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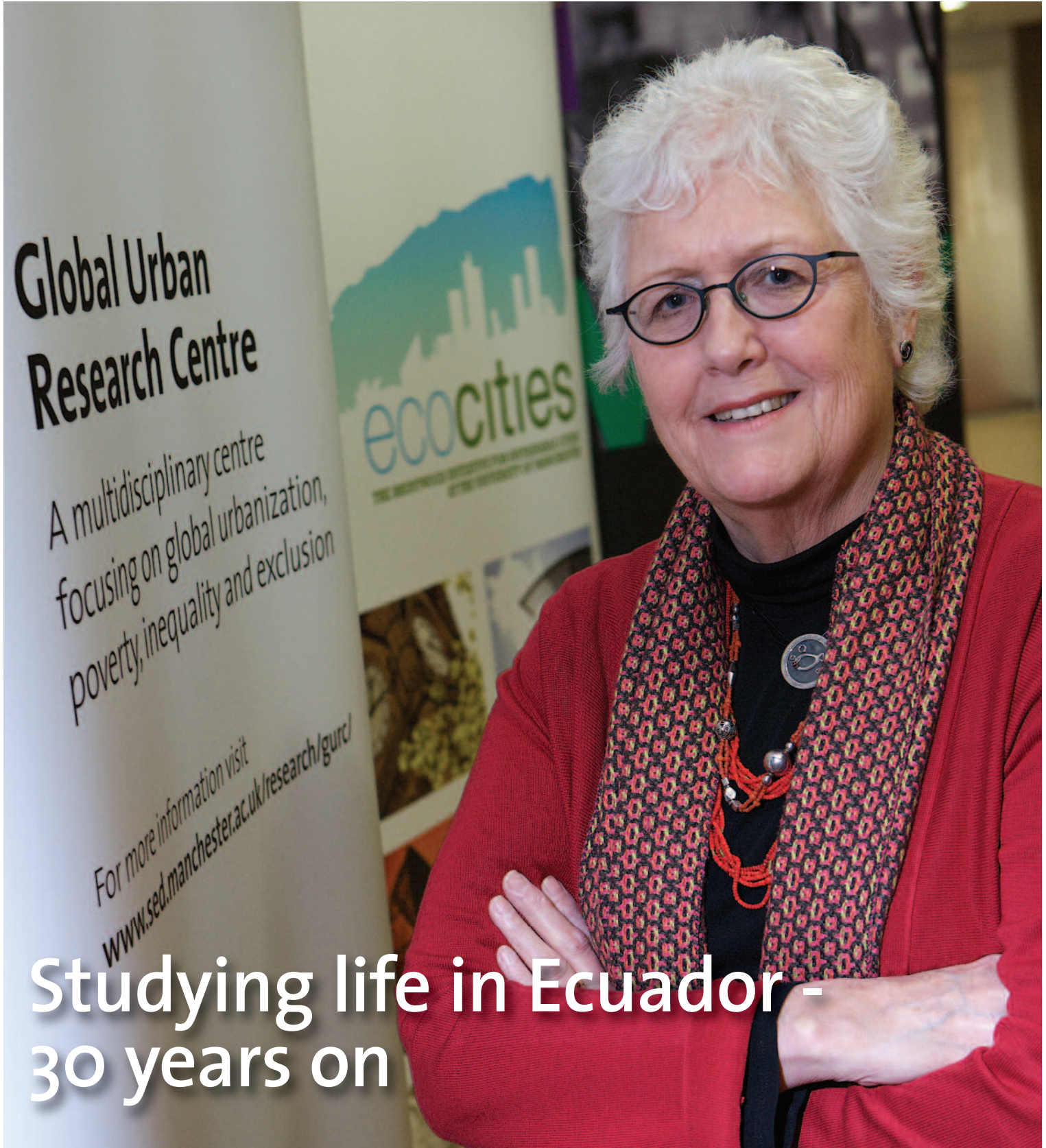
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focusing on global urbanization,
poverty, inequality and exclusion

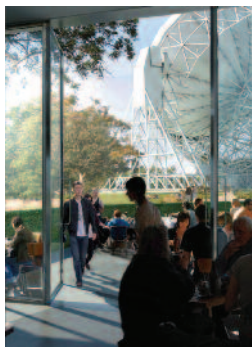
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ecocities

Studying life in Ecuador - 30 years on



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Front cover photo of Professor Caroline Moser by Craig Strong

Letter from the President



The University of Manchester has many priorities, but none is higher than the absolute imperative to transform the quality of the undergraduate education we offer.

In the middle of 2007, as many readers of this column will know, I instigated a major Review of Undergraduate Education in the University. The Review called for a root-and-branch reappraisal of all our curricula; a much more purposeful approach to identifying and developing in our students the kinds of professional and personal qualities and skills that are the hallmarks of outstanding graduates; a decisive move away from passive teaching to more personalised, highly interactive learning environments; and a commitment to ensuring that students received relevant, constructive, timely feedback on all the work they submit for assessment.

The Review also recognised the need for more world-class teaching space, especially teaching laboratories, workshops and lecture theatres, but also much more informal learning space where students can have 24-hour access to IT support, learning materials and facilities for group work in a safe, comfortable environment.

We are at present building just such a "Learning Commons" adjacent to the Student Union and the University Library.

Yet for all the progress that has been made since mid-2007, the results have been very slow to show up in student satisfaction surveys.

At one level, this is understandable, because the major Survey – the National Student Survey (NSS) – is administered only to final year students, so changes introduced to improve the learning experiences of first year students may take several years to impact on the NSS.

At another level, however, other factors may be at work. Students have sometimes expressed suspicions about the Undergraduate Education Review itself. In written comments submitted with completed NSS Forms, many have complained that academic staff often seem to give much higher priority to their research than to their teaching responsibilities and their support for student learning.

Unfortunately, in a few cases academics have reinforced this message by confirming that their priorities do indeed lie with their research, or by exemplifying the preference by giving only secondary attention to student issues.

The great majority of academic teachers are profoundly committed to their students, many are inspiring lecturers and most are generous in their willingness to make time for individual students.

It takes but a few negative experiences, however, for students to feel alienated and unsupported in a large and impersonal learning environment.

We therefore want to make two very clear commitments to all our students:

1. That the entire purpose of the Review of Undergraduate Education is to benefit students and to improve the Manchester learning experience profoundly, and that as changes are introduced to implement planned improvements there will not, under any circumstances, be any transfer of human or financial resources away from undergraduate education to any other function in the University.
2. That the University will seek by all means possible to embed parity of esteem between research and undergraduate education as a bedrock principle informing the management and direction of the University.

We are making good progress. The key strategies for improvement tend to have medium-to long-term lead times. But the University is well down the track with deeply significant improvements – and we will see this transformational agenda through.

Professor Alan Gilbert
President and Vice-Chancellor



The café overlooking the Lovell Telescope



Planet Pavillion building



Jodrell Bank plans new ‘live science’ visitor centre

A new Discovery Centre to inspire budding young scientists and showcase cutting-edge research ‘as it happens’ is being planned for the famous Jodrell Bank Observatory.

A planning application for the work has been submitted to Cheshire East Council and funding is being sought for the plans, which are predicted to attract thousands of extra visitors to the site.

The project, which it is hoped will form ‘phase one’ of a wider redevelopment of the visitor facilities, has a total floor space of 1,000 square metres, and will include:

A Planet Pavilion entrance building including an orientation centre and stylish glass-walled café with spectacular views of the Lovell telescope; a Space Pavilion incorporating a multi-purpose exhibition, events and education; and landscaping of the

Arboretum to create a new Galaxy Maze and a Space Garden (see visuals above).

The planned development has strong support from Sir Bernard Lovell, founder of the Jodrell Bank Observatory and creator of the Lovell Telescope.

If funding is found, the first building could be completed around three to four months after the diggers arrive on site, with all work finished within 12 months.

Current visitor facilities will be kept open as much as possible if the development goes ahead.

Astronomers would continue to carry out observations and world-class science while the redevelopment work takes place.

Dr Teresa Anderson, Director of the Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre, said: “This is a really important

milestone for us and we’re absolutely delighted that our project is moving forward.

“Alongside plans to redevelop our facilities, we will be taking the opportunity to revitalise our visitor programme, and we look forward to welcoming lots of new people to Jodrell Bank in the future.”

Lord Keith Bradley, chair of the University steering group for the project, said: “The redeveloped facilities at Jodrell Bank will open our doors to even more people, allowing them to engage with the University’s world leading research - and inspiring young people to become the scientists of the future.”

The architect for the project is Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios, which won the RIBA Stirling Prize in 2008 and designed the National Trust’s new headquarters.

University to lead £16m nuclear centre

A £16 million centre at the University is set to support the growth of the region's nuclear energy industry and position the North West as a region of global nuclear capability.

The Centre for Nuclear Energy Technology (C-NET) at the University of Manchester, which is also investing £3.5 million in the scheme, aims to increase the capability of the university sector to collaborate with industry.

A £4.4 million investment by the Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA) in the Centre was announced recently by Business Secretary of State Lord Mandelson.

C-NET will also support industrial Research and Development in the nuclear sector's reactor technology market through collaborative international research, education and skills development.

Once C-NET has been established, the long-term aim is to secure additional private sector investment to grow the centre to £25 million. An additional £2.61 million will be invested by the private sector with further private sector investment being sought.

The establishment of C-NET is conservatively estimated to contribute £20 million to the North West economy over 10 years, excluding firm productivity benefits, as well as creating 22 new jobs.

Professor Colin Bailey, Vice-President and Dean, Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences said: "We are delighted that the NWDA is joining us in investing in the Centre for Nuclear Energy Technology, reinforcing our commitment to deliver research and development, education, and knowledge transfer in the nuclear sector.

"The combined resources of the University and the NWDA in supporting this major project will benefit the Northwest region considerably and add greatly to its economic growth."

Choir's debut CD

The University of Manchester Chamber choir, Ad Solem is set to launch its first CD, *20th Century Choral Music* from the British Isles. The choir consists of the most talented choral singers in the University, with around 25 members in total. They perform a wide range of repertoire, and concerts consist of a *capella* music as well as collaborations with University orchestras. Ad Solem's CD includes a work by Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, patron of Manchester University Music Society, and will be available from www.mumusicsociety.co.uk as well as all Ad Solem concerts.

Mandelson in Manchester

UMIC, the facilities management and business support service provider for The University of Manchester, welcomed Lord Mandelson, the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, to the world-class business incubation facilities at the Core Technology Facility last month

Lord Mandelson met with the President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert and Robert Hough, Chair of the North West Development Agency (NWDA), and found out more about how UMIC, the University and the NWDA work in partnership to support innovative and enterprising research and nurture and develop early stage and start-up companies.

Lord Mandelson also toured Nanoco, one of the fastest



growing companies in the North West and a world-leader in nanotechnology innovation.

The Secretary of State was in Manchester to discuss the Government's policy on regional economic development, and see first-hand how this has delivered jobs, skills, investment and growth for the city.

Managing Director, Martino Picardo said: "It was a real privilege to welcome the Secretary of State to CTF. Our facility is all about converting ideas into commercial reality and it is crucial to maintain the high profile of the University and its associated commercial exploitation activities in the current climate.

Experts discuss fascist modernist programme

A group of renowned experts have discussed how recent research has uncovered a hidden modernist agenda in fascist regimes.

Speaking at The University of Manchester event was academic Gregory Maertz who discussed his discovery of an unknown collection of Nazi war art - by a group of artists embedded in the German army, commissioned directly by Hitler.

The international gathering of academics and museum curators were shown a slide show of the Nazi 'combat art' unearthed by Maertz.

The pictures were created by a unit of modern artists, commissioned directly by Hitler in 1942, to depict National Socialism in the occupied territories.

Cultural historians of fascism who spoke at the conference included Roger Griffin and Charles Burdett.

They agreed with the organisers, Maiken Umbach, Francesca Billiani, Matthew Philpotts and Lara Pucci, that the newly uncovered material confirms a recent change in how academics understand Fascism.

Dr Umbach said: "German National Socialism and Italian Fascism promised their citizens an 'alternative' modernity, which they inscribed into a wealth of ultra-modern consumer objects, leisure facilities, advertising, festivals and spectacles, in subtle yet highly effective ways.

"Yet these important revelations about the modern side of Fascism have barely reached a wider public."

Hans Ottomeyer, Director of the German History Museum in Berlin was also speaking at the event.

Dr Umbach added: "Hans Ottomeyer argued that in many German exhibitions on National Socialism, the press and public alike looked at objects not as sources to be understood, but to be gawped at because they are 'touched by evil'.



"Many of these paintings remain censored, for fear that they might attract a extremist modern following.

"Gregory Maertz's attempts to stage an exhibition of his finds in the United States has fallen victim to similar political pressures."

"Censoring the display of the modernist art and culture that came out of fascism today is politically much more dangerous than taking it seriously, and displaying it to the wider public.

"If we do not understand how fascism appealed to modern people, we cannot fight it."



From left: Professor Gajendra Verma (Emeritus), Peter Sanderson, Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell and Professor Mike Grant

Medals of honour

Three individuals have been recognised in the University's Medal of Honour awards: Emeritus Professor Mike Grant, Mr Peter Sanderson and Emeritus Professor Gajendra Verma.

The University Medal of Honour is the highest non-degree award bestowed by the University, used to honour an individual who has made an exceptional contribution to the work of the University, the City or the region, but for whom an honorary degree is inappropriate.

The Deputy President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell, hosted the presentations last month in the Christie Bistro.

The presenters were: Professors Martin Humphries, Rod Coombs and Mel West

Professor Mike Grant

Professor Grant became Professor of Medical Biochemistry at The University of Manchester at the age of 40, and subsequently has held a series of major positions here. He was Head of the Department of Medical Biochemistry for 10 years and, after the creation of the single-department School of Biological Sciences, he was the only person to hold the posts of Director of the Undergraduate School, Director of the Research and Graduate School, and Dean. His academic career culminated in his selection to be Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research.

Despite the workload that his administrative roles brought, Professor

Grant maintained a continuously-funded and internationally-renowned research programme from the start of his independent career all the way to his retirement. He successfully persuaded the Wellcome Trust to establish the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell-Matrix Research. His achievements have been recognised by numerous invitations to chair and speak at international meetings, and by his election as a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 2000.

His exemplary collegiality exercised alongside outstanding judgement, commonsense and vision was highlighted in his citation. This willingness to help and to mentor is exemplified most recently by the Faculty of Life Science's decision to re-engage him, post-retirement, to advise staff on grant applications. This specific targeting resulted in a staggering 49% funding success rate for 99 grants.

Emeritus Professor Gajendra Verma

Professor Gajendra Verma (Emeritus), formerly of the School of Education, has made a significant contribution to the University over the past 30 years, chiefly through his contribution to increasing understanding of, and between, different ethnic groups.

Professor Verma was one of the first representatives from an ethnic minority background to be appointed a Professor of Education in the UK, and has played an important role in establishing the University's reputation for research into issues of equality and social justice.

He has been extremely active in research and publication in his field both nationally and internationally and has been one of its most influential figures. Over the years he has contributed to more than 30 books, numerous journal articles, made over 100 invited conference keynotes and presented more than 200 papers at significant national and international conferences.

Professor Verma has served on a number of Public committees and has held visiting Professorships in 10 overseas Higher Education Institutions. He is also the Sarah Fielden Chair in Education.

More recently, Professor Verma has established the Kanka-Gajendra Foundation in memory of his late wife. One of its key functions has been to set up an endowment fund to be used to advance the understanding of lymphoma.

Peter Sanderson

Peter Sanderson had a successful career in banking before becoming involved in University technology transfer activity. Prior to the creation of the University in 2004, Peter was the Chairman of UMIST Ventures Ltd, a company which managed technology transfer and the administrative management of all types of research and consultancy contracts for UMIST. During the merger process he was involved in the discussions on how to best integrate the technology transfer activities of the two universities, which involved UMIST Ventures Ltd, and its counterpart company in the

Victoria University – Manchester Innovation Ltd. An ambitious business model for the activity was required by the new University and the two predecessor companies had to be successfully integrated.

Peter played a pivotal role in conceiving the new model, which became UMIP, and was appointed Chairman of UMIP in 2004, a role he holds today. During that period UMIP has enjoyed considerable success, becoming widely admired as one of the most effective and professional university Intellectual Property (IP) commercialisation organisations and companies in the UK and Europe, and achieving recognition by leading US offices. The company has regularly exceeded all of its business targets, engaging more than 20% of academic staff in IP-related activity; generating a clear profit for the University on its activities, and catalysing the investment of over £160 million into University spin-out companies.

In addition to the added monetary value to the University, UMIP has won many awards. In the last financial year alone there has been: "Biomedical Start-up of the Year", "NW Emerging Technology of the Year", "Fastest Growing Company of the Year", "Engineering and Technology Innovation of the Year".....and the University Companies' Association's IMPACT Award – an award nominated and voted by the equivalents of UMIP at all UK universities.

Cancer charity launches £5m appeal for pioneering research

Breakthrough Breast Cancer has launched a £5 million appeal for its pioneering Research Unit at The University of Manchester which aims to find new treatments for breast cancer patients.

The Appeal was launched last month by Maurice Watkins, Director of Manchester United FC, and the Research Unit's Director, Professor Anthony Howell, in an event at Manchester Town Hall.

The Manchester Breakthrough Breast Cancer Research Unit brings together a team of world-class scientists. They aim to find treatments that work in a totally new way – by stopping cancer cells using healthy cells to grow and spread. The Research Unit has been set up with an initial £500,000 donation but money is needed to support this groundbreaking project over the next five years.

Professor Howell said: "New treatments have helped increase the number of women surviving breast cancer but the sad truth is that nearly 12,000 women die of the disease in the UK each year. That's why we have set up this Research Unit to find treatments which could potentially be used for breast cancer and many other types of cancer.

"With the range of talent we have, we are in a great position to get our results from the laboratory to patients in the clinic as quickly as possible. With the public's support, I'm confident that we can help save the lives of women with breast cancer."

New funding for Parkinson's research

The Parkinson's Disease Society has awarded Dr Shaheen Hamdy an innovation grant of nearly £16,000 to investigate why people with Parkinson's have trouble swallowing.

As Parkinson's develops, many people find that everyday activities like swallowing become more difficult due to changes in how throat muscles work. Difficulties in swallowing can lead to serious complications, from problems with breathing to not getting enough nutrition and developing pneumonia.

Dr Hamdy has been researching how a new way of stimulating the brain, called 'transcranial magnetic stimulation' (TMS), affects swallowing. By turning on a magnetic field above a particular part of the brain that helps control movement, it is possible to make specific throat muscles respond.



Food of the gods is a killer

The splendid banquets offered to ancient Egyptian gods may have been delicious and bountiful but they were also a killer, blocking the arteries of the high priests who made the offerings in the temples then took them home to their families.

For the first time, a team of scientists at The University of Manchester have combined a new translation of hieroglyphic inscriptions on Egyptian temple walls that give details of the food offered daily to the gods with computed tomography of the mummified remains of priests to assess their atherosclerosis (thickening of artery walls).

They have found that the priests would offer the gods sumptuous meals of beef, wild fowl, bread, fruit, vegetables, cake, wine and beer at the temple three times a day, then take them

back home to their families. They also found evidence of blocked arteries.

Professor Rosalie David, of the KNH Centre for Biomedical Egyptology in the Faculty of Life Sciences, said: "There couldn't be a more evocative message: live like a God and you will pay with your health.

"It also shows that blocked arteries caused by rich diets are not just a modern malaise – the problem goes back to ancient civilisations."

Professor Tony Heagerty, of the Cardiovascular Research Group at the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences, added: "There is unequivocal evidence to show that atherosclerosis is a disease of ancient times, induced by diet, and that the epidemic of atherosclerosis which began in the 20th century is nothing more than history revisiting us."

Examining "at risk" languages

A team of researchers at the University's School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures has been awarded £535,927 by the Arts and Humanities Research Council to document a unique family of Romance languages spoken in Italy.

Led by Dr Delia Bentley from the School's Institute for Linguistics and Language Studies, the three-year investigation will start in September 2010.

"Because they are in the main not officially recognised, the Italo-Romance dialects are not being spoken by many young people in Italy - which could eventually threaten their existence," said Dr Bentley.

She added: "The objectives of the project are to create a map of the different ways of putting together the sentence "there is x" in the languages.

"This phrase is important because it's a fundamental sentence type in any language.

"We also want shed new light on the relationship between the meaning and the grammar of this sentence.

"We hope the project will also have an impact outside the academic research community, in that it will produce materials which will be used for educational and other cultural purposes both in the UK and in Italy."

Manchester leads green chemical push

Scientists in Manchester are leading a £2.2 million project to develop new green chemical processes.

A new programme brings together microbiologists, enzymologists, chemists, engineers and process development experts involved in research to develop the next generation of green manufacturing methods for the chemical industry.

Led by Professor Nick Turner, Director of the Centre of Excellence for Biocatalysis, Biotransformations and Biocatalytic Manufacture (CoEBio3), the three-year project involves six partners from academia and industry.

Funded by the European Union FP7 programme, the project is expected to make a major contribution to efforts to replace traditional chemical manufacturing – reliant on highly toxic chemicals and solvents – with so-called ‘white

biotechnology’, which employs the power of natural biocatalysts and modern manufacturing techniques to deliver safer and less environmentally damaging industrial methods.

White biotechnology is a term used mainly in Europe for the application of nature’s catalysts, such as enzymes and cells, in biotechnology for industrial purposes. The use of the word ‘white’ distinguishes it from other biotechnologies such as ‘red’ (medicinal) and ‘green’ (plant) biotechnology.

The term covers the manufacturing of chemicals, alternative energy and biomaterials and has the potential to enable economies to become less dependent on fossil fuels.

Professor Nick Turner said: “I am confident that over the next three years we can deliver high quality results from this small but highly-rated consortium.”



Reindeer stop the clock to cope with polar days and nights

Reindeer have ‘switched off’ their body clocks in order to survive the extreme Arctic seasons of polar day, when the sun stays up all day, and polar night, when the sun does not rise above the horizon at all.

The body clock, or circadian clock, is the internal mechanism that drives hormone rhythms – and thus a host of other functions – in a rhythmic 24-hour fashion. Light-dark cycles drive hormone rhythms via a circuit that involves the eye and nervous system affecting hormone production, in particular melatonin. In most mammals, this wiring circuit also involves the circadian clock, which is able to drive the hormone rhythms even when there is no light dark cycle.

In Arctic reindeer, however, the internal clock element is missing.

Professor Andrew Loudon, of the Faculty of Life Sciences, said: “In order to survive in extreme Arctic conditions, reindeer may have abandoned use of the daily clock that drives biological rhythms in temperate zone organisms.

“In fact such daily clocks may be positively a hindrance in environments where there is no reliable light dark cycle for much of the year. Organisms use their circadian clock to correspond with their living environment; but if their environment has a very different cycle, it may be better to follow that rather than use the internal clock.”

Professor Loudon and his colleagues at Manchester and the University of Tromsø, in Norway, studied reindeer living in Northern Norway, where there is 15 weeks of continuous daylight in summer and eight weeks without sunshine in winter.

They investigated levels of the hormone melatonin in the blood of the reindeer and showed that there was no natural internal rhythm of secretion – rather the hormone simply responded to the prevailing light dark cycle. Melatonin serves as a biological signal for daylength-dependent functions such as sleep, reproduction and coat growth.



New magnets from old bugs

Scientists in Manchester have found a clean and green way of making tiny magnets for high tech gadgets – using natural bacteria that have been around for millions of years.

The work by a team of geomicrobiologists in the School of Earth, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences paves the way for nanometer-size magnets – used in mobile phones and recording devices – to be made without the usual nasty chemicals and energy intensive methods.

The researchers studied iron-reducing bacteria that occur naturally in soils and sediments and found they can be used to create iron oxide nanoparticles with magnetic properties similar to those created through complex chemical processes.

The team has developed a way of harnessing pure strains of these bacteria – which are in plentiful supply and reproduce quickly – to produce large quantities of nanomagnets at an ambient temperature. This compares favourably to the extreme temperatures needed to create nanomagnets using current methods.

Working with colleagues in the School of Chemistry and also Birmingham and Cardiff, Dr Vicky Coker – a post doc in the group – found a way of exercising precise control over the size and magnetic strength of nanomagnets produced. Researchers added cobalt, manganese or nickel to the basic iron-based energy source used by bacteria, which resulted in the production of tiny magnets containing these elements. This greatly enhanced their useful magnetic properties.

Aside from being used in the latest gadgets, nanomagnets also have the potential to be used in drug delivery systems and cancer therapies to carefully focus and target the release of chemicals into the body. The multidisciplinary team led by Professor Jon Lloyd is also adapting the materials for applications in environmental remediation and industrial catalysis.

Richard Patrick, Professor of Earth Science, said: “This is exciting work that raises the prospect of a biologically friendly, energy-efficient method of producing nanomagnets tailored for different uses.”

Green dream team

The Carbon Trust has invited three Manchester academics to join its "dream team" which will take on the world in the global race to develop a sustainable, cost-effective biofuel from algae.

Professor Peter Fielden, Dr Jeremy Hawkes and Professor Roy Goodacre, at the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, and Dr Jon Pittman, at the Faculty of Life Sciences, will lead two teams working alongside 10 other leading UK institutions to find a winning formula for cultivating 70 billion litres of algae biofuel a year by 2030. This will be the equivalent to 6% of road transport diesel and a saving of over 160 million tonnes of CO₂ every year.

The 11 institutions were selected from over 80 initial proposals following an extensive competition and detailed assessment process.

The Carbon Trust is investing £8 million over three years into the projects using funding from the Department for Transport and the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC).

Thousands of strains of algae will be screened to find the winning few that can produce large quantities of a substance similar to vegetable oil. Additional research will develop methods for enabling large-scale production in algae ponds and next year the Carbon Trust plans to start construction of a pilot demonstration plant in an equatorial region where algae are most productive.

Royal governess archive

The John Rylands University Library has received funding to catalogue a major 'bluestocking' archive, the papers of Mary Hamilton.

The National Cataloguing Grants Scheme for Archives has awarded £22,728 to enable the Library to employ an archivist to catalogue this internationally-significant collection.

Mary Hamilton was governess to the daughters of George III, and was held in great affection by the royal children and her fellow courtiers. Her circle of friends included the 'bluestockings' Elizabeth Carter, Elizabeth Montague, Hannah More and Fanny Burney, as well as Johnson, Boswell and Walpole. The archive is a remarkable survival, and is an important source for the studies of high society and intellectual networks in the late eighteenth century.

There are 1,200 pages of intimate diaries, 3,000 pages of letters sent to Mary Hamilton by her relatives and friends, and six manuscript volumes containing copies of verses, letters, sermons and other prose pieces.

Dementia study launched within the deaf community

A unique project to improve early diagnosis and management of dementia among deaf people who use British Sign Language (BSL), has been launched.

The research, funded by Alzheimer's Society, will examine how to identify dementia in deaf people and explore how they might best cope with their condition. The study will also investigate how to provide support services for the deaf community and develop assessment tools in BSL.

The University of Manchester team, working with colleagues at

UCL, City University London, and the Royal Association for deaf people, brings together deaf and hearing researchers from a range of disciplines, including dementia care, social work, old-age psychiatry, psychology, deaf studies and Sign Language research.

Lead researcher Professor Alys Young, from the Social Research with Deaf People programme, said: "Nobody knows whether deaf people are more or less likely to experience dementia than hearing people. Our assumptions about what might be valued in care and support

are based on hearing people's preferences, not rooted in an understanding of deaf people's cultural experiences. Information about dementia and related services does not exist in deaf people's preferred or only language – BSL."

The researchers will study normal ageing amongst Deaf signing people and work with deaf people with a diagnosis of dementia and their carers to explore their experiences of living with the illness, their priorities for care and how to improve early identification and support services.



Professor Alys Young

Social care services are failing deaf children

University of Manchester research also by Professor Alys Young (see above) has revealed that the majority of social care services are failing deaf children and their families – despite the fact that deaf children are more than twice as likely to experience abuse and many face significant challenges to personal and social development.

The study, commissioned by the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) and published in *Every Child Journal*, showed that two thirds of local authorities in

England do not regard deaf children as 'children in need' even though the law defines them as such. Half of authorities are unable to accurately assess the needs of deaf children and their families, the report found.

Professor Young, who is lead study author and Professor of Social Work Education and Research, said Children's Services need to work together to promote the wellbeing of deaf children and their families.

She said: "This research is the largest of its kind ever undertaken in the UK and

highlights that children's social care, education and health services are not working together effectively and therefore the statutory duty of local authorities to promote the wellbeing of deaf children is being significantly compromised."

Findings from the study also revealed that nearly half of authorities in England have no social workers who are qualified to work with deaf children and, in many authorities, children's social care had no contact with the majority of deaf children in their area.



Canterbury Tales captured on camera

Experts from the University's John Rylands Library have spent four days at a beautiful 17th Century mansion to capture its world famous Canterbury Tales manuscript on camera (22- 25 March).

Visitors to the National Trusts' Petworth House, Sussex, watched the team of four as they worked with cutting edge equipment to record the early 15th century Chaucer manuscript in close detail.

It is part of a 18-month project which showcases The University of Manchester as one of the country's leading centres for digitisation of rare books, manuscripts and archives.

The Petworth edition of the famous stories was hand written between 1420 and 1450, just a few years after they were first conceived by Geoffrey Chaucer.

It is thought the manuscript has been at Petworth for at least 400 years.

The Centre of Digital Excellence will support universities, colleges, libraries and museums which lack the resources to carry out the specialised work.

Using images taken by a £22,000 camera, scholars will be able to study rare books, archival documents, artworks and museum artefacts in huge detail.

Assistant Librarian Carol Burrows, from The University of Manchester, manages the project. She said: "We're very excited to be working with the National Trust to launch this project.

"No other organisation in the North of England specialises in the object-centred digitisation of heritage materials.

"As the set-up costs of such facilities are prohibitive for most institutions, many can't afford to carry out this sort of work.

"Over the 18 months, we will be investigating whether a Centre for Heritage Digitisation, based within The University of Manchester, will work as a commercial concern.

"By locating the Centre within the University we will be able to draw on our exceptional body of skills and expertise."

The project is funded by JISC.



Manchester historian honoured

A Manchester historian has received one of the Europe's oldest and most important history prizes.

Professor Joseph Bergin received the prize from the French Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres for his book Church, society and religious change in France 1580-1730.

It recognizes the most important works published on the history of France, and is rarely given to non-French language publications.

"It is a great honour to receive this award, and recognition that this book is now regarded as most comprehensive account written in any language - French included - of the subject and period," said Professor Bergin.

How our body clock controls disease

New treatments for inflammatory lung diseases and a host of other conditions could be developed following a study into the impact of circadian rhythms – or body clock – at the Faculty of Life Sciences.

In a partnership between the University of Manchester, the NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre and GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), a team of scientists will investigate how our biological clock controls inflammation in lung diseases such as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

It is hoped that this project, worth more than £500,000, will lead to the development of new drugs which will target how the internal body clock regulates the severity of inflammation. The Manchester team is headed by Professors Andrew Loudon, David Ray and Kath Else, who they will work closely with colleagues in the Discovery Biology group at GSK.



Caroline's Courage

Living in third-world urban slums and experiencing the poverty, violence, crime and deprivation is second nature to Caroline Moser – and has been for more than 30 years. She first went to live with her husband and two young sons for eight months in Indio Guayas, a bamboo house in a mangrove swamp on the periphery of Guayaquil, Ecuador.

She was a young anthropologist, doing background research with her then husband, TV producer Brian Moser, for a Granada film, as part of the ground-breaking *Disappearing World* series. Little did she know that that was the beginning of a love affair with Indio Guayas and its people, who became her friends. Nor could she know that it was the beginning of a most distinguished academic and field-working career which has established her international reputation.

"Indio Guayas has been a fundamental part of my life for more than 30 years," she says. "As I have moved between universities, development agencies and think-tank

institutions, across oceans and through different life-cycle changes, many people have helped me, but my deepest gratitude is to the heroic families in Indio Guayas."

Her book on that remarkable journey, *Ordinary Families, Extraordinary Lives: Assets and Poverty Reduction in Guayaquil, 1978-2004*, was recently published by Brookings Institution in Washington, where she was Senior Fellow before coming here as Professor of Urban Development and Director of the Global Urban Research Centre in 2007.

Characteristically, her book is dedicated to Señora Emma Torres, the community leader who has helped to make the research possible throughout.

"This book describes how households living in this typical third world urban slum community relentlessly and systematically struggled to get out of poverty while simultaneously contesting with the authorities to provide both physical and social infrastructure," she explains. "The challenge is to portray the amazing fortitude and determination of people who have not only survived, but quietly brought up their children; relentlessly striven to prosper in the adverse conditions of an urban slum, a fluctuating economy and a crisis-ridden government; and tried to give the next generation better opportunities in the far more complex world of the 21st Century."



The local and Moser children, 1973



Caroline, family and locals, 1973



Walking over the swamp



House over the swamp, 1978

Yet Ecuador is only one part of her work. Over the years, she has also undertaken primary field-based research on urban poverty, violence, household asset vulnerability, gender and development in countries such as Colombia, Guatemala and Jamaica. And her research interests are wide-ranging: social policy, community participation, the social dimensions of economic reform, human rights, social protection and urban climate change adaptation. Recently, she worked with women's organisations on their role in peace processes in Colombia.

For a decade, 1900-2000, she worked at the World Bank in Washington, where she was Lead Specialist for Social Development in Latin America. As part of her field research, she worked in poor urban communities in four different regions of the world – Zambia, Hungary, the Philippines and, of course, Ecuador.

Above all, she believes firmly in on-the-spot frontline experience – and with the practical aim of influencing the policy makers. "If we can't influence policy and practice, we're wasting our time," she says.

She learned the value of that approach way back, when she came to Manchester as a postgrad (from Durham) to study under Professors Max Gluckman

and Clyde Mitchell. "They were very eminent and a great inspiration," she says. "Manchester was the leading centre for urban anthropology."

Gluckman pioneered "applied" social anthropology 40 years ago and, with sociologist Mitchell, introduced the concept of "apt illustration", closely linked to "situation analysis". As she writes in her new book, "It was an important anthropological research tool used in two definitive studies to justify to colonial administrators the importance of qualitative research in explaining the complex political, economic and social phenomena associated with rapid rural-urban migration in Southern Africa."

"For me, it was an exceedingly exciting time," she says. She and Brian had two sons, Titus and Nathaniel, both "born in Glossop", she says proudly. And she got happily drawn into the lively media milieu, especially Granada TV's *World in Action* and *Disappearing World*.

However, there were earlier influences on her interest in international affairs, in urban slums, race relations and transnational migration – she spent her formative years, from the age of five to 17 in Cape Town, South Africa, where her father was a Professor of Art. So, the whole business of apartheid and the horror of the Sharpeville

massacre were part of her growing up. In 1961, she and her parents left South Africa for the UK – where Caroline had been born.

But the turning point in her life was that 1978 venture to Indio Guayas. "It was very tough," she says. "We built a bamboo house on the swamp, with a living space of four by eight metres. There was no running water or electricity. The boys coped with our recklessness in taking them out of a London school and putting them in the local school in Guayaquil. Most importantly, we made a lot of friends for life."

After that, she directed the first global training programme on gender planning in UCL's Development Planning Unit. Since then, she has accomplished a huge range of field research and academic leadership, here and in the US, achieving international standing.

The invitation to return to this University to run the new Global Urban Research Centre last year was irresistible, even though it has meant leaving her husband behind in Washington. "It is a marvellous opportunity," she says. "This takes me back to the very roots of urban anthropology. Urban development is critically important now and our aim must be to create a forward agenda that will make a difference."

What's On

Music and Drama at Manchester

Thursday 22 April, 1.10pm

Oliver Coates (Cello)

Artist in Residence at the South Bank Centre, London, Oliver Coates plays pieces for cello and electronics by Larry Goves, Emily Hall, Richard Whalley and Squarepusher.

Friday 23 April, 7.30pm

VAGANZA SOLOISTS : A Feast for the Senses

An evening of diversely and irresistibly sensuous music given by Vaganza Soloists. Premieres of works by Nina Whiteman, James Stephenson & Gavin Osborn plus Richard Whalley's Intoxicating Orchids.

Thursday 29 April, 2.30pm

Rivoli Quartet Seminar: 'Haydn' Minuets

Rivoli Quartet Seminar: 'Haydn' Minuets: The university's first-year students submit their work to public and professional scrutiny

Thursday 29 April, 1.10pm

Gamelan Degung

Students from the University of Manchester offer a dynamic programme of music for gamelan degung.

Friday 30 April, 1.10pm

String time in the Springtime - MUMS Lunchtime Concert Series

A lunchtime concert celebrating those April showers with dynamic group and solo performances.

Friday 30 April, 5pm

Psappha: Beat the Rush Hour Concert

One of the UK's leading new music ensemble is at it again, premiering cutting-edge works by emerging postgraduate composers from the University's Music Dept.

Friday 30 April, 1.10pm

String time in the springtime - MUMS FREE lunchtime concert

A lunchtime concert celebrating those April showers with dynamic group and solo performances.

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama

Bridgeford Street, Manchester M13 9PL

0161 275 8951/8950

email boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk

www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre

Jodrell Bank

Throughout the year you can view the telescope from many angles on the Observation Pathway, take a Journey to Mars or tour the Solar System in the 3D theatre. You can also discover the history of Jodrell Bank in the small indoor exhibition area or take a walk in the tranquil setting of the 35 acre Arboretum. For further information visit our website.

Sun 25 April, 11am

Exclusive: Behind the Scenes with an Astronomer

Join a Jodrell Bank Astronomer on a tour of the Observatory, taking in the other telescopes Jodrell has and the Control Room, followed by lunch. Early booking is essential. Tickets £30

For further information or to book tickets, please call 01477 571339 or visit our website <http://www.jodrellbank.manchester.ac.uk/>

Jodrell Bank Observatory Visitor Centre

Macclesfield, Cheshire

01477 571339

www.manchester.ac.uk/jodrellbank/viscen

Chaplaincies

St Peter's House Chaplaincy

11am Holy Communion

12.15pm Bible Study

12.45pm Lunch (1st Sun)

6.30pm Evening Worship (term-time only)

FOYER 10am – 5pm

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)

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

Mon, Wed, Fri, 6pm in the Chaplaincy Chapel

Tues, Thurs, 12.15pm in the Chaplaincy Chapel

The Jewish Student Centre and Synagogue

Hillel House, Greenheys Lane

0161 226 1139

Email rabbijy@hotmail.com

www.rabbijy.com

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 the 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,

mbm1411@hotmail.com, assia_shah61@yahoo.co.uk,

hawwah@hotmail.com

Centre for New Writing

Our unique events bring the best-known contemporary novelists and poets to Manchester to discuss and read from their work. Everyone is welcome, and ticket prices include a complimentary glass of wine or soft drink.

Monday 26 April, 6.30pm, *The John Thaw Studio Theatre*, £5/£3

Giles Foden and Leontia Flynn

Giles Foden's first novel, *The Last King of Scotland*, won the 1998 Whitbread First Novel Award. A former MAN Booker judge, Foden is a Professor of Creative Writing at UEA.

Leontia Flynn's first poetry collection, *These Days*, won the Forward Prize for Best First Collection, and was shortlisted for the Whitbread Prize for Poetry.

Website: www.manchester.ac.uk/arts/newwriting

Online journal: www.themanchesterreview.co.uk

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama

Bridgeford Street, Manchester M13 9PL

0161 275 8951/8950

email boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk

www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre

Gig Guide

MANCHESTER ACADEMY 1, 2 and 3

Fri 9 April	AFI - £16.50
Sat 10 April	John Butler Trio - £16.86 The Smiths Indeed - £10
Sun 11 April	Robyn Hitchcock - £15
Mon 12 April	The King Blues - £9.50
Tue 13 April	Broken Clyde/Jefree Star - £9
Thurs 15 April	Dropkick Murphys - £15 Bowling for Soup - £12 The Union - £10 Plan B - £12.59
Fri 16 April	The Alarm - £18.50
Sat 17 April	Elliot Minor - £10
Sun 18 April	Alesana - £9 Sonic Boom Six - £8
Tue 20 April	Saoin/Aiden - £12.50
Wed 21 April	Karma to Burn - £10
Thur 22 April	Joshua Radin - £10 F**k Buttons - £12.50
Fri 23 April	Bombay Cycle Club - £12.50 Mostly Autumn - £14
Sat 24 April	Reef - £17.50 Alphabeat - £12
Sun 25 April	Mark Lanegan - £14 Duke and the King - £9
Mon 26 April	Whale Watching Tour - £12 Cathedral - £10
Weds 28 April	Ash - £15 Brandi Carlile - £11
Fri 30 April	Chase and Status - £13.50 Sandi Thom - £12 Wishbone Ash - £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

WINTER TRIPS

Saturday 10 April	North Wales visiting Bodnant Gardens and Penrhyn Castle
Sunday 11 April	Peak District visiting Poole's Cavern and Hardwick Hall
Saturday 17 April	North Wales visiting Llangollen and Erddig Hall
Sunday 18 April	Liverpool (with guided coach tour)

Opening hours

Mon-Fri 9.30am – 7pm (during term time)

Mon-Fri 9.30am – 5pm (during vacation)

Small World Café opening hours

Mon-Fri 11am – 3pm

327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)

0161 275 4959

email int.soc@anchester.ac.uk

www.internationalsociety.org.uk





The Manchester Museum

As well as our permanent galleries, the Museum has a varied programme of temporary exhibitions.

The Evolutionist

Who was Charles Darwin and what's all the fuss about his theory of evolution? All will be revealed during our Darwin Extravaganza. Part of Darwin 200, a national programme of events honouring his scientific ideas and their impact.

After Life

As well as discovering the ancient Egyptians' beliefs about the after life, find out about some personal reflections, and potential options, for funerals and remembrance today. The After Life exhibits are displayed within the Ancient Egypt gallery.

EVENTS

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Tues 6-Fri 9 April, 11am-4pm

Animal Mania

Discover how animals adapt to their surroundings and how we preserve the Museum's animals.

Sat 24 April, 11am-4pm

Big Saturday, A History of the World

A day of activities for all ages dedicated to objects which tell A History of the World. Linked to the BBC's campaign telling the stories behind some of the most influential objects in the world.

Sat 24 & Sun 25 April, 2-3pm

Victorian Gentleman Tour

Discover the wonders of the world with our Victorian gentleman guide, Graeme Pye Esquire. Ask him for an 'I've spied Mr Pye' sticker.

Mon 26 April, 6-8pm

Ideas Café: Travelling with Darwin

Get an introduction to zoogeography and the insects and spiders Darwin would have encountered on his voyage around the world.

Wed 28 April, 3-4.30pm

Showcase Lecture

Birds, Books and Business: The Life of Victorian Ornithologist, Henry Dresser

Henry McGhie, The Manchester Museum.

Fri 30 April, 11am-12pm

Magic Carpet: It's My World

Get comfy on our magic carpet and enjoy stories and activities.

Most activities are free and drop-in. Some activities may need to be booked on the day and may cost up to £1.50. All ages, book on 0161 275 2648

<http://www.museum.manchester.ac.uk/whatson/>

Opening hours

Open: Tues-Sat 10am - 5pm

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

FREE Admission

The Manchester Museum Oxford Road, Manchester

0161 275 2634

www.manchester.ac.uk/museum



John Rylands Library (Deansgate)

EXHIBITIONS

Heroes and Kings: The Shahnama of Ferdowsi

until 27 June

The Shahnama, or *Book of Kings*, is an epic poem written by the Persian poet Ferdowsi. The national epic of Iran, it tells the mythical and historical past of Iran from the creation of the world up until the Arab conquest of Persia in the 7th Century.

The Provincial Forge – Europas

until 7 April
The Provincial Forge presents *Europas*, the second installment of its three cycle programme of exhibitions which physically re-work and re-present artists' publications from around the world. For more information please contact David and Joe at: info@provincialforge.org.uk or check out their website at www.provincialforge.org.uk

EVENTS

A Singing Seminar 10 and 29 April

Hear Mark Dowding and Chris Pollington bring to life a selection of ballads from the Library's Street Literature Collection, through singing the ballads and discussing the history behind them. A truly unique opportunity to explore these often overlooked treasures of social history.

Explorer Tours: A Peek Behind the Scenes!

17 April & 19 May

Ever wondered where some of the Library doors and staircases lead to? Then this is the tour for you! Guided by members of Library staff, you will be taken behind the scenes and given the chance to look at parts of the building normally hidden from view...

Unusual Views: Library Tours for Photographers

27 April & 8 May

Take the opportunity to photograph the Library building from spectacular viewpoints not normally open to the public! Guided by Library staff you will be given unique access to the gallery in our magnificent Historic Reading Room, the cupola above the Historic staircase and other hidden gems.

Here be Dragons! A tour of the Library for children

9 April & 15 May

The walls and ceilings of the Library are full of strange and mysterious creatures - dragons, monkeys, green men and exotic birds. Join our tour to seek them out - and meet Flame, our guardian dragon! This tour is most appropriate for families with children aged 5-10, but all are welcome. Booking is recommended.

Storytelling Workshops 7 April

Fun-packed, fascinating and creative workshops using games, activities and magical encounters to bring the Library to life through storytelling, music, movement, role-play and drama techniques. Let your imagination run free as you create your own stories - using statues, sculptures and hidden parts of the library as inspiration. Booking is essential as places are limited.

Open Studio - Conservation Close-Up 13 April

Come behind the scenes and see the team at work in the studio. This will include the opportunity to visit one of our collection storage areas, not normally open to the public. Booking is essential

Collection Close-Up with Library Tour every third

Thursday in the month, 12.15pm

With one of our curators, enjoy a closer look at material from the Library's world famous collections and find out more about this magnificent building. Booking essential.

Public opening hours

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

Reader opening hours

Mon-Wed 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.manchester.ac.uk/library



The Whitworth Art Gallery

DISPLAYS/COLLECTIONS

Takhti until May 2010

Contemporary Iran has a vibrant art scene and this exhibition showcases a remarkable work by one of Iran's leading artists, Khosrow Hassanzadeh, recently acquired by The British Museum. The centrepiece of the show is a large assemblage portrait of Gholamreza Takhti (1930-1968), one of the country's national heroes, renowned for his Olympic medals for wrestling and for his social activism.

Walls Are Talking: Wallpaper, Art and Culture

until May 2010

The first major UK exhibition of artists' wallpapers with work by over 30 artists including Andy Warhol, Sarah Lucas and Damien Hirst. Kitsch ideas of home decoration are turned upside down as artists subvert the stereotypes of wallpaper to hit home messages about warfare, racism, cultural conflicts and gender.

Deep Rooted, How Trees Shape Our Lives

until May 2010

What do trees mean to you? Drawing from the Whitworth's internationally important collection of watercolours and drawings, this exhibition explores how trees and woodland shaped our lives.

The Manchester Indian: Thomas Wardle and India

until summer 2010

This exhibition celebrates the centenary of the death of Sir Thomas Wardle (1831-1909). Still perhaps best known for his collaboration with William Morris, the exhibition focuses on Wardle's efforts to reinvent the silk industry in India as well as the impact that India had on his work.

The Complete Roberta Breitmore: Lynn Hershman

Leeson until summer 2010

In San Francisco in the mid-Seventies, Lynn Hershman Leeson created Roberta Breitmore and performed this persona as a work of art over a four year period, documenting it through artifacts, photography, film and sound. This extraordinary body of work, which raises questions about the complexities of identity and the nature of the work of art, has been purchased by the Whitworth in its final edition and is shown here for the first time in its entirety.

EVENTS

Every Sunday 1.30pm - 3.30pm, Family Friendly, Free

Colourful Sundays

Drop into the gallery any Sunday afternoon for free and fun creative activities at Colourful Sundays. Suitable for all ages no need to book.

Every Tuesday 11am -12.30pm, Free

Tuesday Talks

Each week an artist, thinker or critic talks about their work, influences and inspirations.

Every Monday 10.30 - 11.30am, Family Friendly, Free

Toddlerastic

For budding artists under five. Come and enjoy an art, music or dance adventure around the Gallery.

Reserve tickets by calling 0161 275 7450 or events.whitworth@manchester.ac.uk

The Whitworth Art Gallery Oxford Road, Manchester

0161 275 7450

email whitworth@manchester.ac.uk

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www.bowdoncroquet.co.uk

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For bookings or further information please contact the Conference Sales Office on **Ext 64100** or **0161 306 4100**

www.meeting.co.uk

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The University of Manchester

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Changing places

The Manchester Museum's reception area has recently undergone a few changes. Two iconic objects from the Museum's collection have been redisplayed here, welcoming visitors. Displayed opposite each other, these objects reflect the Museum's ethos, promoting understanding between cultures and developing a sustainable world.

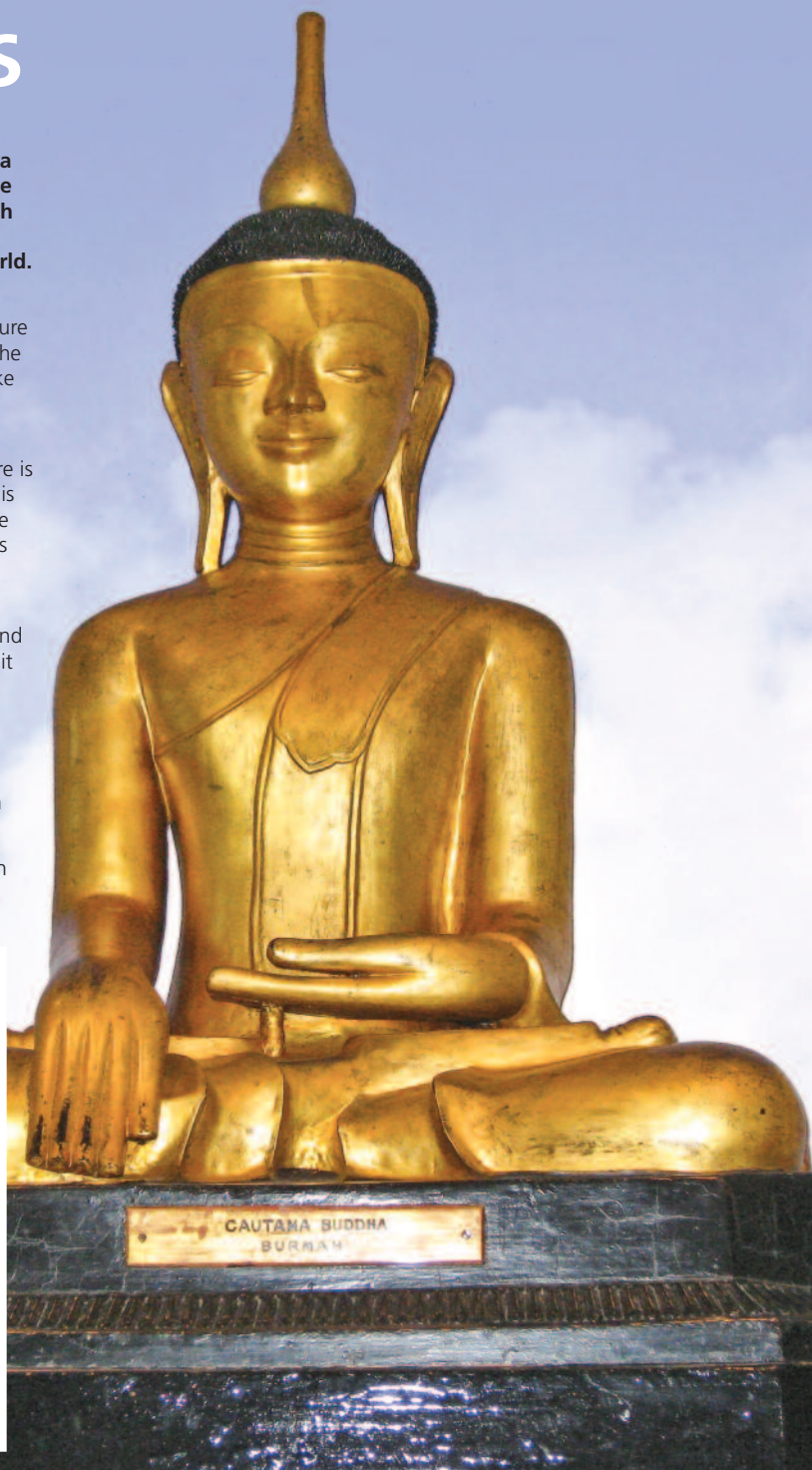
The first is a sculpture of the Buddha Siddhārtha Gautama sitting cross-legged in the lotus position. The statue's left hand is in a meditation gesture (mudrā) called 'dhyāna', whilst his right hand is touching the ground in the 'bhūmisparśha mudrā'. It is known that Gautama touched the ground like this as he sat under the pipal tree at Bodh Gaya, India, to call the Earth goddess to witness his enlightenment.

Made in Burma, also known as Myanmar, in South East Asia, the sculpture is about 200 years old. It was made using the dry-lacquer technique which is similar to the way papier-mâché is made. Layers of lacquer (tree sap) were built up with pieces of fabric to form a hollow structure. When dry, it was covered in gilt paint.

The second object is a male Indian Swamp Deer (*Rucervus duvaucelii*). It once lived at Belle Vue Zoo, Manchester, but died accidentally in 1907 and was offered to the Museum. Local taxidermist, Harry Brazenor prepared it for display.

Indian Swamp Deer are also known as Barasinga or Barashinga, from the Hindi word for '12 horns'. In the early 20th Century, large numbers of Barasinga still lived in South Asia (now India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh). They are now a rare species, due to hunting and changes in their habitat.

This display is part of a wider programme of changes that will be made in and around the Museum over the next two years.



The Manchester Museum ©



www.manchester.ac.uk/museum

News Contact

News and story ideas

Internal Communications Office

tel 0161 275 2112

email uninews@manchester.ac.uk

online www.manchester.ac.uk/staffnet/news

Deadline 14 April 12 noon

Events Contact

Events and listings information

Philippa Adshead

tel 0161 275 2922

email unievents@manchester.ac.uk

Deadline 14 April 12 noon

Adverts Contact

Ads

Janice Drew

tel 0161 275 2113

email uniads@manchester.ac.uk

Deadline 14 April 12 noon