

unilife

The free magazine for The University of Manchester

**Manchester arts:
reaching around the world**



Message from the President



At the Alan Gilbert Learning Commons

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



Meeting Staff Volunteer of the Year Lenox Green

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This will lead to a transformational change to our campus which not only delivers a single site campus,

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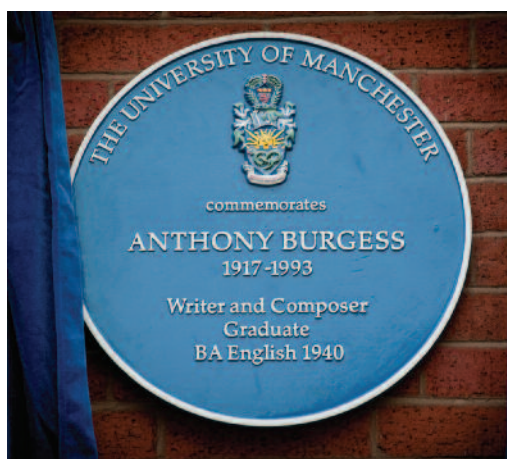
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Visiting the teaching labs in the James Chadwick Building

but also includes a programme of estates development that will impact on almost every area of the University for staff, students and visitors.

Planning for ten years ahead is always difficult - never more so than in the current climate of change to universities and the wider economy.

Hence, we have developed more detailed plans and funding for the first five to six years of our vision, including the relocation of the North Campus and development of many other priorities for the development of our estate and ongoing maintenance.

This first phase of our Estates MasterPlan, requires funding of about £700 million, and includes a continuing investment in the North Campus during

the transitional period. Our Estates MasterPlan and the more detailed plans for the first six years were reviewed and approved recently by our Board of Governors and by the Board Finance Committee. So, we will now proceed.

We always have to make very difficult choices about how we deploy our limited resources, never more so than in this current period of wider economic uncertainty.

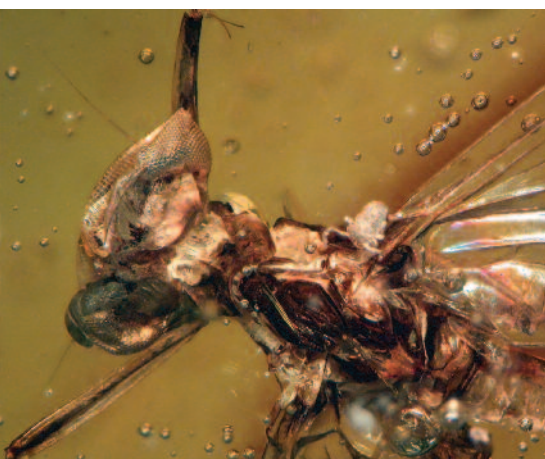
But to 'sit tight and wait' will certainly not achieve our goals. Hence we must move forward with our Estates MasterPlan. We have, of course, built in major points of possible 'pause', which may be needed, should our financial circumstances change, but the plans presented to the Board were based

on conservative estimates about income and assumed no income from disposals of vacated buildings or land.

Even these ambitious plans cannot deal with all of our estates needs, but they do take us forward in a time of economic difficulty with plans that I believe are not only deliverable, but are also essential for the next phase of achieving our ambitious goals.

Further details of our Estates MasterPlan can be seen on page 5 of this issue of Unilife and are being communicated across the University.

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



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University lands global ambassador role

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

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

Welsh Minister appoints Manchester professor

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

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



Honour for iconic author

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

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

The son of a music-hall dancer and a shopkeeper, Burgess grew up in Harpurhey and Moss Side. Some of his earliest poems were published in the University student magazine 'The Serpent', including a love poem to his first wife and fellow student, Llewela Jones.

However, other than a plaque outside his flat in Monaco – where he lived for 17 years – no other

monument exists to the world-famous author, who died in 1993.

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

"So I'm delighted that the University has decided to install the first British public monument to him."

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

- Read our special arts feature on page14.

Turner masterpiece reclaims glory



J.M.W. Turner, *Figures on the Beach at Margate (The Phantom Ship)* c. 1840. Whitworth Art Gallery.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Manchester 2020 Vision leads to £1 billion campus MasterPlan

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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



New health chief

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

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

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

Unique device brings the house down

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

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

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

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



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

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

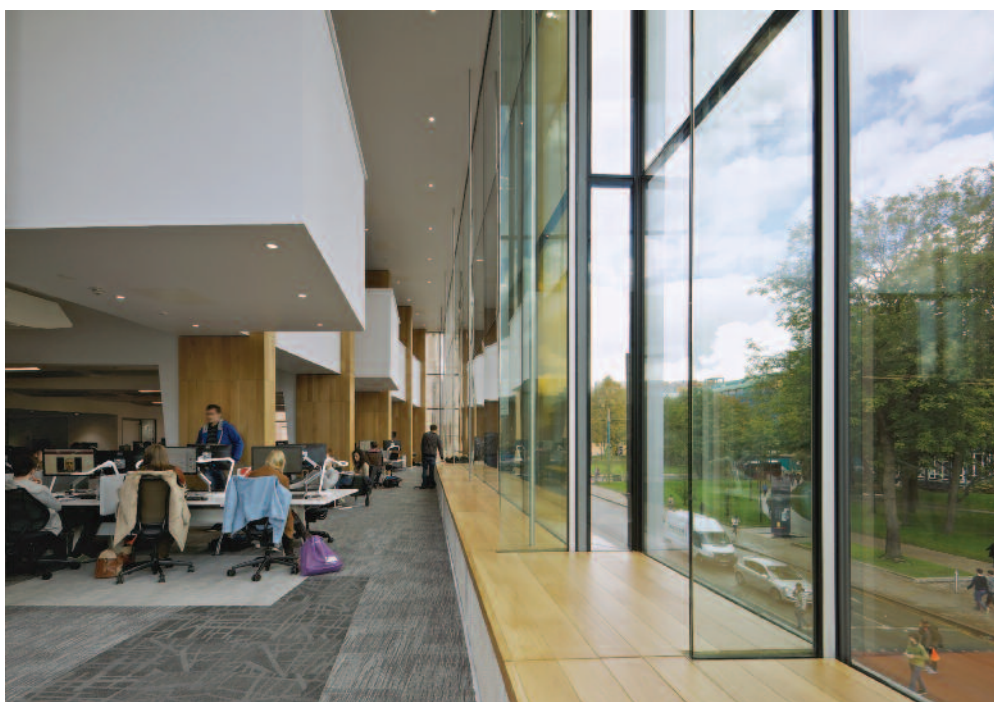
The event, hosted by the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI), involved a series of interactive – and often messy – activities designed to inform and enthuse both young and old about the cardiovascular system.

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

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

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

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



Amazing space

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

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

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

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

One student summed it up best by saying: "I'm proud to be at Manchester – great work!"



An artist's impression of the new cancer research centre

Multimillion pound boost for cancer research

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

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

The MCRC is a partnership between the University, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust and Cancer Research UK, and the new building has been designed to help researchers and clinicians work

together to make sure that discoveries made in the labs can be used to develop new personalised treatments for cancer patients.

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

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

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



Kostya's carbon story

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

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

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

A quartet of big hitters

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Policy@Manchester will seek to capitalise on all that."

Honours from maths to music

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

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

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

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

The School of Mathematics hosted a lecture in honour of Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, the former University academic celebrating her centenary and receiving one of the honorary degrees. Professor Sir Martin Taylor, of Merton College, Oxford, discussed



Top (l-r) John Timpson, Mick Hucknall, Sir Fazle Hasan Abed. Bottom (l-r) Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, Sir Philip Craven

the oddity of parity, in tribute to Dame Kathleen’s research on mathematical ‘magic squares’.

Born in Manchester, Dame Kathleen took her degree at Oxford University and has since combined her

research with politics as Mayor of Manchester. She is passionately committed to encouraging interest in mathematics amongst young people. Deaf since the age of eight, she is an inspiring role model to many.



Andrew Gray and the Splendid Leaf Frog

Alumni hear frog’s tale

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

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

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

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

Awards and successes

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

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

Jodrell Bank has a double celebration. Its Planet Pavilion Cafe has been named by The Guardian as

one of Cheshire’s ten best budget restaurants. And its 2011 Live from Jodrell Bank Festival won the Best Outdoor Event at the Event Awards. The event, headlined by The Flaming Lips, was the internationally renowned astronomical research centre’s first ever music festival.

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

Double first for access

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

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

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

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

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



Kamran Hussain in the lecture hall

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

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

Kamran is receiving financial support from the University's North American Foundation, which supports a number of students on the programme.

Julian Skyrme, Head of Social Responsibility and Widening Participation, says: "I am delighted that we have set these two new records in what has been a challenging year for undergraduate recruitment."

School opens the doors on new home

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

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

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

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

"This ambitious and modern building gives chemical engineering staff and students the environment they deserve. As one of a small group of elite chemical engineering



President and Vice-Chancellor Nancy Rothwell takes a tour

departments within the UK, it is vital we have the facilities to match.

"Our broad research base in which engineers and scientists work seamlessly together enables us to study the design, operation and integration of different complex

systems – particularly industrial, biological and instrumentation – and apply chemical engineering in a 21st century context.

"The new building will significantly enhance the student experience – allowing us to further develop cutting

edge teaching methods underpinned by state-of-the-art laboratory equipment coupled with a modern, enabling learning environment."



ANCIENT WORLDS

Fresh look at Ancient Worlds

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

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

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

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

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

Visit: www.ancientworlds.co.uk

Meet...

**Abdul Pathan, Multimedia Technician,
University Language Centre**



What is the best part of your job?

Being in the University Language Centre is a bit like the United Nations in that we meet people from all parts of the world.

What is the hardest part of your job?

We provide a wide range of foreign TV through TVoIP, and when channels disappear it's a bit of a headache to get a permit for roof access, due to health and safety issues.

Which teacher inspired you the most at school?

My history teacher. He encouraged me a lot during my early education and he had a lot of patience.

What is your proudest moment?

The birth of my granddaughter, Amelia.

What's your favourite karaoke song?

It's Elvis Presley's 'Always On My Mind'. Although I must say I haven't yet had the courage to perform the song live!

If you could give any advice to your 16-year-old self, what would you say?

Pick the subjects you enjoy most and work hard to accomplish your goal.

What's the one gadget you can't live without?

My mobile phone – I feel lost without it.

What's your favourite film?

I love all the James Bond movies, but there's also a Bollywood classic called 'Jodha Akbar' that's my favourite.

What is on your ipod?

I don't have an ipod, but if I did it would have my Arabic lessons on it.

Your bookcase?

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

Your TV?

I particularly enjoy BBC4 documentaries about the planet and wildlife.

Who would you invite to your dream dinner party?

I would invite Mohammed Ali and Nelson Mandela.

What law would you repeal?

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

And what law would you bring in?

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

What's your favourite holiday destination?

I love India: it's a very colourful place, the people are great, the food's amazing, and everything is cheap.

What three things would you need if you were stranded on a desert island?

I'd say a prayer mat, a fish cookbook, and a satellite mobile phone.

What's your biggest vice?

Getting up late in the morning! I run on Abdul Standard Time.

How would you like to be remembered?

I hated no-one and helped anyone in need.

Tell us the secret to life – in six words.

Be content, thankful and not regretful.

If you could have any job in the world, what would it be?

Believe it or not, this one. I'm a 'techie' who works with AV technology all day – what could be better?



Picture this

These are just some of the spectacular images which touted for your vote as part of the University's involvement in the Manchester Science Festival.

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

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

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

See www.manchesterimagesofresearch.co.uk and www.manchestersciencefestival.com





Dr Jacky Finch

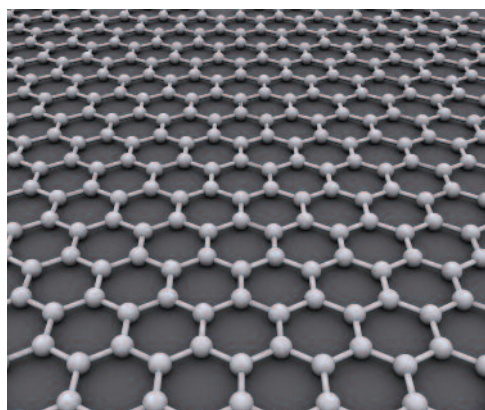
Walk like an Egyptian

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

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

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

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



The graphene-paved roadmap

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

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

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



The mayfly and its springtail passenger

The 16 million-year-old stowaway

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

Using the scan, Dr David Penney from the Faculty of Life Sciences was able to identify the animal as a

tiny springtail that appears to have been riding on the back of the mayfly.

Due to the nervous nature of springtails, it's very difficult to observe their behaviour, but evidence of them using a mayfly for transport explains why springtails are so widespread today.



Manchester leads heart attack detection trial

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

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

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

Plain façade hides a colourful history of high notes

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

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

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

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

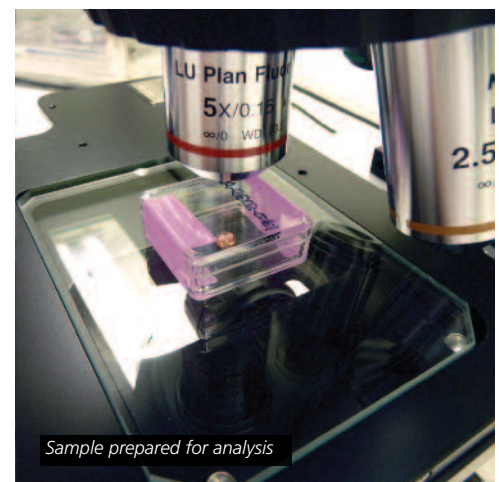
Dr Connelly says: “Because they do not look like churches or cathedrals, the public aren't aware of those that remain at all – especially those which have been converted into other uses such as bars and pubs.

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

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

Did you know...

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



Sample prepared for analysis

Asteroid fragments hint at the origin of the solar system

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

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

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

Fashion industry blamed for horrors of Italian sweatshops

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

Dr Montero Bressan, from the School of Environment and Development, says the state authorities are more concerned about Italy's economic problems than the conditions of the workers, who produce clothing for well-known

brands on the British high street as well as 'high end' fashion houses.

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

He called for new laws in Italy to force companies at the top of the production chain to be made legally responsible for the working conditions in their subcontractors' workshops.



Celebrating the arts in Manchester

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

The city of Manchester has always had a strong arts scene, one that has time and again taken the rest of the world by storm.

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

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

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

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

The arts are mightier than the sword...

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

Antoine – now able to use his arm – is back at work in the DR Congo.

"People want to celebrate their lives," James says. "They want to forget everything going on around them: despite everything they want to sing and dance on stage."

Closer to home

The Martin Harris Centre – which celebrates its tenth anniversary next year – helps to make a difference to people closer to home.

Famous names such as Colm Toibin, John Hegley, Martin Amis and Clive James have graced this venue with its 350-seat concert hall, 150-seat studio theatre and electroacoustic music studio.

It aims to make sure our students have a great learning experience, as well as being a well-used venue for University staff, students and visitors.

Manager Mark Woolstencroft says: "We have built strong relationships with Manchester Science Festival, Psappha, the BBC, the Hallé, Manchester International Festival, Manchester Pride and Manchester Literature Festival to name a few. Building relationships with these bodies means students get to work with and 'rub shoulders' with professionals.

"My ambition is to bring more of our local community into the Centre to both perform and watch and listen to what we do."

The premiere of Professor of Music Barry Cooper's reconstructed movement of a Beethoven string quartet – written when the composer



was 28 and lost in 1799 – is a great example of the Centre hitting both its academic and outreach targets.

Barry worked hard to bring the fragments together to produce "something like – not exactly like, but pretty similar to – what Beethoven wrote." The audience experienced the music for its beauty and sound aesthetics, perhaps not knowing the research that it had taken to bring it to the concert hall.

Again closer to home, we have the Manchester Histories Festival (MHF), of which the University is a major partner.

Its 10,000 visitors at this year's 108 events, performances, talks, tours and exhibitions mainly came from Greater Manchester (84%) with others from around the North West, London, Bristol, Glasgow, Dublin, Exeter, Wales and Norwich.

Many were new audiences for heritage events and over 90% of the visitors gave their events four or five stars.

Festival Chairman Professor Hannah Barker says: "Festivals like this help people engage with their communities and the world around them. It gives them a sense of

identity and belonging that is crucial, particularly to marginalised communities. They may think that history is not for them, that it's for 'posh' people, but these events show people there are other opportunities and other things they can do in their lives.

"One event, the Community and Schools History Prize in the Town Hall, had kids from Gorton and Wythenshawe performing on stage, which was really exciting for them and the audience as well. That's what the city's venues are for."

From local voices to global

The University's Language departments have enjoyed their fair share of public engagement too.

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

able to communicate more meaningfully with their sister school in Beijing.

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

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

And it's not just Chinese - the School's work includes Multilingual Manchester, a web-based archive to

document, protect and support more than 100 languages spoken in what is one of Europe's most diverse cities. Languages spoken in Manchester include Yoruba, Urdu, Yiddish, Kurdish, Romani, Aramaic, Armenian, French, Punjabi, Bengali, Somali and Polish.

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

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

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

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



Our impact in the workplace

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

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

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

Programme Director Dr Simon Parry says: "The students get a feeling for the sector, how different organisations work and how they can apply their academic knowledge, while the venues get energetic

students with lots of ideas and access to some of the research being carried out at the University.

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

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

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

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

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

Toby says the University had "a lasting impact on both my career and my



Actor Toby Jones

general outlook", which has helped him overcome the doubts and fears associated with showbusiness.

Languages alumnus Sophie Raworth is similarly pleased she chose Manchester. Sophie, who graduated in French and

German in 1991 and is now anchorwoman for the BBC's leading news programmes, recalls: "I chose Manchester for the course, the city and the social life. I'm very glad I did."



Our new School

The University is continuing to build its legacy in the arts.

Its new School of Arts, Languages and Cultures is one of the largest groupings of students, teachers and researchers in the arts and languages anywhere in the world.

Head of School Professor Jeremy Gregory says: "We believe that the range and diversity of our interests and expertise bring real benefits to everyone who works and studies here.

"The School provides an exceptional intellectual and practical space in which to foster interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary work between our seventeen subject areas, and offers all our students opportunities to take courses outside their core discipline."

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

THURSDAY 10TH JANUARY 2013

UNIVERSITY VENUES INTRODUCTION DAY

Learn more about the venues and accommodation available to you at the University



Staff House Conference Centre



Chancellors Hotel & Conference Centre



Renold Building



Dalton Ellis Hall

KEEP IT ON CAMPUS!



To register your interest, please contact
Conference Sales Office on 64100 or email conference@manchester.ac.uk

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

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www.manchester.ac.uk/foodoncampus



Mummy mask made of gilded and painted cartonnage (linen and plaster), to be placed over the head of a wrapped mummy. Ptolemaic Egypt. c Paul Cliff

What's On

Manchester Museum

NEW ANCIENT WORLDS GALLERIES

Discovering Archaeology
Egyptian Worlds
Exploring Objects

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

All exhibitions at The Manchester Museum are FREE

Alan Turing and Life's Enigma,
until 18 Nov

Breed: The British and Their Dogs,
until April 2013

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

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Every other Tuesday, 13 and 27 Nov, 12.15-1.15pm and 1.45-2.45pm

Baby Explorers
Sensory play for babies

Sat 17 Nov, 11 – 4pm, drop-in
Big Saturday: Ancient Worlds

Fri 30 Nov, 10.30 – 11.30am and 11.30 – 12.30pm, Free

Magic Carpet: Egyptian Tales
For under five's and their carers

MUSEUM MEETS: MANCHESTER MUSEUM'S ADULT PROGRAMME

Weds 7 Nov, 6 – 8pm

"Senwosret is Satisfied": Life at Kahun

Thursdays 8, 22 Nov, 6 Dec, 10, 12 Jan, 7 Feb, 6-8pm

Wildlife Recording in Greater Manchester (6 week course)

Thurs 15 Nov, 6.30 – 9pm, drop-in

After Hours: Ancient Worlds

Weds 21 Nov, 3 – 4.30pm

Showcase Lecture:

Chemical Imaging of Art, Archaeology and Palaeontology
with Phil Manning

Sat 24 Nov, 2 – 4pm

Urban Naturalist: Building Stones Scavenger

Sat 24 Nov, 10-5pm and Sun 25 Nov, 10-4pm

Wildlife Photography Course

Opening times

Open: Tues-Sat 10am-5pm

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

The Manchester Museum,
Oxford Road, Manchester
0161 275 2648

www.manchester.ac.uk/museum
Follow us on Twitter @McrMuseum

www.facebook.com/ManchesterMuseum

Whitworth Art Gallery

Building on Things: Images of Ruin and Renewal until 6 Jan 2013

Featuring works by Piranesi, Canaletto and Whistler alongside Tacita Dean, Patrick Caulfield and Anne Desmet.

Jane and Louise Wilson until Jan 2013

Featuring the world premiere of their new film *The Toxic Camera* alongside Atomgrad (Nature Abhors a Vacuum).

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

Aisha Khalid: Larger Than Life until Jan 2013

Examining the relationship between hand and machine embroidery.

ADULT EVENTS

Each Tues, 11 – 12.30pm, Free

Tuesday Talks

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

Yoga

Thurs 8 Nov, 6.30pm; (booking essential)

Andrew Graham Dixon Lecture

Caravaggio: A Life Sacred and Profane
Lecture £12.50 (students free with ID card).
Lecture and Dinner £48.

Sat 10 and Sun 11 Nov, 11 – 4pm, £35 (booking essential)

Serious About Art Weekend Course
Textiles as Contemporary Art

Sat 10 Nov, 2.30 – 4.30pm, Free

Cuillin Sound in Concert

Part 1: 2.30 – 3.15pm

Part 2: 3.45 – 4.30pm

Sun 11 and Sun 25 Nov, 12.30 – 1.15pm, Free

Performance by RNCM Students

Weds 14 and Sat 17 Nov, 1 – 3pm, £5, (booking essential)

Crafternoon Tea

Fri 16 Nov, 6.15pm, £6 (students free with student ID)

Movie Night: West Side Story

Sat 24 Nov, 1 – 3pm, Free
Alternative Camera Club

Sat 24 Nov, 2.30pm, Free
Poets and Players

Tues 27 Nov, 11 – 12.30pm, Free

Tuesday Talk with Jane and Louise Wilson

Weds 28 Nov, 2 – 5pm, Free

Apocalypse Now: Thinking About Ruins and Radiation

Fri 30 Nov, 6.15pm, £6 (students free with student ID)

Movie Night: Breakfast at Tiffany's

FAMILY EVENTS

Every Weds, 10.15-11.15am and 11.30-12.30pm, Free

Art Baby

Every Mon, 10.30 – 11.30am and 11.30am – 12.30pm, Free

Toddlerastic under 5s

Every Sun, 1.30 – 3.30pm, Free

Colourful Sundays

Fun drop-in creative workshops.

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

Opening times

Mon-Sat 10am – 5pm, Sun 12 – 4pm
FREE Admission.

Booking line 0161 275 7450

The Whitworth Art Gallery

Oxford Road, Manchester

0161 275 7450

email whitworth@manchester.ac.uk

www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth

Gig Guide

Manchester Academy 1, 2 and 3

Tues 6 Nov	Rock Sound Riot 2012 feat. Billy Talent + Awolnation - £17 Punch Brothers - £15
Weds 7 Nov	Claudia Brucken - £18.50 Gorira + Klone + Trepalium - £14 30H13 - £13.50
Thurs 8 Nov	Live Evil "Into The Dark 2012" feat Ange Witch + Enforcer + Age of Taurus - £15 And So I Watch You from Afar - £9 (POSTPONED) Tech N9NE - £17.50
Fri 9 Nov	JJ Grey + Mofro + David Ford - £15
Sat 10 Nov	Devlin + Krept & Konan + Saving Grace - £11.50
Mon 12 Nov	Architects - £15 Alabama Shakes - £15 (Sold Out)
Tues 13 Nov	Ryan Bingham - £15 Ladyhawke - £14
Weds 14 Nov	The Revival Tour 2012 feat. Chuck Ragan + Jay Malinowski + Cory Branan + Rocky Votolato + Emily Barker - £14 Blood on the Dancefloor + It Boys - £8
Thurs 15 Nov	Royal Republic - £8 Parkway Drive - £16
Fri 16 Nov	Seether - £14.50 Sham 69 - £12 Passion Pit - £13.50
Sat 17 Nov	Absolute Bowie - £12 Jake Bugg - £8 (Sold Out) Levellers feat. Citizen Fish - £22.50
Sun 18 Nov	The Bank Perry - £13.50 Tyler James - £12 Feeder - £20
Mon 19 Nov	The Mild - £10 Band of Horses - £18.50
Tues 20 Nov	Ryan O'Shaughnessy - £8
Fri 23 Nov	Turbonegro - £13.50 Hundred Reasons + Hell is for Heroes + Cable - £15 (Sold Out) Boomin - £6 Monster Magnet + My Sleeping Karma - £17.50
Sun 25 Nov	Chris Moyles Live + Special Guests - £17.50
Mon 26 Nov	Buckcherry - £15
Weds 28 Nov	Rodrigo Y Gabriela - £20
Thurs 29 Nov	Crystal Castles - £16
	Converge + Touche Amore + A Storm of Light + The Secret - £13 Alabama - £18 Miss May I - £10
Fri 30 Nov	Therapy? + Hawk Eyes + Lafaro - £15
Sat 1 Dec	The Doors Alive - £10 The Lancashire Hotpots - £12
Sun 2 Dec	Evan Dando & Juliana Hatfield - £15 Rodriguez - £17.50

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

International Society

Visit some of the most beautiful and interesting locations around England, Scotland and Wales. There are visits taking place almost every weekend throughout the year.

Sat 10 Nov	Oxford (with guided tour)
Sun 11 Nov	Fountain's Abbey and Stockeld Park's Christmas Adventure
Sat 17 Nov	Peak District Visiting Chatsworth House (at Christmas) and Bakewell
Sun 18 Nov	Manchester Walking Tour
Sun 18 Nov	North Wales Visiting Caernarfon Castle and Portmeirion Village
Sat 24 Nov	Stratford-upon-Avon
Sun 25 Nov	Whitby
Sat 1 Dec	York (St Nicholas Fayre market)
Sun 2 Dec	Keswick Traditional Christmas Fayre

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

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

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

Chaplaincies

St Peter's House Chaplaincy

Mondays 5 – 6pm, £1.50 per session

Rush Hour Choir

Open to all staff and students, no singing experience necessary.

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

Sunday, 6.30pm Evening Worship (term-time only)

12.15pm Wednesdays Eucharist
Foyer open 10am – 5pm, weekdays

An area where students and staff can relax and meet friends. A tea/coffee machine is available.

RC Chaplaincy Avila House

Mass Times (term-time only)

Sunday, 7pm (Holy Name Church) next

door to the Chaplaincy

Mon, Tues, Thurs and Friday, 5.30pm

Chaplaincy Chapel

Weds, 1.05pm Chaplaincy Chapel

The Jewish Student Centre and Synagogue

Hillel House, Greenheys Lane

0161 226 1139

Email Rabbi Mati Kos:

rabbikos@mychaplancy.co.uk

Muslim Chaplaincy

South Campus Mosque, McDougall Centre

Jammat (Group Prayer) Daily

Juma Prayer Friday 1.15pm

Honorary Imam: Imam Habeeb

h_chatti@hotmail.com

North Campus Mosque

Basement of Joule Library

Sackville Street Building

Jammat (Group Prayer) Daily

Juma Prayer Friday 12.30pm

The role of Volunteer Muslim Chaplain is to

provide pastoral support, guidance and a

listening ear to Muslim staff and students

Chaplains' email: a.sami99@yahoo.co.uk,

assia_shah61@yahoo.co.uk

Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre

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

Opening times

10am-5pm

For more information and prices please visit our website

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

John Rylands Library (Deansgate)

EXHIBITIONS

Faces and Voices until 25 Nov

Explores the lives of people living in Egypt in the Roman and Late Antique period.

What the Dickens? until 21 Dec

Celebrating the bicentenary of the birth of Charles Dickens.

Fifty Years of A Clockwork Orange until

27 Jan

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

EVENTS

7 Nov 1 – 3pm, (booking essential)

Whimsical Wednesday Workshop:

Turning Pages into Something New

Fri 9 Nov, 2 – 3.30pm, (booking essential)

New Voices: Creative writing workshop

Sat 10 Nov, 2 – 4pm, Free,

(booking recommended)

Battling Beasts: Creative Writing Event

Sat 17 Nov and 1 Dec, 12 – 1pm,

(booking recommended)

Here Be Dragons!

Sat 17 Nov, 1 – 2pm, booking essential

Faces and Voices Curator Tour and

Collection Encounter

For further details of our events, please visit

our website.

Public opening times

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

Sun 12pm-5pm

Reader opening times

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

Fri-Sat 10am-5pm

FREE ADMISSION

The John Rylands Library

150 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 3EH

0161 306 0555

email jrl.visitors@manchester.ac.uk

www.library.manchester.ac.uk/

deansgate/events

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

Thurs 8 Nov, 1.10pm, Free

Quatuor Danel

Fri 9 Nov, 1.10pm, Free

Saxophone Ensembles

Sat 10 Nov, 2pm, Free

A Celebration of Ian Kemp

Thurs 15 Nov, 1.10pm, Free

Lionel Handy (Solo Cello)

Fri 16 Nov, 1.10pm, Free

Vocal Showcase

Thurs 22 Nov, 1.10pm, Free

Psappha

Fri 23 Nov, 1.10pm, Free

Vaganza

Thurs 29 Nov, 1.10pm, Free

Gweneth Ann Jeffers and Simon

Lepper: Harawi

Fri 30 Nov, 1.10pm, Free

Brass Band

EVENING CONCERTS

Fri 9 Nov, 7.30pm, £13.50 / £8 / £3

Quatuor Danel

Sun 11 Nov, 7pm, £8 / £6 (under 16's Free)

Stockport Youth Orchestra

Sat 17 Nov, 7.30pm, £10 / £6 / £3

MUMS Chamber Orchestra and Wind

Ensembles

Fri 23 Nov, 5pm, £6 / £4 / £3

Vaganza – Beat the Rush Hour Concert

Fri 23 Nov, 7.30pm, £7.50 / £5 / £3

Vaganza – Evening Concert

Sat 24 Nov, 7.30pm, £10 / £6 / £3

MUWO (Manchester University Wind

Orchestra)

Sun 2 Dec, 7.30pm, £12 / £9 / £3

The University of Manchester Chorus

and Symphony Orchestra

Whitworth Hall

DRAMA

Weds 21, Thur 22 and Fri 23 Nov, 7pm,

£5 / £4 / £4.50

University of Manchester Drama

Society Autumn Show

The Martin Harris Centre for

Music and Drama

Bridgeford Street, Manchester, M13 9PL

0161 275 8951

email boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk

www.manchester.ac.uk/

martinharriscentre



Dr Maria Haralambakis and the Paterikon

Handwritten tale of heroism

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

