the most ecological way possible."

To find out more about *GiveMeTap* visit:
www.givemetap.co.uk



Schmucks Theatre

A band of enterprising Drama students have formed a theatre company with a thirst for leaving the safety of the campus and putting on experimental theatre in both established and untried performance venues. The most recent venture was a show in the City's historic Victoria Baths. Having already played one UK tour, students Nathan Shreeve, Jo Gewirtz and Kitty Critchley are planning another tour for 2011 to include the Buxton and Edinburgh fringe festivals. Their show *The Carroll Myth* will focus on the life and relationships of Lewis Carroll and includes some of his weird and wonderful Wonderland characters. Their past performances have sold-out and received rapturous reviews.

To find out more about Schmucks visit:
www.schmuckstheatrecompany.co.uk



Rowing to Victory

Three students from the Manchester Sports Scholar programme have recently won podium positions at the British Universities and Colleges Sport Indoor Championships. Rowers Zak Lee Green and Graeme Thomas both won Gold in the men's lightweight and heavyweight competitions respectively, while Charlotte Thompson won Silver in the women's heavyweight event. All three students are part of a Great Britain Rowing Start programme which aims to identify and develop potential Olympians.



Coronation

Originally commissioned for just 13 episodes *Coronation Street* is 50 years old this year - and many of the cast first trod the boards at The University of Manchester



Ken Barlow

Bill Roache



Ena Sharples

Violet Carson



Honorary Degree

Violet Carson

Ken's
alumni reunion

CLASS OF 1961

Photo by ITV / Rex Features ©

Street Stars

On 9 December 1960 the cameras rolled on the first-ever episode of *Coronation Street*.

It was transmitted live and Weatherfield's flat northern vowels were a bit of a shock to a nation reared on the BBC's 'Received Pronunciation' and years of films and TV dramas where working-class folk were there merely to doff their caps and serve their betters.

But there was one member of the cast who seemed a world apart from the Salford streets which inspired the series. Fictional undergraduate Ken Barlow was marked out from the start as being a very different creature to streetwise townies like Dennis Tanner and Billy Walker.

Described in the original script notes as having 'little or no northern accent', Ken's first scene showed the class divide through the sharp prism of a sauce bottle. He visibly winces at the dinner table as his dad pours liberal amounts of HP over his food.

But Dad Frank Barlow gets revenge for his son's disdain by stopping him meeting a student girlfriend at the swanky hotel where his mother does the washing-up.

The irony, 50 years later, is that the oh-so-aspiring Ken is still in *The Street*.

But actor Bill Roache (above left), the only remaining actor from that first episode, believes that is precisely where he has always wanted to be.

"Ken has always wanted to improve himself and the lot of those around him.

"I think although he may have appeared snobbish in the early days, time has most definitely given him wisdom."

He adds: "I do think he regrets not having done lots more with his life, becoming a novelist for instance. However he was a vocational teacher and enjoyed seeing people learn and improve. So I think Ken now sees himself as the voice of Weatherfield and his local environment and community. Over the years he has had lots of opportunities to leave, most recently on the barge with Martha. But as ever, he realised he was out of his depth and it was too late now to change."

Ken Barlow may be, as Roache once put it, a 'one-man Greek tragedy' with death, disaster and his countless love affairs littered across the decades. But such trials and tribulations have always been balanced with the comic side of Corrie life.

A real-life University of Manchester drama graduate, Ken Morley, spent several years

going way over the top as the outrageous Reg Holdsworth. He did a Drama degree in 1977.

Some of the best funny lines over the years were delivered by the man who was awarded an honorary degree by The University of Manchester just a few years before he died. Jack Rosenthal wrote around 130 episodes of *Coronation Street* before moving on to other comedies for Granada like *The Lovers* and *The Dustbinmen*. Other plays for the BBC like *The Evacuees* and *Spend Spend Spend* won BAFTA awards and he even wrote a Hollywood screenplay for Barbara Streisand.

Jack's link with Manchester didn't end there as his daughter Amy, also a writer of note, chose the University for her degree course in English.

Five years after his death from cancer in 2004, the much-missed Rosenthal was the subject of an academic study published by Manchester University Press.

Another Honorary graduate was the late Violet Carson, who played the legendary Ena Sharples.

Like Doris Speed, her snooty arch-enemy Annie Walker, 'Vi' Carson had shared a stage with *Street* creator Tony Warren in his first incarnation as a child actor and performer.



Angie Freeman

Deborah McAndrew



Steph Barnes

Amelia Bullmore



Reg Holdsworth

Ken Morley



Liam Connor

Rob James-Collier



Sunita Alahan

Shobna Gulati

Photo by ITV / Rex Features ©

Previously a writer of Granada potboilers like *Biggles* and *Shadow Squad*, Warren had begged to be allowed to write about "something I knew and understood."

But no-one could have known then that *The Street* would become the longest-running TV drama ever.

Daily Mirror TV critic Ken Irwin famously got it wrong when he derided the show as "doomed from the outset." Originally commissioned for just 13 episodes, the show ran and ran through the decades.

As the years went by, the cast list featured many other names that had first trodden the boards as undergraduates at this University. Amelia Bullmore, who played Steph Barnes in the early 1990s, went on to a distinguished career as a writer as well as acting cameos with Steve Coogan in *I'm Alan Partridge*.

Rob James-Collier, a 2001 Masters graduate in Marketing, had a stint on *The Street* as Liam Connor. He first appeared in 2006 but was killed-off two years later in a brutal fashion when Liam became the subject of a murder-mystery plotline. Rob has since appeared on screen as brooding butler Thomas in *Downton Abbey*.

Shobna Gulati, (BA Middle Eastern Studies, 1988) is still in *The Street* as Sunita Alahan, long-suffering wife of Lothario shopkeeper Dev.

Since 1960, thousands of actors have appeared in *Coronation Street*. University of Manchester Drama graduate Deborah McAndrew enjoyed two spells on *The Street* in the 1990s. She was lucky enough to get her first break as free-spirited student Angie Freeman shortly after gaining her degree in 1989. She recalls: "I had not actually grown up in a culture of watching *The Street*. It just happened that I was at a teacher training college after leaving University and also trying to get my Equity card when I heard there was a part going. It never occurred to me that I would actually get it.

"I did not like what went with being in *The Street*, the fact you were always in the public eye. But I learned an awful lot and I am still in touch with people like Kevin Kennedy, who played Curly Watts."

Sue Cleaver, who plays Eileen, is also a friend. "We did *The Rise and Fall of Little Voice* together at the Bolton Octagon."

After 50 years at a location close to the old Granada Studios on Quay Street, Corrie's cobbles will be re-created at the new MediaCity in Salford. But Deborah McAndrew, now also a writer who has worked with Northern Broadsides Theatre Company and Radio 4, sees no reason why *Coronation Street* should not be around in another 50 years.

"Actors like me come and go. But the storyline and the characters have always been wonderful and there are great actors like Bill Roache and Helen Worth (Gail Platt) who are prepared to stay. That means generations of viewers can literally watch the characters grow old in front of their eyes and share their experiences. That's its real strength."

Read about some more class reunions on page 30. Want to meet your old student friends like Ken did? If you'd like to organise your own reunion we can help you trace old classmates, send invitations and publicise the event. For more information visit *Your Manchester Online* and click on 'reunions' www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester

Cancer: a wound that will not heal

Research using zebrafish is revealing the link between cancer and wound-healing

University scientists have been using translucent zebrafish to watch how tumour cells are born inside the body in the search for a new approach to treating cancer.

The results suggest that future treatments could make use of existing anti-inflammatory drugs since scientists have now established how tumour cells attract cells from the immune system in a kind of inflammatory response. The response seems to both attack and aid the cancer cells.

Dr Adam Hurlstone (below) from our Faculty of Life Sciences said it was a huge surprise to see the tumour cells detected by the immune system so quickly: "A cancer cell appears, gives a signal and the body's immune system is immediately alerted. The speed of the response and being able to see it so clearly in the zebrafish was very exciting."

The team has also uncovered other novel aspects of the disease. Hydrogen peroxide, for example, is the signal molecule given to the immune system by both wounded and

transformed pre-cancerous cells.

"This link between wound-healing and cancer gives us potential new therapies such as anti-inflammatory drugs which have already undergone clinical trial," Dr Hurlstone added.

The team studied the onset of different cancer types in zebrafish larvae, including melanoma, an extremely aggressive form of skin cancer. Zebrafish have been used to study embryonic development for years but it is only recently that they have become a popular species for modelling disease, notably cancer. Mutations in their genes result in the same diseases as in humans, while their transparency is extremely useful for seeing the disease's progress.

The team found that the immune system's leucocytes (white blood cells) home-in on sites even when they contain very few cancer cells. They also found that the leucocytes had been



attracted to the site by hydrogen peroxide produced by cancer cells and their neighbours – a molecule also used to trigger the immune system when the body is wounded. The leucocytes immediately began to work at the sites with some attacking the cancer cells while others provide stimulants to them.

Dr Hurlstone said: "We have returned to a classical concept that cancer is a wound that will not heal. We are asking, what is the significance of that? Inflammation is supposed to be a good thing – it is painful but specialist cells zoom in and eat the debris and secrete factors to heal a wound. So with inflammation in cancer, is it fighting or helping the disease? The answer is both.

"We have now shown how quickly the immune system responds to cancer, what its role is in the progression of the disease and also made clear the parallels between cancer and wound healing."

The work throws up some exciting leads in terms of clinical applications. "We should look at inflammation again from a therapeutic perspective," Dr Hurlstone said. "Now we know the role of hydrogen peroxide in recruiting leucocytes to an affected area, producers and receptors of that molecule could become therapeutic targets. We could even see anti-inflammatory drugs being used for cancer. Another route is to target the immune system's response in order to tip the balance from the leucocytes that heal to those that attack in cases of cancer."

To find out how you can support cancer research at the University visit: www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchesterfund and click Research Impact.





Sticky tape and pencils lead to Nobel Prize

Manchester physicists refuse to let celebrity status interfere with their work

From left: Professor Andre Geim, Dame Nancy Rothwell, Professor Konstantin Novoselov, Lord Martin Rees

This year, thanks to two of our own physicists, the University can count more Nobel laureates on its staff than any other British university. And the UK can claim a Nobel Prize in Physics for the first time in more than 30 years.

News came in October 2010 that Professor Andre Geim and Professor Konstantin 'Kostya' Novoselov had won the 2010 Nobel Prize in Physics. Manchester's long-term strategy for 2015 was to claim five Nobel laureates on its staff and overnight the University went from 40 per cent to 80 per cent of its target.

The prize was in recognition of the pair's discovery of graphene in 2004 – a new super-thin, super-strong material one-atom thick which, among other things, can conduct electricity. The material has been studied on a theoretical level for 60 years but the problem of how to physically create it had eluded scientists until then. The discovery was made, as so

many landmarks in science before, by random experiments, with sticky tape and pencils.

Naturally, the news of the Nobel Prize caused a sensation in the UK scientific community, but the first thing we learn about Andre and Kostya is that they don't let celebrity interfere with the sort of effort that won them the prize. "Having won the Nobel Prize, some people sit back and stop doing anything, whereas others work themselves into the ground to prove that the award was not accidental. But I will be going into the office as usual and continuing to work hard and paddle through life," said Andre.

When Kostya was called by a journalist from the Nobel Foundation, he kept leaving the telephone and when asked why he explained: "I've got an experiment running."

The two professors were both brought up and educated in Russia. They first worked together at a university in the Netherlands, where Andre became Kostya's PhD

supervisor. When Andre moved to the University in 2001, Kostya followed a short time afterwards in 2004.

It was while researching in the Netherlands, at the High Magnetic Field Laboratory at the Radboud University Nijmegen, that Professor Geim chose to show the lighter side of science by levitating a frog in a magnetic field. The experiment earned him an Ig-Nobel Prize in 2000 and he holds the unique claim of being the only individual to have won both the Ig-Nobel and Nobel Prizes. Kostya also distinguishes himself by being the youngest winner in Physics for 40 years and youngest winner in any category since 1992.

There was also Royal praise from Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, who in November graced the two Professors with the most prestigious award in the country – the equivalent of a British Knighthood. Both scientists were made Knight Commanders in the Order of the Netherlands Lion. Andre said: "As a Dutch



citizen it gives me a real sense of pride for the Netherlands that a Russian-born is treated equally." Kostya, who has British and Russian citizenship, was "shocked and delighted" saying: "As I am not Dutch, I could never expect to receive such a very rare honour."

Days later Andre and Kostya formally received the Nobel Prize from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden at a ceremony in Stockholm. At a celebration held on the University campus in January, their acceptance of the award was replayed for a packed audience of colleagues, friends and alumni.

It was at this event that Andre showed-off his flare as a raconteur, something alumni also had the opportunity to enjoy when he delivered this year's Annual Cockcroft Rutherford lecture.

Andre rounded-off the celebration event with a story about a friend from an American University. The friend had asked him why he chose to work in England

where the pay for professors was so poor – and whether Andre would ever consider moving to the US? Andre explained that within three years of his move to Manchester he had modernised, well-equipped labs and had opened a nanotechnology centre – a sufficient foundation to produce the first paper on graphene – and within six years he had all the funding he needed and he had been elected to the Royal Society. Andre asked his friend, "Would this be possible, even in principle, in your land?" His friend went quiet – possibly to consider the fact that it took him five years to get his first grant, ten years to get established in US academia and 100 pages to write a typical research proposal. After a pause the friend announced: "You know, you're probably best staying in Manchester."

In April 2011 the Royal Society announced its newest Fellows. The honour is awarded to the most eminent scientists across the UK and Commonwealth. Kostya Novoselov was named among them and now joins Andre Geim who was elected in 2007.

On the announcement of the Nobel Prize in October 2010 Dame Nancy Rothwell said: "This is fantastic news. We are delighted that Andre and Konstantin's work on graphene has been recognised at the very highest level.

"This is a wonderful example of a fundamental discovery based on scientific curiosity with major practical, social and economic benefits for society."

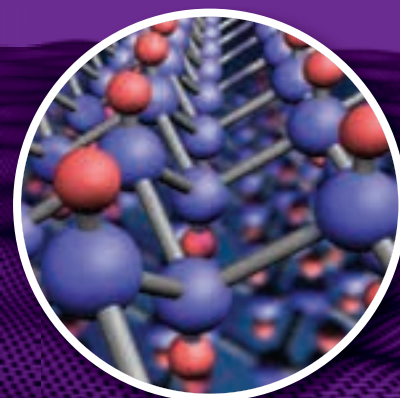
Reflecting on the Nobel Prize ceremony in Stockholm, Dame Nancy said: "There can't be many Vice-Chancellors who have the honour of witnessing the award of a Nobel Prize to even one of their staff, let alone to two. More importantly, it was awarded for work which is being conducted here at The University of Manchester."

Watch the Nobel celebration online: www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/video

continued overleaf

What is graphene?

Graphene is a two-dimensional atomic crystal - think about it as chicken wire, just one atom thick. When you stack layers of it on top of each other millions of times it creates the three-dimensional substance graphite, like you would find in pencils. The problem until now has been how to isolate single layers of graphene – many had believed that a substance as thin as that would be too unstable to exist. Geim and Novoselov solved the problem using regular adhesive tape. Graphene is the strongest material known to man and has a range of special properties. As a conductor of electricity it performs as well as copper, as a conductor of heat it outperforms all other materials. It is almost completely transparent yet it is so dense that even the smallest gas atom, helium, cannot pass through it. The researchers went even further by isolating monolayers of many other substances, thus introducing a conceptually new class of materials: two-dimensional atomic crystals.



Edward Ryley Langworthy



Ernest Rutherford



William Lawrence Bragg



Patrick M S Blackett



Andre Geim and the King of Sweden

History of the Langworthy Professorship

Andre Geim is the latest of a line of Nobel Prize winners who have held the Langworthy Professorship.

Established in 1874 by a Liberal politician and philanthropist Edward Ryley Langworthy, the academic post was created by a legacy gift of £10,000 to the Trustees of Owens College, which later became the Victoria University of Manchester. It was to endow a 'Professorship of Experimental Physics'.

Within one generation the Professorship had its first Nobel laureate when Ernest Rutherford won the University's first Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1908.

Two more Langworthy Professors went on to win Nobel Prizes in Physics. The first was William Lawrence Bragg, who won in 1915. At 25 years of age Bragg remains the youngest Nobel laureate ever across all disciplines. Patrick Maynard Stuart Blackett, who

succeeded Lawrence Bragg and held the Professorship between 1937 and 1953, won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1948.

Langworthy had a crystal clear vision for the purpose of his donation – he wanted the beneficiary to be committed to new discovery. To quote Langworthy from the original trust document: "It being my wish that students may be instructed in the method of experiment and research and that science may be advanced by original investigation." The University's long-term success in attracting outstanding individuals to do exactly that has far exceeded what even Langworthy could have hoped for.

Andre Geim becomes the third Langworthy Professor to win the Nobel Prize in Physics and the fourth Langworthy Professor to win a Nobel Prize in any discipline. We are confident this represents a 'world record'. After 136 years, the endowment has paid handsome dividends.

The wait is over

New scanning technology set to speed-up breast cancer detection for millions of women

A new scanner which uses mobile phone technology to detect breast tumours instantly without the need for a hospital visit has been devised by a University electronics engineer.

The portable scanner, invented by Professor Zhipeng Wu, uses radio frequency technology to show the presence of tumours – malignant and benign – on a computer screen. The device is small, low cost and safe to use.

Professor Wu, from our School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, says "Women can receive real-time video images in a quick and non-invasive procedure which can be carried out at GPs'

surgeries. This could dramatically reduce waiting times and in some cases avoid unnecessary X-ray mammography. The scanner could also be used at home for continuous monitoring of breast health."

The patented radio frequency scanner uses computer tomography, the same technology as a mobile phone, but with only a small fraction of its power. This makes it both safe and low-cost and the electronics can be housed in a small case making it easy to transport. Other existing systems are much larger.

Breast cancer accounts for 8% of all cancer deaths. Early diagnosis and treatment could save thousands of lives. Mammography is currently used for screening women and this test, which is not risk-free, works well for women over the age of 50. It is far less effective for younger women, however, with detection rates as low as 60% for these age groups – who account for 20% of all breast cancer cases.

The main difference between the two detection methods is that mammography works on density of tissue, while the radio frequency technique works on dielectric contrasts between normal and diseased breast tissues. The presence of a tumour or other abnormality will show up in red as the sensor detects the difference in tissue contrasts at varying radio frequencies. Malignant tissues have higher permittivity and conductivity and therefore appear differently on the screen. Up to 30 images are generated every second.

Professor Wu said: "The system we use is real-time imaging which minimises the chance of missing a breast tumour during scanning. Although there is still research to be done, the system has great potential for breast cancer diagnosis. It will benefit millions of women in both developed and developing countries bearing in mind that one in nine women may develop breast cancer in their lifetime."



- Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women in England with 39,681 new cases diagnosed in 2008, an increase of 1,633 cases over the previous year.
- Crucially in 2008, 7,670 women were diagnosed with breast cancer before the age of 50 and would not have been eligible for national screening.
- Known risk factors for breast cancer, apart from age, relate to a woman's exposure to oestrogen throughout her lifetime. An early first period, a late first pregnancy, fewer births and a late menopause can all increase the risk. Oral contraceptives, having hormone replacement therapy (HRT) and lifestyle factors such as obesity and drinking alcohol have also been identified as risks.

Office of National Statistics

Cancer research building planned

The Manchester Cancer Research Centre (MCRC) has announced proposals for a new state-of-the-art facility which will be crucial in helping the Centre develop cancer treatment.

"The rapid expansion of high quality research at the MCRC has reached a point where future growth will be compromised by lack of physical space," said Professor Nic Jones, Director of the MCRC and Chief Scientist of Cancer Research UK.

"We undertake vital research to develop and improve cancer treatments and urgently need a new purpose-built building to expand and enhance this life-saving research."

The proposals are for a new research building and car park on The Christie site.

Professor Jones continued: "Cancer research and treatment is evolving – the goal is a personalised approach to cancer therapy, where each patient is treated according to the specific characteristics of their tumour."

The MCRC is a partnership founded by three organisations: the University (incorporating the Paterson Institute for Cancer Research), which came top nationally for cancer studies in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, Cancer Research UK, the world's leading independent organisation



dedicated to cancer research, and the Christie NHS Foundation Trust, an internationally-recognised specialist cancer centre and leader in clinical research.

In the groove

Manchester's nightlife goes from strength to strength. But if you thought the City's club scene began in 1976 when *The Sex Pistols* famously played *The Free Trade Hall* (now the five-star *Radisson Hotel*) you'd be much mistaken

To dig a little deeper, *Your Manchester* enjoys a rather fine cup of tea in the City's vibrant Northern Quarter with alumnus Dave Haslam (BA English Language and Literature, 1983). DJ, promoter and author of a cultural history of the City – *Manchester, England* – Dave traces the City's nascent nightlife back to the population explosion of the 1830s and '40s.

"The working classes of the industrial revolution were ground to the bone by the mill owners and consequently needed an escape," he says. Informal gin shops and beer houses appeared – so-called 'Free and Easys' – based very much around alcohol... something students today may be able to appreciate although their motive will be different.

Back in Victorian times the love affair with alcohol was partly because the local water supply was so polluted. "To avoid cholera it was better to drink beer," Dave explains.

Ultimately this expanding urban population needed more space for fun and the phenomenon of the Victorian Musical Hall arrived, established along the Oxford Street corridor down to Quay Street. Many survive today in different forms: *The Palace Theatre*, *The Opera House* and *The Theatre Royal*, a

space many alumni will know well. Whether as *Discotheque Royale*, M2 or its current incarnation as *Club Coliseum*, it remains an elegant building – a bust of Shakespeare forever looking down on the revellers queuing to get in.

And so things remained until the arrival of jazz. Another alumnus, Joe Silmon-Moneri (BA Hispanic Studies 1985) is currently writing *The Manchester Jazz Scene 1919-1990* which traces the beginnings of jazz in Manchester to a band called *Max's Creole Aces*, playing around Rusholme in 1919.

Venues appeared over the following years to service this evolving sound, including *The Clarendon Hotel*, Oxford Street (the famous *Club 43*), *The Manchester Sports Guild* in All Saints, *The Hulme Hippodrome*, *The Apollo* in Ardwick, *Belle Vue Pleasure Grounds* and the City's first superclub, *The Ritz*, built on Whitworth Street in the late 1920s.

The Ritz was grand and opulent and will register in the smoke-machine memory of Manchester students as the first club to host a *bona fide* student night in the 1980s.

Up until the '50s, young Mancunians would probably have danced to the same

orchestras as their parents. The late '50s however witnessed the birth of the teenager and rock'n'roll, and that meant high tempo beat music.

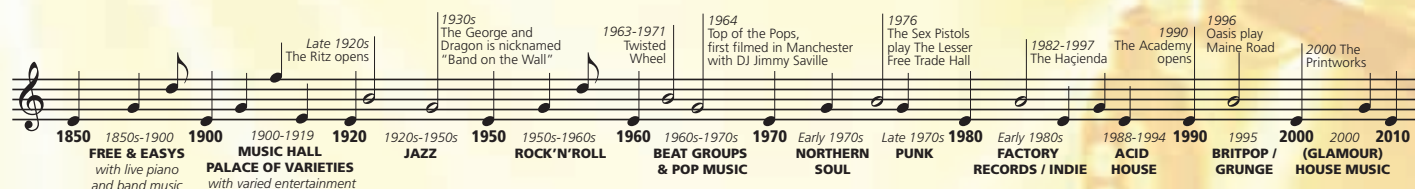
Joe recalls that moving into the '60s, "Local jazz bands shared Union balls and Rag events with groups such as *The Hollies* and *Freddie and the Dreamers*."

Around the same time a perhaps surprising figure appears: now then, now then, step forward one Jimmy Saville. Saville was able to amplify records by playing a gramophone through a radiogram, his "disc only" nights contributing to the end of big bands at clubs like *The Ritz* and *The Plaza* (which became *The Tropicana* in the 1980s) and to a career presenting *Top of the Pops*, first filmed in Manchester in 1964.

The early '60s was a period of energy, of flux and the best period for live venues in Manchester. *The Twisted Wheel* grew from *The Left Wing Coffee Bar* on Brazennose Street before moving to Whitworth Street, where it became synonymous with the Northern Soul sound. Through the latter part of that decade and into the '70s, venues experienced a cultural segregation between bigger, commercial spaces – slightly strange, underground venues like



The Manchester music scene and its venues



the *Magic Village* on Brown Street and the *Hardrock* in Stretford – and more celebrity-focused venues. These included George Best's club, *Slack Alice's*, on Bootle Street (which became *The Playpen* in the 1980s and continues to enjoy success as *42nd Street* today) and Peter Stringfellow's club *Millionaires*, aimed squarely at the cloth cap glitterati, the hot-pot jet-set. That venue, just behind Piccadilly, ultimately became *Wiggly Worm* – home in the early '90s to the celebrated house night *Most Excellent*.

Then, in 1982, a club opened its doors to the disenfranchised of Manchester, whether student or local. *The Hacienda* was an ex-yacht showroom on Whitworth Street West – an enormous space turned into a futuristic club venue by the band *New Order* and their label *Factory Records*, following initial events at the *PSV* in Hulme.

Then followed the cultural explosion of the Second Summer of Love, Manchester transmogrified into MADchester and the eyes of the world were on the 'Haç' and the baggy beat to which it swayed and grooved. Clubs nearby – like *The Boardwalk* and *Venue* – fed from its success and other superclubs opened, such as *Home* on Ducie Street and *Sankeys Soap*, built within an old soap factory in the architectural wastelands of Ancoats. Of course all cultural movements are cyclical and the demise of *The Hacienda* in 1997 (it's now an apartment building of the same name)

meant the music scene fractured into smaller parties, and nights like *Bugged Out* and *Electrik Chair* came into their own, the latter at *The Music Box* on Oxford Street, which had previously been *Rafters*.

At the same time the student scene became more fully evolved, founded on the work of ex-student promoters like *Fat City*, who ran nights at the *State*, previously *Twisted Wheel*.

Many will remember the funk night *Carwash* which ran for nearly a decade at *Man Alive*, a West Indian dominoes club. Run by student-turned-entrepreneur Trafford Lovething, its popularity was simple – he put on midweek parties at places students couldn't really go to at the weekend.

Of course students always had the expanding union (*The Academy* opened in 1990) but the DIY spirit of student promoters was matched in the noughties by big brewery business in the city centre. Nightclub hubs like *The Printworks* and *Deansgate Locks* appeared and nights like *Vodka Island* and *Vodbull* were massive successes on socially bereft midweek nights.

These venues, along with so many others through the years, are a part of the living architecture of this City. Take *Band on the Wall*, which started life 200 years ago as an all-night pub serving the workers of the nearby Smithfield Market. Nights were so

rowdy and rambunctious they literally raised the stage up against one wall so that the band could avoid the flying chairs and bottles. After years of closure the venue re-opened in 2009, once again a fundamental part of the nocturnal landscape of the City.

Factory Records offices were housed on Charles Street. That building became the gay club *Paradise Factory* and re-opened last year as *Fac 251 The Factory*, part owned by *New Order's* Peter Hook. Even a Victorian public toilet on Oxford Street has become a well-frequented bar... amusingly named the *Temple of Convenience*.

Manchester's nightlife continues to reboot, to regenerate and serve whoever's here to party. So be assured – your memories remain etched into the walls of the nightclubs of Manchester, your grooves imprinted on the dancefloors of the City.

By Simon A. Morrison
(MA Novel Writing 1997)
author of *Discombobulated - Dispatches From The Wrong Side*

Do you think we've missed any venues out?
Visit: www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchestersonline
and add your comments to this story.

LOVE MANCHESTER

University is the place to shine academically but it is also one of the biggest dating opportunities you're ever likely to get – just ask Kate and Wills!

With around 40,000 students on campus and so many courses, societies and venues to discover soulmates with similar interests, is it any wonder that many undergraduates not only walk away with a degree certificate but a marriage certificate too?

And let's face it, many students do view university as an opportunity for a meeting of minds; like Doug Eyeions (BSc Physics 1952) who admits that there had been few opportunities for a close encounter in his home town of Grimsby.



Doug and Ruth Eyeions

Aged 18, he met his wife Ruth in Freshers' Week 1949 and he now recalls how he 'plunged headlong' into romance.

"It was admiration at first sight," he says. "In those days we took things a lot slower. We didn't even kiss until our third meeting. Ruth had got a state scholarship and so had I, putting us among the top 400 in the country, so we were clearly compatible."

Opportunities were pretty slim in those days for male students, especially those studying Sciences. "Although Ruth was in the Arts Faculty and I was studying Physics, I pursued her avidly after that first meeting because there were only three females among the 75 students taking Honours Physics that year," Doug says.

Plus, those were the days of austerity Britain with ration books, national service and sex segregated halls - getting together wasn't so easy. However Ruth and Doug managed to do their courting on park benches and on one 'sought after' sofa in the only joint common room in the Union building.

"We got engaged when we graduated in 1952," says Doug. "And we married in Withington in 1954 when I was still a postgraduate student – Ruth claimed for me as a dependant relative on her income-tax form."



Susan and Ingo Gudjonsson

It became a lot easier to make a match in the 1960s of course, as this was the decade of the Pill and University activities were much more geared to bringing both sexes together, although not everywhere was a hotbed of romance as Susan Price discovered before meeting Icelandic student, Ingo Gudjonsson.

"In 1965 the chances of me meeting my husband were very slim indeed," she said. "I lived in Winsford, Cheshire, which to me was the Siberia of England, being where the salt mines are. I was desperate to get away and came up with a cunning plan that would ensure both digs and income in one fell swoop - I applied to University! The enormity of my assumption that I would be offered a place completely passed me by. I was just fired up to do well in my A-levels, because I knew Manchester was where I wanted to be."



Meanwhile back in Reykjavik, a budding young psychologist visited the British Consul and was advised: "Apply to Manchester – it's the best!" Apparently at the time, this advice was given to all the Icelanders who wanted to study in England.

"We both started our courses in 1967, met in 1968, married in 1970 and celebrated our Ruby Wedding in September of 2010," said Susan. "Although I read Geography and he read Psychology, we both did Sociology as a subsidiary. Our eyes met across the big lecture theatre in the Roscoe Building, (Sociology was never so exciting) but didn't speak until the start of the second year, when we both went to the first Friday night dance of the year at Owen's Park, where he asked me to dance. And the rest, as they say, is history."

Mary and John Rhodes were another couple who got together in the 1960s, also at a Union dance. "My flatmate had persuaded me to accept a date from a hairdresser in return for two free hairdos, but a sense of moral obligation not being one of my strengths, I deserted him and escaped to another dance upstairs. There I met my

destiny, to the less than romantic outpourings of the immortal *Barry Bookbinder and the Chapters*," explains Mary.

"John was a suave post-grad, who rolled his own and wore a black duffle coat. He reckons it was love at first sight, but for me the clincher was his offer of a free meal the next night. He took me to the *Taj Mahal*, bought me an enormous curry, and ate most of it.

"Christmas vacation started the next week, but he wrote every day, even sending a Christmas present. He still thinks a Camembert was an inspired choice – and fortunately for the postman it was a cold Winter. He proposed a couple of days after my return to Manchester and we were married in September 1963 at the registry office in All Saints' Square."



John and Mary Rhodes

Highlights of the courtship included long sessions in the Union cafeteria as John and friends struggled to illustrate Caesar's Gallic Wars with salt cellars and cutlery, being shoved through a window to avoid paying for Rag Ball and leaving an Old French mid-year exam early to buy an engagement ring in town. "We celebrated with a custard tart in Woolworths," Mary added.

"I remember we chose a Tuesday for the wedding because then we could invite loads of people who would be working, but hopefully would still send presents. We needed towels and pans. My despairing parents had given us £100 and washed their hands of the whole thing, although they did relent and come to the wedding. Our reception was at the *Lu San*, not a conventional venue. The Chinese waiters were baffled, mishearing a teetotal aunt who asked for a fruit squash and bringing her a large scotch. And they packed up the wedding cake without offering any to guests. We escaped as soon as possible and took the train to a boarding house in Wales and a landlady who took John's legendary appetite as a challenge. It rained all week, I developed an abscess on my tooth which had to be lanced, but we were blissfully happy. My mother's predictions proved false. I didn't fall pregnant and I did graduate. Three children and eight grandchildren later we are still together, living in South Australia."

Another couple who are still together after nearly four decades are Nigel and Jo Mackintosh. "I did a BSc and PhD in the Department of Computer Science from 1968 to 1975 and while doing my postgraduate work, I used the University of Manchester Regional Computer Centre for a lot for my disk drive simulation programmes," explains Nigel.

"They were in the basement of the Computer Science building, and had a lot of cute young ladies working there. I actually gave them fitness classes during their lunch breaks!"



Jo and Nigel Mackintosh



Natasha and Neil Costello

One he particularly fancied was Jo Lees, from Chadderton, and the couple eventually became engaged in November 1974. "One day in late April 1975, I phoned her up to say: 'Right, I've just had my PhD oral exam so I'm finished here, and I've been offered a job at *Burroughs* in Scotland – I start there in two weeks so hand your notice in – we'll get married next week!' And we did – at Oldham Registry Office – on 7 May 1975."

They moved to Scotland for two years, the New Forest for two years, California for seven years (where they had two children), and then moved in 1987 to North Wales. "We've just got our first grandchild," Nigel adds.

By the 1980s and '90s, becoming a couple through shared mutual interests, or something as tenuous as living in the same street, became the norm, though of course not every romance stayed the course. Natasha and Neil Costello, who met in the 1990s, were among the lucky ones.

Natasha remembers: "Our eyes first met in the *Bowling Green* pub in 1992. He was a fourth year Engineering student and Chair of the University hang-gliding club. I had just graduated in Law from the University and was about to start the Legal Practice Course at Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) (and I already had a boyfriend). Introduced by mutual University friends, we discovered that we lived on the same street in Rusholme. It wasn't long before we were scurrying across the road in our pyjamas."

"I qualified as a solicitor and worked for a law firm in Manchester, then went back into academia and later became a Senior Lecturer at MMU."

"The lure of the hills led us a few miles north to Ramsbottom where we settled down, got married and started a family. Then Neil was offered a secondment in Paris."

"So here we are, 18 years on, having an excellent expat, Parisian adventure, reminiscing about our student days in Manchester and ensuring our kids are aware of their roots by giving them a good dose of the *Stone Roses* and other favourite tunes of the early 1990s Manchester scene."

Takahiro Miyoshi, from Japan, met his wife Junko Sawaki when he was on the Development Economics masters at the School of Economics in 1995. "I met Junko in 1997 when she came here to do her Masters in Linguistics. I was an assistant for the pre-course language classes and she was one of the Japanese students brushing up her English," he says.

"Our relationship blossomed and we married in 2001. We now live happily in Zambia with two children aged six and one."

Have you got a story of when you met your life-partner at Manchester? Send it to us with a photo of you both from your student days and we will post it up on *Your Manchester Online*.

Contact us at alumni@manchester.ac.uk



Junko and Takahiro Miyoshi

Want to get married at the place where you met your one and only? Contact our events office: +44 (0) 161 907 7414 chancellors@manchester.ac.uk or visit: www.chancellorshotel.co.uk

alumni events

Your
Manchester
Insights

Events to explore global
issues and solutions

Our events are a perfect way to enjoy some lively academic engagement of the kind you might be missing from your student days. Why not inform yourself on cutting-edge research with our most talented communicators – while catching-up with old classmates? Whether it's a formal dinner in an exclusive venue, or a more relaxed event, you'll find numerous business and social networking opportunities worldwide.



Dr Ian Hampson's talk 'Is Cancer Catching?' caught the attention of many of you as it was one of our best-attended *Insights* lectures. Dr Hampson (PhD Oncology 1982) didn't disappoint, with a lively engaging style. The talk explored how environmental factors can influence the occurrence of different forms of cancer – depending on where you live. Professor Alistair Burns also talked about the stigma that persists around dementia, arguing an honest and compassionate approach is the best way tackle the issue.

We visited our alumni in London and held an *Insights* lecture and business networking event at the HMS President, a Royal Navy training centre located on the Northern bank of the River Thames. Professor Chris Ballentine (BSc Physical Chemistry 1984) delivered a talk on 'The Power of the Isotope: Past Climate Change, Future Safety'.



Katherine Leopold, our Alumni Co-ordinator in London with Annette Babchuk



The Annual Alumni London Dinner was hosted by Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell at the Royal Society, attended by a host of our London alumni. We heard a moving story from alumnus Tao Wang (MEng Chemical Engineering 2009), who overcame great personal tragedy after an earthquake devastated his home village in China and he lost his sister and grandfather. After helping to reconstruct his shattered community, Tao returned to Manchester to complete his studies and is now pursuing a PhD at Cambridge.



Our biggest event of the year is the Annual Cockcroft Rutherford Lecture which features a prominent academic. In 2010 we were privileged to welcome Lord Martin Rees, British Cosmologist and Astrophysicist and Former President of the Royal Society. Lord Rees spoke to a 600-strong audience in University Place on 'Our Cosmic Environment – Atoms, Galaxies and Life'. This year's lecture was delivered by our very own star scientist, Professor Andre Geim (pictured), winner of the 2010 Nobel Prize for Physics, who explained his 'Random walk to Graphene' to 800 alumni in May. Read more about graphene and our double Nobel Prize on pages 20-22.



Professor Martin Humphries and colleagues from Development and Alumni Relations join alumni in Singapore

We also made visits further afield in China – Professor Martin Humphries, our Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences (PhD Biological Chemistry 1984), hosted events in Hong Kong and Singapore. In the Spring, Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell also hosted an alumni event in Hong Kong.

To be kept informed about the latest events, register for the exclusive alumni community website *Your Manchester Online* www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester and make sure that your details are kept up to date.



Reunion: Allen Hall 50th Anniversary

Reunions are the best way to relive your experience at Manchester and reconnect with all the people who helped make it such an enjoyable time. If you're a former resident of Allen Hall you'll be interested to know that Allen Hall celebrates its 50th Anniversary on 3 September 2011 with a dinner. You can visit the hall the following day. For more details see *Your Manchester Online*: www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester.

We can help you to organise your reunion by putting you in touch with old classmates and by publicising the event. Check the alumni directory on *Your Manchester Online* and you can search for your classmates by the year you graduated and subject studied.

Bill Halson (BA French Studies 1953) has been meeting his old classmates (pictured) every few years. You can read about what Bill and his class has been up to for the past half century by reading his article on *Your Manchester Online*.

If you get together, tell us about your experiences and what your class has done since graduating. Email your stories: alumni@manchester.ac.uk

alumni news



Thank you Andrew, our outgoing Chairman

The 2011 Annual General Meeting saw the end of an era as we thanked our outgoing Chairman of the Alumni Association, Andrew Spinoza (BA Combined Studies 1982), for his six years' dedicated service. Janine Watson takes over from Andrew who has been Chairman since 2005.

Our thanks go to Andrew, who has a wide range of professional networks in the City and wider region. He founded *City Life* magazine in 1983, a 'what's on' guide for Greater Manchester, later purchased by the Guardian Media Group. Since then he's established a Public Relations consultancy which has become one of the top independent agencies in the North West.

The next Alumni Association Annual General Meeting takes place on Wednesday, 28 March 2012

Welcome Janine, our new Chairman of the Alumni Association

Janine Watson (BA Econ 1981) joins us with a wealth of experience in the Media and local government. Her career began with a graduate traineeship at *The Journal* newspaper in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. A move to the *Liverpool Echo* as Local Government Editor was followed by a ten-year posting at the *Manchester Evening News* as a local government specialist. Janine then entered local government, becoming Head of Media at Manchester City Council, working on major developments including the 2002 Commonwealth Games. She joined Stockport Council in 2008 as Assistant Chief Executive (Communications).



Farewell Annette

After 31 years with UMIST and The University of Manchester, Annette Babchuk, Head of Alumni Relations, will be leaving the University in Summer 2011. Annette has overseen a great deal of change in the Alumni Association, not least when she successfully navigated the merging of two alumni bodies – belonging to UMIST and Victoria University of Manchester – into a single association within the merged University of Manchester.

Annette has organised countless alumni events great and small over the years and has built up many powerful and long-lasting friendships with alumni and other University colleagues. Annette has a talent for recruiting the best qualified alumni to volunteer their time and expertise and managed her professional friendships with great warmth, personal engagement and close attention to all the things which make partnerships successful. These friendships have served the Alumni Association and the University tremendously well.

We will all be very sad to see Annette go – but wish her the very best for her future.

Nine out of ten would recommend The University of Manchester

Over 35,000 alumni completed the President's Questionnaire 2010. We thank everyone who took the time to share their opinion. Your responses are helping us to evaluate and further develop our alumni relations programme.

Over three quarters of you felt that your Manchester degree has had a positive impact on your career, and an overwhelming 90% would recommend the University to others.

Your *Manchester* magazine was the most popular method of communication across all age groups. At the same time, many of our international alumni thought that social networking could be a good way to interact with the University and other alumni, including over two thirds of respondents in China and India. All age groups agreed that the topics of most interest were University developments, groundbreaking research and fellow alumni.

A full report of the findings of the President's Questionnaire 2010 can be found online at www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester

Alumni Representative on the Board of Governors

Peter Readle (BSc Mathematics 1969) has been our alumni representative on the University's Board of Governors since 2006. He is eligible to stand for re-election for a further three years and has indicated his willingness to do so. If another member of the Alumni Association also wishes to be considered for this role they should complete an application form before 31 January 2012. Details of the application process will be advertised on *Your Manchester Online*.



Volunteer of the Year

Community Service and Volunteer of the Year Awards 2011

Many alumni, staff and students of this University give their personal time and energy helping disadvantaged groups in the community locally, nationally across the globe. In addition, as part of its strategic vision, the University aims to encourage greater social responsibility. To help realise this ambition, and to recognise and celebrate the community activity of its members, the University has launched a Community Service and Volunteer of the Year Award scheme. Nominations for 2011 Awards have now been received and are under consideration at the time of going to press.

Awards will be given in three categories; Alumni volunteer of the Year, Staff Volunteer of the Year and Student Volunteer of the Year. The overall winner in each category will also be put forward for the University Social Responsibility Award.

We wish the best of luck to all nominees.



Janet Darbyshire receiving her outstanding alumni award

Outstanding Alumni Awards 2010

This has been a great year for recognising the contributions our alumni have made in all aspects of professional life. We honoured three outstanding individuals in their fields of business, medicine and the performing arts. We are immensely proud of John Lovering, Professor Janet Darbyshire and Toby Jones.

John Lovering MBA 1975

Former Chairman of Debenhams and Mitchells and Butlers plc

John oversaw a massive turnaround in Debenhams' profit and market share. With a seemingly magic touch on retail corporate boards he has an impressive list of Chairmanships: previously Chairman of Laurel Pub Company, Fitness First, Odeon, Homebase Group, Fired Earth, Peacock Group, Somerfield and Birthdays Group. He also served as Finance Director of Sears plc, Chief Operating Officer of Tarmac plc, Director of AGA Foodservice Group plc and Vice-Chairman of Barclays Capital.

Janet Darbyshire MBChB Medicine 1970

Professor of Epidemiology and Co-Director of UK Clinical Research Network

Janet Darbyshire CBE has made a profound difference to the lives and health of people all around the globe. While with the Medical Research Council (MRC) she co-ordinated clinical trials and studies of tuberculosis (TB) and other respiratory diseases in the UK and East Africa. This work has revolutionised the management of TB around the world. She later joined the global effort to combat the HIV epidemic by designing and co-ordinating trials of therapy for people with the virus, as well as microbicides and vaccines to prevent infection. In 1998 she became Director of the MRC Clinical Trials Unit, which, under her leadership, was acknowledged as a centre of excellence for research into HIV and cancer treatments.

Toby Jones BA Hons Drama 1989

Film and Theatre Actor

Toby will hit our cinema screens four times this year. We will see him as evil scientist Dr Zola in superhero flick, *The First Avenger: Captain America*. In the autumn he'll join fellow British actors in the animated *The Adventures of Tin Tin*. More is to come in 2012 when he joins Robert De Niro in the thriller *Red Lights*. Recently he appeared in comedy adventure *Your Highness* and horror *The Rite* with Sir Anthony Hopkins. Last year he voiced Dobby, the house-elf in the *Harry Potter* films. Film success has followed theatre plaudits: he won the Olivier award for 'Best Supporting Actor' for his stage role in the Kenneth Branagh directed *The play what I wrote*.

At the time of going to press, nominations for 2011 have been received and are under consideration. If you have any suggestions for future recipients submit these by email to alumni@manchester.ac.uk or by telephone on +44 (0) 161 306 3066.

A gamble by astronomers seeking to engage the TV-watching public in their work paid-off earlier this year when they managed to pull in more viewers than *EastEnders*



Primetime physics lights up the night sky

Stargazing Live was watched by some ten million people over three nights. Viewers were inspired to look up at the night skies by the unique show on BBC2, broadcast live from our Jodrell Bank Observatory. In fact it was so successful that organisers now hope more people will be encouraged not only to dust off their telescopes but to take up the study of science and engineering.

The show featured Jodrell Bank's key areas of work and expertise, including the study of the remnants of exploded stars using an array of radio telescopes to understand the birth of planets, stars and galaxies.

The observatory is now firmly established as one of the most important astronomical sites in the country and our own star physicist, Professor Brian Cox from the School of Physics and Astronomy, was the presenter with comedian Dara O'Briain – who also happens to be a physicist.

Dr Tim O'Brien, a senior academic in our School of Physics and Astronomy, who was instrumental in bringing the show to Jodrell Bank and who made two appearances on

the live shows, said: "We're sure it will have a positive impact on the numbers of people planning to study not only physics and astronomy but also other areas of science and engineering."

Each show featured images taken from around the world as well as from Jodrell Bank itself, including one specially taken with the new e-MERLIN telescope – an array of seven telescopes based in central England and currently the only ground-based facility in the world which routinely matches the picture resolution of the Hubble Space Telescope.

Professor Cox acted as a guide, helping Dara and viewers at home to understand the complexities of the skies and the physics involved in space.

One of the most memorable moments of the show came when BBC astronomer Mark Thompson – standing near the iconic Lovell telescope – turned to the camera to bemoan the lack of activity in the skies only for a meteor to flash past behind him.

Such was the success of the programmes that it is hoped that the show might become an annual event. Dr O'Brien, said: "Bringing our science to a large primetime TV audience in an entertaining live format was an ambitious aim, but it was even more successful than we all hoped."

"Everybody here pulled together with the BBC production team to make it work, effectively turning the observatory into a giant TV studio."

President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell, who visited the site while the show was being filmed, said it was a wonderful experience to be part of the frantic activity of a live TV programme. "The presenters were superb, but the real star was our Lovell Telescope!"

Dr O'Brien added: "After more than six months working on this project it was great to see it all coming together."

To find out more visit:
www.jodrellbank.net/skyatnight

Jodrell Bank's new Discovery Centre awaits you

Shortlisted as a World Heritage Site, there are plenty of reasons to take a closer look

The Tourism and Heritage Minister John Penrose recently announced that he was placing Jodrell Bank on a list to be considered by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.

Dr Teresa Anderson (pictured), Director of the new £3 million Discovery Centre, said: "Jodrell Bank has earned its place on the list by being a place where live science has completely reframed the way in which humanity sees its place in the Universe."

Visitors to Jodrell Bank have been greeted with shimmering glass walls, giant maps of the Universe and ornate, landscaped gardens since the opening of the spectacular new Discovery Centre. The dramatic redevelopment of the Cheshire site is already allowing new generations of visitors to enjoy one of the most significant astronomy sites in the UK.

The Discovery Centre, funded by grants from the North West Development Agency, the European Regional Development Fund and the University itself, aims to showcase the 'live science' of the world-leading research carried out at Jodrell Bank.

The new Planet and Space Pavilions are key to this vision. The Planet Pavilion is host to an embossed map of the Universe created by radio astronomers at Jodrell Bank and elsewhere over a period of 17 years. Visitors are able to walk through the foyer with its engaging 'live science' wall and on through to the glass-walled café – with spectacular views of the world-famous Lovell Telescope.

At the opposite end of the Pavilion is the Orrery – a working, five-metre model of our own Solar System – surrounded by walls showing the view from our Solar System out across the Universe.

Moving outside, visitors can take a journey to the Space Pavilion. Its shiny, reflective exterior beams huge images of the Lovell Telescope around the site. It is here that visitors can find out – live – exactly



what the telescope is looking at, and find answers to lots of the big questions that people ask at Jodrell Bank – about the Big Bang, black holes and the life and death of stars.

The Discovery Centre's popular year-round education programme includes taught sessions with hands-on activities, planetarium shows and outdoor trails across the extensive grounds and gardens.

Dr Anderson says: "We're keen, above all, to inspire the scientists of the future, and think that the new facilities, alongside the Lovell Telescope, will spark off huge enthusiasm in all our visitors. I'm an alumna of the School of Physics and Astronomy myself, so it's very rewarding to be able to make a contribution to the future of the School and of the University."

As well as hosting exhibitions, the Space Pavilion is also home to a large events space, geared up to cater for a varied series of annual activities. Films can be shown, there is an 'Ask an Astronomer' feature and the Pavilion can also be set up as a 120-seat lecture room which doubles as a meeting and entertainment space for corporate events and receptions.

The Centre looks forward to welcoming alumni over the summer holidays and beyond. Those of you who would like a regular update on the Centre and on Jodrell Bank might also like to consider joining the Friends Scheme:

www.jodrellbank.net/getinvolved/friends

The University of Manchester has established a reputation for notoriety and controversy on the long-running intellectual TV contest



Your starter for ten...

University Challenge is as popular now as it was when it first hit TV screens nearly 50 years ago. But it is not for the faint-hearted. Even grappling with the questions from the comfort of your own armchair on Monday nights can be a tense affair, so sitting behind your surname in front of an audience of several million is surely terrifying.

The fearless foursome from Manchester who beat Trinity College Cambridge in a nail-biting final with a triumphant score of 160 to 150 remember it well.

The team of 2006 consisted of Captain Joseph Meagher (MSc Social Research Methods and Statistics, 2006), Gareth Aubrey (BSc Physics, 2005), Chris Holmes (MEng Materials Science, 2006) and Adrian Anslow (BSc Mathematics, 2007) and was the first from Manchester to win since the programme's genesis in 1962.

But it wasn't, as you might suppose, the result of some happy mixture of brainpower and pluck but training and discipline – and that was just to make sure that they didn't mess-up when they pressed the buzzer. An itchy trigger-finger has apparently been the downfall of many a contestant.

"People think it's about four guys meeting in a pub quiz who decide to enter the competition but really hundreds apply for a place," reveals Joseph Meagher. "The key person in our year was Stephen Pearson (MA Biblical Studies 2003), who coached our team; as a result we did disproportionately well."

Stephen, a librarian at the John Ryland's University Library and mastermind behind Manchester's recent successes, was captain of the team of 1996 when they reached the semi finals and enjoyed it so much that he decided to get involved the only other way he could – by initiating teams into the world of the *Challenge*. Manchester's run of form since then has been unparalleled; hardly any other team has even reached the quarter finals three times in a row yet Manchester has reached the semi-finals in six consecutive series from 2005 to 2010, winning twice.

In comparison, one of the most notable *University Challenge* teams of the Bamber Gascoigne era, when *University Challenge* was aired on Granada TV rather than its current BBC2 home, was Manchester's 1975 line-up.

The team, which included broadcaster and writer David Aaronovitch (BA History 1978), answered every question with Che Guevara, Marx, Trotsky or Lenin apparently in protest against its elitism.

Says Stephen Pearson: "As I understand it, they argued that the programme was elitist because, whereas other universities had to submit one team from the whole university, each of the sixty or so colleges at Oxford and Cambridge could submit teams. This meant that Oxford and Cambridge had a much higher presence on the programme than other universities."

By all accounts, there was a good deal of debate at Granada as to whether the programme should be broadcast but they decided to go ahead in the belief that the students themselves would look ridiculous, rather than *University Challenge* itself. The show survived, though Manchester was banned from the contest afterwards, and remained so for the rest of the ITV run - which probably goes some way toward explaining why former University of Manchester students Ben Elton (BA Drama 1980), Rik Mayall and Adrian Edmondson (both BA Drama 1978) took such relish in demolishing the show



David Aaronovitch with the controversial 1975 team

(figuratively and literally) in the classic 1984 *Young Ones* episode, 'Bambi'.

Of course, *University Challenge* has always been a window into a world to which some could only aspire. Growing up in Northern Ireland in the 1960s, for example, meant that 52 year-old Joseph Meagher gained an insight into university life through the show.

"From where I was in Northern Ireland the people of *University Challenge* looked like demi-gods," he admits.

"These were people who sounded so intelligent. I think in those days everybody came from Oxford and sounded to my ears so well-groomed, clearly these were people who were obviously privileged. It was a world with which I had never come into contact, though in the back of my mind I thought 'I'd like to do that'."

Indeed, in its earlier incarnations the *Challenge* was populated by rising stars famously, Stephen Fry, Julian Fellowes, Sebastian Faulkes, Christopher Hitchens, David Starkey and Clive James, to name just a few of its Oxbridge luminaries. And the league tables show that Oxbridge rules the *Challenge*.

Gareth Aubrey, 29, also on the winning team of 2006, says it was their commitment to the contest which paid-off in the end.

"We were playing three or four games a night, with people from previous teams," he says.

"There's a skill to buzzing into the questions and it is also key knowing which member of a team is likely to know a particular question."

In 2007 the Manchester team once again

did well, becoming runners-up in the tournament and in 2009 scooped the prize in a season that was dogged by controversy.

Sam Kay who was part of the team from Corpus Christi College, Oxford was accused of not being a student when the show was broadcast. Kay, who had completed a Chemistry degree the previous summer, had been planning to go on to study for a Doctor of Philosophy but he did not have sufficient funding so dropped out. He then became an accountant.

The team, whose captain Gail Trimble was dubbed the 'human *Google*', won the competition but were subsequently disqualified and the trophy was awarded to Manchester, who had been the runners-up.

Above all, it proved a rewarding experience for all who took part.

Says 2009 team captain Matthew Yeo (PhD French 2009): "It was a thrilling experience and one I'll never forget; appearing on *University Challenge* was one of the things I promised myself to get out of my time at Manchester, among other things, and I'm delighted to look back on my time there and say I was part of a *Challenge* team. Not only that but I had a wonderfully enjoyable time with three very close friends - quizzing is what we love and quiz masters don't come tougher than Paxman."

Adds Joseph Meagher: "What people don't realise is just how viciously competitive it really is. It's your being as an intelligent person that's on the line. I don't think that really comes across in the programme. But I'd do it all again if I could. Unfortunately, the great rule is, you can't, there are hundreds of students out there just waiting to take part and it just wouldn't be fair."

Your Manchester Fund flies Manchester *Challenge* team to USA tournament

A team of *Challenge* veterans got another chance to play at the top level, this time against the brightest and best contestants of the American equivalent – *College Bowl*. After beating home rivals University College London in the European qualifying round, the team were stranded in Blighty, unable to cover the expenses of travelling to Chicago to join the American leg of the tournament.

Luckily for them, the University and our Alumni came to the rescue with a special grant from the President's Fund and from *Your Manchester Fund*. Team member Jakob Whitfield said: "We soon found we were up against very tough competition, especially as we were the only team at the tournament without any US members! Later we watched Harvard beat the home team Chicago in the final and all in all we had a great time. Thank you to everyone who made it possible."

The team were: Adam Clark (BA Ancient History) from the 2006-07 series, Jakob Whitfield (MSc History of Science 2009), Tom Whyman (BA Philosophy and Politics 2010) both from the 2009-10 series and Henry Pertinez (PhD Pharmacy 2011) from the 2008-09 series who was replaced for the Chicago round by Jonathon Collings (BA Geography) who appeared in the 2010-11 series.

FROM HOGARTH TO HOCKNEY



The Whitworth Art Gallery has almost doubled its visitor numbers over the last five years appealing to art scholars and the under-fives alike. How did they do it?

"We are in a unique location, situated between the University and the local communities of Moss Side, Rusholme and Hulme," explains Director Maria Balshaw. "For the people who live in these neighbourhoods we provide a relevant but world-class experience through access to our collections and exhibitions."

The Whitworth's ability to attract large numbers of visitors from communities with no tradition of visiting art galleries is an important part of its success. The Gallery attracts people from the low-income communities on its doorstep and has become a valuable resource for visitors who have adopted the Whitworth as a social space, somewhere to meet friends and spend time with their children.

"We treat all our visitors as researchers – whether international scholars studying works in the collection or under-fives and their parents exploring themed exhibitions," says Maria, who is also Co-Director of the Manchester Art Gallery. "We encourage whole family learning. The Whitworth is an ideal place to spend some time and learn together."

The Whitworth's textile collection is the best in the North of England, she adds, and the wallpaper collection is only second to the Victoria and Albert (V&A). The Whitworth houses enviable collections of fine-art including works by Rembrandt, Turner, Hogarth, Picasso, Cezanne, Van Gogh and Burne-Jones, as well as more contemporary works by

Edvard Munch, Lucien Freud, Francis Bacon, David Hockney, Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and Tracey Emin. It is nevertheless highly approachable and last year more than 30,000 people took an active part in the Whitworth's informal family and adult programmes.

When Maria Balshaw became Director five years ago she set some tough goals for the Whitworth. Not only was she aiming to be one of the most innovative galleries outside London and to be recognised as one of the most significant university art galleries in the world, there was also a £12 million building development project which would double the public space to accommodate new visitors predicted to rise to nearly a quarter of a million by 2014.

Artist's impression of the £12 million building development project



The idea is to re-connect the Whitworth with the surrounding green space of Whitworth Park. London-based MUMA, appointed through a competition which attracted 139 submissions from all over the world, bring with them architectural accolades for their design of Newlyn Art Gallery, and more recently, the transformation of the V&A's Medieval and Renaissance Galleries.

The garden is enclosed by a new North Wing with a Landscape Gallery to display collections and a study centre where groups and individuals can access stored collections. On the other side, the new South Wing provides a new café in the trees and a dedicated learning studio which opens into the art garden. Joining the two wings, a translucent promenade gives direct access to collections at ground level and to refurbished exhibition spaces on the first floor.

The Gallery Café has become a destination in its own right since being taken over by local chef Peter Booth in 2005. His company, *The Modern Caterer*, sources local seasonal produce and offers fresh, contemporary cooking which has gained him a number of awards and a place in the *Good Food Guide*. The new café will be situated at the back of the Whitworth, overlooking the park and will be housed in a translucent glass building level with the tree canopy. This café in the trees will be one of the loveliest places in the City to enjoy a coffee or a meal.

The Whitworth has always actively collected, and continues to do so, giving the collections contemporary relevance. In particular, work is collected and shown in exhibitions which relate to teaching and research across University departments.

In 2009 the Whitworth welcomed the 'Godmother of Performance Art' Marina

Abramovic and a group of other performance artists to the Whitworth in a partnership exhibition with the Manchester International Festival. Each evening throughout the Festival the artists performed four-hour-long works to over 150 people. Most visitors had never experienced anything like it and people described it as an "extraordinary", "memorable" and "uplifting" experience.

In the same year the Whitworth commissioned German artist Gregor Schneider to create an installation as part of its *Subversive Spaces: Surrealism & Contemporary Art* exhibition. *Kinderzimmer*, a recreation of a child's bedroom set within a darkened space, offered a challenging and uncanny experience.

In contrast the *Walls are Talking* in 2010 was an extensive exploration of wallpapers made by 20th century artists, the first exhibition of its kind. It attracted over 100,000 visitors and a great deal of international Media attention - the Whitworth's reputation is spreading fast.

To find out more about The Whitworth Art Gallery visit:

www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth

You can be a part of the new Whitworth by contributing to the public appeal. If you'd like to donate you can use a printable donation form found online: www.manchester.ac.uk/donate just write 'Whitworth Art Gallery' under 'other'. Or you can donate online by selecting 'Whitworth Art Gallery' in the 'designation' drop down menu. If you'd like to speak to someone about a gift or legacy please contact Jo Beggs, the Whitworth's Head of Development on 0161 275 7474 or jo.beggs@manchester.ac.uk

Now Maria is well on the way to achieving her goals. In 2010 the Whitworth welcomed 172,442 visitors overall, the highest number ever recorded in its 121-year history and an increase of almost 100% since she took over.

The Whitworth has been awarded £250,000 by the Clore Duffield Foundation to fund an educational art studio, a light flexible space on the ground floor of one of the two new wings which will surround the Whitworth's art garden.

In addition the Whitworth has scooped this year's prestigious £10,000 Lever Prize award. And there was recently an £8 million award by the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the £12 million building project. This has now begun thanks to MUMA (McInnes Usher McKnight Architects) who have worked with the Whitworth and the University's Directorate of Estates to develop a design to meet the diverse needs of the Whitworth's collections and visitors.

Alumni in the spotlight



Crime novelist makes TV hit

Bestselling crime fiction writer and poet **Sophie Hannah (MA Novel Writing 1995)** has written six crime novels and is soon to publish a seventh, *Kind of Cruel*. Her books have sold hundreds of thousands of copies and have been translated into over 22 languages. She won the Daphne Du Maurier Festival Short Story Competition and has been shortlisted for many awards including the Independent Booksellers' Book of the Year Award

Earlier this year Sophie's crime novel *The Point of Rescue* was adapted for television in a two-part drama, *Case Sensitive*, on ITV. It was a hit with viewers and a massive 5.4 million tuned-in.

Sophie's first book of poems, *The Hero and the Girl Next Door*, was published when she was aged 24. Her work has been compared to the humorous verse of Wendy Cope and Lewis Carroll and it is studied from secondary school to university level across the UK.

Sophie has a strong family connection with Manchester too – her father Norman Geras is a former Professor of Politics here.

Business King of *The Times*

Ian King (BA History 1989) former *Mancunian* editor and now award-winning financial reporter, has been appointed Business and City Editor for *The Times*.

Ian cut his teeth in journalism while at Manchester. He took a year out of his degree to work as Editor of the student newspaper *Mancunian*. After graduation, he began to hone his skills in the financial sector as a Business Analyst for *Midland Bank*. The call of journalism returned and three years later he took a Postgraduate Diploma in Newspaper Journalism and began as a City Reporter at the *Daily Telegraph*. After a three-year stint at *The Guardian*, Ian moved to *The Mail on Sunday* as Senior Financial Correspondent, staying for two years before becoming Business Editor at *The Sun* in 2000. While at *The Sun*, Ian was named Financial Journalist of the year at the *British Press Awards* and Business Journalist of the year by the *London Press Club*. In 2008, Ian joined *The Times* as Deputy Business Editor.

Ian said: "To me, Business and City Editor of *The Times* is just about the most exciting job in journalism. I feel doubly fortunate that my appointment comes at a fascinating time for both the UK and the world economies."



Oscars call to walk red carpet

Ian Barnes (BSc Electronics 1990) received an Oscar nomination for his film *Wish 143* in the 'Best Short (live-action)' category.

The film is about a teenage boy diagnosed with terminal cancer. But when visited by a make-a-wish charity, he doesn't ask for the usual drive in an F1 car, or to meet his favourite footballer – but to lose his virginity.

Ian and his team scraped together funds from the BBC Film Network, the arts foundation *Lighthouse* and *Working Title Films*. Together with personal loans and savings, they gathered around £15,000, just enough for four days' filming.

The modest budget did not diminish the team's ambition. Ian

said: "I always thought that we might have a slim chance of getting to the Oscars because the script was so powerful, but nothing prepares you for the news of nomination. The adrenaline rush is unbelievable and lasts for days!"

Without studio bosses to answer to, Ian approached his dream cast list and all the actors said yes, including Jim Carter, famous for his recent appearance on ITV's *Downton Abbey* alongside another Manchester alumnus Rob James-Collier who, played the scheming butler Thomas.

Wish 143 is the latest of Ian's long list of television credits including *Holby City*, *Casualty* and *Wild at Heart* and his first short film *Swing* from 2002.



Rocking the Commonwealth Games

Mike Rock (LLB Law 2010) scooped a Silver medal in the men's 200m Butterfly final at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi in October 2010.

Finishing closely behind South Africa's Chad Guy Dertrand le Clos, with a time of one minute 57.15 seconds, the talented swimmer achieved his first ever medal at a major tournament.

Mike said: "I think it's been a great year in two ways – I've finished my degree and I've managed to come here and put in a great performance at a major meeting. It's my first medal so hopefully I can get some good training behind me now and we'll see great things in the future."

Mike said he was glad he chose Manchester: "The course was great and the opportunities provided by the Athletic Union and the facilities in the City like the *Aquatics Centre* are excellent." His sports scholarship came in useful too. "It allowed me to claim £500 for training and travelling costs and included free access to physiotherapy and strength and conditioning training; it's really worthwhile for athletes who want to study here."

Delhi wasn't Mike's first taste of glory. At the 2009 'Duel in the Pool', he was cheered on by his home crowd to produce the race of a lifetime, beating Michael Phelps, the world's greatest-ever swimmer, by a body length at the *Manchester Aquatics Centre*. "Manchester has been a great experience for me. I'm still living here and I love the City, even though I'm from Liverpool!"

To read more alumni profiles please visit the alumni news section on the alumni community website *Your Manchester Online*. There is also a 'distinguished alumni library' which lists some of our eminent alumni.
www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester



Man behind Belfast rebirth

The bright, lively, cosmopolitan City of Belfast today is far removed from the grey and troubled days of the mid-1970s when **Peter McNaney (LLB Law 1980)** left its shores to study in Manchester. And little did Peter know that he would be returning to play an important role in turning the City's fortunes around as Chief Executive of Belfast City Council. Over the last 15 years, Belfast has attracted more than £5 billion of investment and increased its tourist numbers from 400,000 in 1994 to 10 million last year. It has also seen the biggest urban redevelopment in Europe.

One exciting project Peter is currently involved in is celebrating Belfast's most famous creation, the 'Titanic'. 2012 marks the centenary of its maiden voyage and a £90 million Titanic visitor attraction is being built in the City's Titanic Quarter to celebrate the City's proud industrial heritage.

The Lonely Planet Guide has described the City as one of its top-ten destinations and Belfast has become firmly established for city breaks with its lively atmosphere, gourmet food, varied entertainment and its rich heritage and tradition. Its young population and thriving local music scene have contributed to MTV announcing that it will hold its *European Music Awards* in the City in November.

Peter graduated from the School of Law in 1980; he thoroughly enjoyed the time he spent in Manchester, the many friendships made and recollects many fond memories of life in Hulme Hall and sporting victories in the Stopford Cup against rivals from Woolton and Allen Hall.

After graduation, Peter joined the *Ford Motor Company* as a graduate recruit, where he stayed for two years. He returned to Belfast, qualified as a Solicitor and joined the Council in 1985, becoming City Solicitor in 1994 and Chief Executive in 2002.

Over the last ten years, Peter has witnessed many changes in his home City and

comments that many of the political power-sharing arrangements that underpin the Northern Ireland Assembly were trail-blazed within the Council.

Peter works in the recently refurbished City Hall, which takes pride of place in the city centre. The building celebrated its centenary recently and has undergone a £12 million refurbishment. The building is one of the most impressive civic buildings in the UK and is a splendid expression of Victorian optimism.

Many other alumni are found at the helm of City, District and Metropolitan Borough Councils in the UK including:

Geoff Alltimes CBE (BSc Psychology 1970), London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham Council

Eamonn Boylan (BA English and American Studies 1982), Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council

Alison Broom (BSc Geography 1981), Maidstone Borough Council

Kersten England (BA History 1982), York City Council

Alan Goodrum (MA Arts 1977), Chiltern District Council

Kevin Lavery (BA Town and Country Planning 1981), Cornwall Council

Sheila Lock (PG Cert Social Work 1989), Leicester City Council

Dr David McNulty (PhD 1981), Surrey County Council

Derek Myers (BA Econ 1976), London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Council

Jonathan Rouse (LLB Law 1989), London Borough of Croydon Council

Adam Wilkinson (MBA 1991), Derby City Council

Your Manchester Fund

Together we're shaping
the world of tomorrow

For many years Manchester has been at the forefront of the drive to bring students from non-traditional backgrounds into university. With access to higher education remaining a key priority on campus innovative activities such as the Manchester Access Programme have never been more important



Mapping out a brighter future

As university tuition fees are set to rise to as much as £9,000 per year, huge efforts are being made to ensure that less affluent students are not discouraged from attending university.

Our flagship access programme is the Manchester Access Programme (MAP) which this year saw a record number of students go on to higher education. Around 170 of these are expected to start here at Manchester in September 2011.

The programme is designed to help our student recruitment teams to identify and support outstanding students from the Greater Manchester area, many of whom wish to study locally. And our alumni are playing a vital supporting role.

Julian Skyrme, Head of Undergraduate Recruitment and Widening Participation, oversees its development: "Each year we launch a huge local campaign to recruit students across Greater Manchester from backgrounds where there is little tradition of higher education participation. When they

join the scheme, MAP gives them the chance to demonstrate their potential and academic curiosity through a series of campus-based activities and tasks, completed during the sixth form. These include an academic assignment, produced with the support of an academic tutor at the University, one-to-one mentoring and a three-day University Life Conference where students get a real insight into what it's like to live and study on campus."

MAP graduate and *Opportunity Manchester* Scholar Ashley Wallis says he was uncertain that university was for him, and without scholarship support may have been unable to focus on his study. Ashley attended Winstanley College in Wigan and studied Maths and Computing. He's now in the second year of his Computer Science degree.



Ashley Wallis,
Opportunity Manchester Scholar,
BSc Computer Science

"Before I joined the programme I wasn't sure whether I wanted to go to university after college. My parents didn't go to university but had always wanted me to.

"My perception of university had always been that it was really formal and strict and that there wasn't much help once you got there, but my experiences on MAP have totally changed that.

"I first heard about MAP when a co-ordinator came and gave a talk at our college. I learned about the different means of pastoral support for students, like wardens in the halls of residence and academic advising from course tutors.

"I really enjoyed the academic assignment. I had never written at that level before but my MAP tutor was really helpful, guiding me how to research, structure and write a university-standard essay.

"The thing I enjoyed most about it was meeting other like-minded people who also wanted to go to uni.

"MAP made me realise just what a great opportunity studying at university was and I decided Manchester was the one for me.

"Financially I'm managing well. I was awarded the *Opportunity Manchester* Scholarship, the Manchester Guarantee Bursary and the Hulme Hall Accommodation Bursary.

"In my first year I enjoyed each aspect of the course, particularly programming in the labs which was highly interactive plus my first year exams went very well – I achieved First Class honours for the year as a whole!

"When I graduate I plan to go to California and work in Silicon Valley in the area of developing computer hardware – I can't wait!"

Ashley wanted to say a special thank you to his scholarship donors: "This money helps people attend and enjoy university who otherwise may not have the option. The scholarship has allowed me to thrive in my degree so far. Thank you so much for allowing me and future students to have this opportunity."

Opportunity Manchester Scholarship

Alumni give vital support for MAP students

Students who successfully complete the Manchester Access Programme and take up a place at Manchester are eligible to receive the *Opportunity Manchester* Scholarship – currently £1,750 for each year of study. The scholarship is generously supported by alumni and friends of the University through *Your Manchester Fund*. In September 2010, 114 new students were awarded the *Opportunity Manchester* Scholarship for their achievements.

There are currently 271 students in receipt of the *Opportunity Manchester* Scholarship across all subject areas at the University.

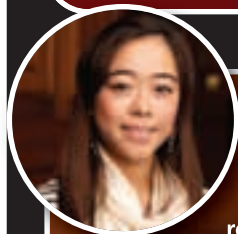
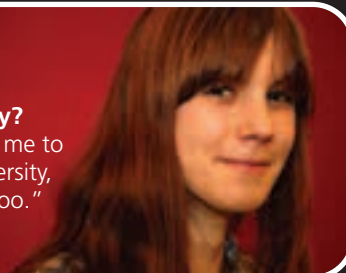
Thank you to all of our generous donors; you are helping to broaden access to university for the brightest students who might not have otherwise considered higher education.

Jordan Estill

BA Language, Literacy and Communication

What made you decide to study at this University?

"The course is exclusive to Manchester and will allow me to become a Special Needs teacher. As it's my local university, being able to walk from home is a great advantage, too."



Fiona Pang

BA Criminology

What does it mean to you to receive a

scholarship, supported by Manchester alumni?

"I am very thankful to be lucky enough to receive an *Opportunity Manchester* Scholarship. Alumni generosity has made such a huge difference to my time at this University – I no longer have to worry about fees and money to buy my textbooks!

"To receive such a scholarship shows that my determination, enthusiasm and hard work has all paid off. The scholarship is an achievement that I take pride in. I hope that in the future alumni can help others in the way they have all helped me."

David Cummings

BSc Chemistry with Industrial Experience

What do you hope to achieve in the future?

"I'm thinking of one of two career paths; either looking to cure diseases by designing new pharmaceuticals and medicines or joining a company in the energy sector and trying to solve some of the major problems facing 21st century science.

"To alumni I would say: I aim to make a difference with my degree and, with this scholarship, you have given me an opportunity to make something of myself and contribute to society – quite simply you have given me a shot at following my dreams. Without the scholarship I most likely would have not been able to attend university."



Milan Chande, BDS Dentistry

How do you feel MAP has helped you?

"MAP was very useful, especially the individual project assignment. I completed an essay which was very closely linked to Dentistry, the career I want to pursue. The project enhanced my knowledge and made me more passionate about the subject."

If you would like to support MAP graduates like Ashley, read more about *Your Manchester Fund*:
www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchestersfund

Professor Alan Gilbert

The University community mourned the untimely death of Professor Alan Gilbert last year. Professor Gilbert was President and Vice-Chancellor of The University of Manchester from its inauguration on 1 October 2004 to 30 June 2010



A Tribute by Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell

**Professor Alan D Gilbert AO
(11 September 1944 – 27 July 2010)**

Professor Alan Gilbert continues to be deeply mourned and sadly missed by many in the higher education sector across the world, not least by his colleagues here in Manchester.

His untimely death at the age of 65 came less than a month after he retired as our inaugural President and Vice-Chancellor, a post he had held since the University was established on 1 October 2004.

Alan will always be remembered as a distinguished academic, a transformational leader, a highly effective defender of the value and importance of universities and a passionate supporter of students. Everything he did was characterised by a fundamental commitment to the creation, application and transmission of knowledge through open, disciplined and rational inquiry for the enduring betterment of humankind, and a passionate belief that universities must be a core and valued part of our societies.

His own academic career began with strong credentials. Born in Brisbane, he graduated with First Class honours from the Australian National University (ANU) in 1965 before completing an MA in History in 1967, also from ANU. He obtained a DPhil in Modern History from the University of Oxford in 1973. Before taking on management responsibilities as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) at the University of New South Wales in 1988, Alan had been a prominent teacher and history researcher, publishing widely on British and Australian themes, with a particular interest in the secularisation of modern Western culture. He was one of the four General Editors of *Australians: A Historical Library*, an eleven-volume history of Australia prepared for the 1988 Bicentenary. Throughout his later career in leadership in higher education he retained a real passion for scholarship and discovery and a true understanding of the values of those activities for wider society.

Alan served as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Tasmania (1991 to 1995), and as

Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The University of Melbourne (1996 to 2004). This made him the ideal candidate to lead Britain's newest and largest university. Alan developed the vision for our University, the *Manchester 2015 Agenda*, which laid out a bold and ambitious plan and attracted widespread support and allegiance.

Alan's clarity of vision and inspirational leadership oversaw the physical transformation of our campus with more than £600 million of investment in its buildings and encouraged the University to mobilise the knowledge, talents and achievements of our community in the service of humanity.

Notable successes included a dramatic improvement in our research performance, as recorded in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise where we ranked third nationally for 'research power', and the establishment of new cross-disciplinary research institutes addressing a range of social and environmental challenges. Under

Professor Gilbert died in the early hours of 27 July 2010 in a Manchester hospital, having suffered from a serious illness for some months. His death came less than a month after his retirement from the University.

Mr Norman Askew, Chairman of the Board of Governors from 2004 to 2010, said: "Alan was responsible for shaping the vision for the new University and delivering the enormous success that it has enjoyed over its first six years. He will be greatly missed by me and all who worked with him."

Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell, President and Vice-Chancellor, said: "Alan's leadership has transformed the University. He will be remembered with enormous respect by everyone here and with great affection by all who worked with him closely. To me personally he was a remarkable friend and mentor, with incredible insight, integrity and intelligence. I will miss him."

University staff, friends and alumni from all over the world joined higher education, business and political leaders in contributing to a Book of Condolence, which was presented to Professor Gilbert's family.

A celebration of the former President's achievements was held on Foundation Day in October 2010, the sixth anniversary of the University's inauguration by Her Majesty The

Queen. The event was attended by Professor Gilbert's two daughters, who unveiled a portrait of their father commissioned by the University (pictured). Many colleagues and friends spoke of what impact Alan Gilbert had on them and the causes he supported. Among them was Tony Thornley, President of the North American Foundation for The University of Manchester (NAFUM).

In his final message to University staff, in the June 2010 issue of the staff magazine, Professor Gilbert expressed his "immense satisfaction" in the unfaltering momentum of the University since the merger in 2004, and thanked his colleagues for "their phenomenal achievement over the past six years."



Alan's leadership, we have seen the introduction of the Manchester Leadership Programme, which allows students to engage in supervised voluntary work, and the launch of a campus-wide initiative to transform and personalise the undergraduate student experience.

Alan came to Manchester with a wealth of experience internationally, including initiating and acting as inaugural Chair of *Universitas 21*, a network of leading international research universities, membership of a Reference Group advising the Australian Minister for Education, Science and Training about a major reform agenda, and he was a member of the UK Prime Minister's Science and Technology Council and a Commissioner in the UK Commission for Employment and Skills in 2007. Alan received a number of honorary doctorates and became an Officer of the Order of Australia (denoted with the letters AO) in January 2008.

Alan was a truly inspirational leader, a man of huge intellect, with a remarkable ability to think differently, yet always effectively, about

problems, challenges and opportunities. His honesty and integrity were beyond question – he always asked: "Is this the right thing to do? Is it fair and can we explain and defend our actions to others?" If the answer was ever no, he would argue for a different, if often more difficult, approach.

Alan was always well-informed and interesting. He was widely read and impressively knowledgeable – fascinated by the nuances and gossip of British culture and keen to talk of his personal passions. He was a competitive runner, a very informed and enthusiastic cricket supporter and a fan of Chelsea Football Club.

Alan cared passionately about students, believing them to be the life-blood of universities and his speech, which would have been presented at our sixth Foundation Day in October 2010, was entitled: "It's the students, stupid." He also vociferously defended the value and importance of freedom of enquiry and of speech, even when this meant confronting values and beliefs very different to our own, and at

times courted controversy from those less open-minded than himself.

An endearing memory for many of his colleagues will be Alan's great kindness and compassion for others, while his sense of humour and quick wit meant that he was always great company. He had a huge impact on so many people and will be deeply missed.

Professor Gilbert is survived by his wife, Ingrid, and their two daughters, Michelle and Fiona.

THE ALAN GILBERT MEMORIAL FUND



One of Alan Gilbert's key philanthropic aims was to provide strategically important training to graduates from developing countries. You can read more about the *Equity and Merit Scholarship* programme he personally led on page 44.

"Producing graduates who will be responsible global citizens is now more critical than ever. So it's right and proper to invest in skills, knowledge and educational opportunities in the most needy parts of the world."

THE ALAN GILBERT MEMORIAL FUND



Former President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert believed passionately in the vital role that education and research can play in helping to address ingrained issues of inequality and poverty. He embodied the University's long-term commitment to ensure that every talented individual, regardless of their social or economic background, should have the opportunity to better themselves through education.

Equity and Merit Scholarship Programme

Alan Gilbert became particularly focused on Africa, personally leading the development of one of Manchester's signature access programmes – the *Equity and Merit Scholarships*. This programme brings talented students from some of the world's poorest countries to Manchester, to pursue a postgraduate education that would otherwise not be available to them. Significantly, the Masters courses offered to *Equity and Merit* students are ones that are not available in their home country and address a particular skills gap or need. The successful scholars are all deeply committed to using the skills and knowledge they gain at Manchester for the future development of their continent.

How you can help

Alan Gilbert's vision for *Equity and Merit Scholarships* has created a flagship programme which has drawn wide acclaim. With your support we are now seeking to create a permanent endowment in his memory to fund at least one African student each year to pursue a Masters degree as part of the *Equity and Merit Scholarship Programme* (or future equivalents). We are seeking donations, large and small, towards a target of £500,000, from alumni, friends, staff and students who wish to play their part in marking Alan Gilbert's remarkable life. If you share Alan Gilbert's commitment to academic excellence and equality of opportunity, and would like to support the University's ambition to provide students from Africa with a Manchester-based education, please complete the donation form opposite, or visit www.manchester.ac.uk/alangilbertmemorial to donate online.

Meet some of our Equity and Merit Scholars

Robert Tabu Atibuni

Robert graduated in 2010 with an MSc in Thermal Power and Fluid Engineering. He is now working in the oil and energy sector in Uganda.

Robert says: "Very few engineers back in Uganda are experts in thermal power. My MSc degree will make me one of the best specialist consultants in thermal and hydro power generation, particularly important at this time when there is a serious power crisis in the country.

"The scholarship is the best gift I have ever received in my life. I hope that it won't stop with me but will continue every year so that many more scientists from Uganda and Africa can come to this University to further their careers for the benefit of Africa at large.

"I have no words to express my sincere and heartfelt appreciation to our donors other than to thank them for their kind generosity towards me and others to come from my country and Africa as a whole."



Winnie Nassolo

Winnie graduated in 2010 with an MSc in Medical and Diagnostic Virology. She now uses the skills that she acquired during her studies at Manchester to save the lives of fellow Ugandans.

Winnie says: "Uganda is faced with sudden virus-related pandemics and yet we hardly have more than three specialists nationally. My degree equipped me with skills that I can use to manage these epidemics and pandemics better

by employing more preventive measures.

"Among the many things I learned at Manchester, I have gained academic knowledge and have become equipped with new diagnostic skills and am now well-versed with new technology.

"Without the Scholarship I would never have been able to afford to study in such a prestigious University. I consider it a miracle to have been one of the chosen few to study here.

"In the longer term I aspire to work for the Centre for Disease Control in Uganda to apply the knowledge and skills I have gained to help develop the medical sector in my country. I also plan to share my acquired knowledge with other Ugandan medics by getting a teaching post in one of the medical schools."

THE ALAN GILBERT MEMORIAL FUND



The Equity and Merit Scholarship Programme was launched in 2007 to support the education of outstanding students from some of the world's poorest countries.

If you would like to mark the life of Alan Gilbert by giving to an endowment fund to support African students on the programme, please complete this gift form and return it to: **Development and Alumni Relations, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL**

You can also donate online by visiting www.manchester.ac.uk/alangilbertmemorial or call +44 (0) 161 275 2620 to discuss making a gift to the Alan Gilbert Memorial Fund.

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS AND RETURN TO THE ADDRESS ABOVE

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“I *have* to do this”

Overcoming hardship and discrimination, with support from our major gift donors Kanchha Sherpa crossed mountains to come to Manchester's School of Medicine

Kanchha Sherpa is the first person in Melamchhiyang ever to want to be a doctor. A remote village north of Kathmandu in the Nepali Himalayas, modern medicine is unknown and unused there. Its residents suffer from many easily-treatable illnesses and those who require hospital care have to trek, sometimes for days, to reach Kathmandu. For those too weak or too ill there is no alternative.

From an early age Kanchha knew this had to change, even though he came from a poor family who had moved to India to find work. He attended a newly established school where his potential was recognised by local headteacher Purna Gautam. Purna secured various sources of sponsorship to get Kanchha through his A-level equivalents - including support from Derbyshire-based charity, the Nepalese Children's Trust.

Kanchha excelled in his studies and passed the entrance exam for a medical school in Nepal. Unfortunately, when it came to the interview the questions all related to how Kanchha's family wealth could pay for the tuition fees. There the interview ended. Undeterred, and with the help of dedicated supporters at the Nepalese Children's Trust, Kanchha looked abroad to The University of Manchester's Medical School for an opportunity to fulfill his ambition.

His credentials and passion for the subject got him another interview, but he was almost thwarted by more narrow-mindedness as an airport official refused to let him board the plane without presentation of a \$1,000 cheque, claiming that Kanchha had no business studying abroad when he belonged to the 'Sherpa' caste. The phenomenal generosity of a family friend, and Kanchha's determination, got him on another flight: "It was at this point I said to myself 'I *have* to do this.'"

At the interview, to Kanchha's happy surprise, the questions all related to his interest in medicine rather than his family background.

Kanchha was filled with trepidation about leaving his small village to join a bustling metropolis. "I came here on my own and I felt a lot of fear as I didn't want to be lost out here, particularly in a large city like Manchester, without support, but that wasn't the case," Kanchha explained. "I have to say everyone at the University has been so nice to me, I can never forget what they have done."

Kanchha not only found a warm welcome also but great generosity from our

donor community. As well as the support he receives from the Nepalese Children's Trust, his study is supported by the kindness of donors, including Tim and Judith Sear (BA Commerce 1960 and BA Arts 1961, respectively) and the Don Hanson Foundation. The Sears' support for the University's *Equity and Merit Scholarship* Programme, which supports talented students from developing countries, was further boosted by the Government's Matched Funding scheme. This provided additional funds for Kanchha's tuition fees and living costs. The Don Hanson Foundation has also provided significant support to help Kanchha take medicine to the Himalayas.

Kanchha now enters his third year of study which will see him begin clinical

training for the first time; he's delighted to begin this stage of his degree and enthuses: "I have a great life here, but I look forward to returning home to set up a proper clinic for my village where I can do consultations, the way you do here. Then I want to visit the other villages around

Melamchhiyang and help the people there, to encourage them to be healthy and to see their doctor. This is the thing that drives me on."

If you would like to help Kanchha and other students like him, to fulfil their lifelong ambitions, you can do so through *Your Manchester Fund*. Please visit www.manchester.ac.uk/donate



Your Manchester Legacy

The generosity of Edward Ryley Langworthy's bequest to endow the Langworthy Professorship nearly 140 years ago has made a tremendous impact on this University and UK science. It has supported the work of no less than four Nobel laureates and most recently Professor Andre Geim, winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics 2010 (page 20). Since the Langworthy Chair was created many alumni have also chosen to support the University with a bequest or will gift. The University has seen that such donations, no matter how small or large, can provide a long-lasting advantage to maintaining and enhancing the very best standards in teaching, original research and scholarly investigation for current and future generations.

Some recent will gifts include:

Miss Jean Blackwood

BA French Studies 1953

Miss Blackwood's gift was for the School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures and is being used to further links with Europe.

Miss Elsie Farrar

BA History 1932

Miss Farrar's gift has enabled new History Scholarships to be created.

Mr Francis Henstock

LLB Law 1954

Mr Henstock's gift is being used for Parkinson's Disease research.

Mr Michael Fairley

BA Geography 1959

Mr Fairley left a gift for the overall benefit of the University.

Professor Sir Ted Smith

MSc 1972

Professor Smith was a former member of University staff. His gift is for undergraduate studentships and/or bursaries (in the names of Pat and Ted Smith) in engineering and science with a preference for the materials field.

Miss Mabel Tunstall

BA Arts 1938

Miss Tunstall's gift was for student hardship for female residents of Ashburne Hall.

The University would be honoured to be the selected partner for your far-sighted generosity and thanks you sincerely for considering this sort of support. If you would like a copy of the University's legacy brochure or would like to speak to someone in confidence about leaving a gift in your will to the University, please contact:

Louise Wardle, Research and Legacy Manager
tel +44 (0) 161 275 7230
email louise.wardle@manchester.ac.uk

Alumni can take up a special will-writing service* available via the internet at a discounted rate. This service is provided by specialists Irwin Mitchell Solicitors.

Please visit www.extranet.irwinmitchell.com/willsandtrusts/university_of_manchester

Rates are irrespective of whether the University is included in your will.

*Available to UK alumni only.

New Inheritance Tax relief from 2012 for will gifts*

Inheritance Tax (IHT) is paid on estates worth more than £325,000 and gifts in your will to spouses, civil partners (who have their permanent home in the UK) and gifts to charity are exempt. In the 2011 budget, the Government announced it wanted to encourage charitable giving and philanthropy. One of the ways it has done this is to reduce the rate of IHT by 10% if you donate 10% of your net estate (the value of the estate after deducting liabilities, IHT exemptions, reliefs and the nil rate band) to charity. This creates a 4% reduction in the final tax bill - the 10% discount is taken off the current 40% tax rate, reducing it to 36%. **This makes IHT less severe if 10% of your net estate is left to charity.** The extra tax relief is designed so that the benefit of the tax saving will be reflected in the bequests received by charities.

*Available to UK alumni only.

Alumni Benefits

Your Alumni Association membership card entitles you to over 40 special discounts and offers. See the alumni community website for a full listing and click on 'benefits and services': www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester
You will need to register if you have not already done so.
We have highlighted just a few of the benefits currently available below.

FORTHCOMING CAREERS FAIRS

Ethnic Diversity Fair

Wednesday 5 October 2011
Whitworth Hall, University of Manchester, M13 9PL

Engineering, Science and Technology Fair

Wednesday 19 October 2011
Manchester Central (The G-MEX Centre), Manchester M2 3GX

Finance, Business and Management Fair

Thursday 20 October 2011
Manchester Central (The G-MEX Centre), Manchester M2 3GX

Law Fair

Tuesday 22 November 2011
Manchester Central (The G-MEX Centre), Manchester M2 3GX

Postgraduate Study Fair

Wednesday 23 November 2011
Manchester Central (The G-MEX Centre), Manchester M2 3GX



www.manchester.ac.uk/careers/fairs

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Alumni can join now for just £49. Please telephone 028 9039 3990 or visit www.openfairways.com/joinnow quoting 'MAN2011'.

BUPA PRIVATE HEALTH COVER

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