UniLife



NewsDigest

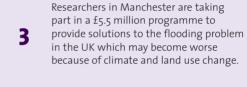
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Front cover photo by Kippa Matthews

A summary of the key news in this issue of UniLife:







The Higher Education Funding Council of England (HEFCE) have formally approved £20m for the merger of the two universities. The funding was officially ratified by HEFCE's board at their recent meeting in Manchester.



A European Space Agency mission has carried a UMIST experiment into outer space to monitor astronauts' exposure to radiation.



More than 40 staff from House Services (VUM) have passed their NVQ Level 1 course, fitting in the training alongside their work.



A major interdisciplinary conference in
June will focus on the highly topical
issue of how research is portrayed in
the media.

Flood Warning

The fear that the UK may be subject to increasing large scale flooding because of climate and land use change, has led to the creation of a new research programme involving VUM and UMIST-based researchers to predict and manage the risk of flooding.

As widely reported in the media, the £5.5million programme - called the Flood-Risk Management Research Consortium (FRMRC) - will bring engineers, scientists, planners, government agencies and private companies together for the first time to provide solutions for this potentially devastating problem.

And £250,000 of this funding has come to Dr Joe Howe, who is a Lecturer in Environmental Management in the School of Landscape and Planning at The Victoria University of Manchester.

Said Dr Howe: "This is the first time such a wide diversity of organisations have come together to look at the very real problem of flooding - it's a 'joined up' way of thinking about the issue."

According to Dr Howe, this new approach is urgently needed, as the frequency and severity of flooding is set to increase. It has been estimated that around two million homes are already at risk from river, coastal or sewer flooding in the UK. And the problem is set to be exacerbated by the increasing pressure to build more homes. In the next 10 years, more than two million new homes will need to be built in the UK, so increasingly homes are being built on flood plains and alongside canals and rivers.

Said Dr Howe: "Waterside living like that which has sprung up in Manchester along the River Medlock is fine, but such developments don't allow for rainwater to escape or to be absorbed, so it runs straight down drains into rivers and increases the risk of flooding.

"We need to think about how we get rid of this surface water. For example, green spaces with trees and grass in city centre development would greatly help – trees are nature's defence against flood – they intercept rainfall and absorb water Anyone who has ever had their home flooded will know what a devastating effect it can have - as property, possessions and livelihoods are literally swept away.



through their roots. We need to work with the environment, not against it."

But flooding is not just an urban problem. Rural areas are increasing suffering floods, mainly due to the increased pressure farmers are put under to produce crops. Fields are now commonly ploughed and planted during the winter months whereas in the past they would have been left fallow. This 'winter cropping' means that it is more likely that flood water and snowmelt will run off ploughed fields straight into rivers, causing flooding.

Given the dilemma between the need for housing and threat from floods, Dr Howe is determined to elevate the importance of landuse planning in the flooding debate. In the past, flood prevention has been the preserve of engineers, so the fact that Dr Howe has such a high profile role to play in the FRMRC shows that there is a step change going on.

Dr Howe is leading one of the main groups of the FRMRC – called

'Stakeholders and Policy' and will be coordinating work among several other universities in the UK. He hopes that by the end of the four year project there will be a more consistent and integrated approach to flood policy.

"At the moment there are a lot of contradictions between different organizations and even between them. We also need to take into account local variations – you can't just produce a national plan for flooding and hope that it applies to the whole country because it won't. This means it's vital that local agencies work alongside national organizations."

Dr Howe's bid to lead part of the FRMRC's work was the result of much work and planning by the School and the University's Research and Graduate Support Unit, led by Neil Ferguson. In addition, Daniel Spagni from ARP Consultants based at UMIST has been employed as a management consultant to the FRMRC.

News



Cyprus Fair

Both universities attended the recent education exhibition in Nicosia, Cyprus during a momentous year as the EU expands with the addition of ten new countries as member states.

One of the effects of EU enlargement will be that students from the new member states will be eligible for home fee status, rather than paying the overseas tuition fees.

As a result, this year's exhibition was busier than ever, attracting interest from both undergraduate and postgraduate students. Both universities' stands were visited by Cyprus' Minister of Education and Culture, Pefkios Georgiades who opened the exhibition and Director of the

British Council, Peter Skelton (pictured with Pam Smith of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law and Liz Wilson, International Office, VUM).

Liz, International Officer for Europe, VUM, said: "Manchester is one of the most popular destinations for Cypriot students. We can only expect that following EU enlargement, the applications will continue to increase."



Dr John Salthouse

Celebrating Science

The campus was buzzing during National Science Week (15-19 March) when more than 650 young people aged between 13 and 18 – and around 70 teachers and visitors - enjoyed a range of sessions, run by UMIST and VUM staff designed to enthuse and inspire.

A total of 23 schools and colleges across Greater Manchester were able to fly their own paper aeroplanes ('Science of Flight'), discover how lasers are used in healthcare ('Blood, Guts and Lasers') and gasp at the demonstrations and video clips in 'Good Vibrations....or not so good'.

The ever-popular 'Son et Lumière' experience certainly generated the 'WOW!' factor amongst the 250 students who attended, with an exciting finale when all the students lit up the darkened lecture theatre with differently coloured light sticks (pictured).

Widening Participation Officer for the Faculty, Barbara Grundy said: "We are very grateful to the academic staff who delivered these sessions and to the staff and students who volunteered to help out in organising and meeting groups throughout the week. Initial feedback has been extremely positive and we hope that the event will lead to even more worthwhile science, engineering and mathematics links with our local schools and colleges in Greater Manchester."

Administrators' Conference

Almost 300 administrative staff from VUM and UMIST attended the annual "Administration Conference" 27 April, hosted at Hulme Hall and St Gabriel's Hall

This was the first year the Conference was open to all central administration staff, and it was an excellent opportunity to discuss topics around Project Unity.

The opening and closing sessions were delivered by Registrar and Secretary, Dugald Mackie and President-designate, Professor Alan Gilbert respectively, with the main part of the day offering a wide range of topics including forward-looking sessions on External Relations, Business/Industry relationships, Research Management, Academic/Administrative

partnerships and Branding, with a range of more 'special interest' sessions on, for example, Equality and Diversity and Training and Development.

Speakers, drawn from both institutions, included senior academics, representatives of the two Student Unions (sharing perceptions and issues on the student "experience") and lead managers from the administration.

Doug Minhall, who organises the event, said: "There is a real buzz when so many colleagues have the opportunity to meet

together, network and share ideas and I know it has contributed to a clearer understanding of the Unity agenda and its impact on the administration. I was delighted that so many speakers, with hefty workloads and key Unity responsibilities, were so willing to find time to support the Conference.

"The event has grown and developed since we started in 2002 and we will of course be contacting delegates to get their feedback and suggestions for improvement that can inform the planning of any future event."

HEFCE Approves £20m for Manchester Merger

The Board of HEFCE formally agreed to grant £10m towards the development of the new merged university, plus a further £10m in the form of a repayable grant.

The funding package was officially ratified at HEFCE's Board which met at the Manchester Conference Centre.

The grants form part of an additional £65m of public funding to dissolve the Victoria University of Manchester and UMIST in order to create the new single university in October 2004. The Government has provided resources to support the proposal, which closely reflects the priorities outlined in their White Paper "The Future of Higher Education".

The President-designate, Professor Alan Gilbert, said: "We are delighted that

HEFCE have provided this financial support to help realise the vision of a truly world class research university here in Manchester. This significant funding will help us to achieve our goal."

HEFCE Chief Executive Professor Sir Howard Newby said: "We warmly welcome and support this development. The merger will create a university in the North West capable of competing on a global basis in the delivery of world class research, scholarship and teaching across a broad range of subjects. We now look forward to Professor Gilbert and his team delivering on this exciting vision."



Professor Sir Howard Newby and Professor Alan Gilbert

News



Manchester Masterclass

Turning innovations into commercial success – technology transfer - was the topic of the recent masterclass organised by Manchester Innovation.

The masterclass in Intellectual Property and Commercialisation, aimed at life scientists and attended by researchers from the Victoria University of Manchester and UMIST and the NHS, provided an insight into what is involved in protecting ideas and innovations and their subsequent commercialisation.

More than 60 people took part in the workshop, sponsored by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, which covered a broad range of topics including protection of intellectual property, legal issues and how innovations are managed in the NHS. Speakers included Dr

lan Hampson from St Mary's Hospital and Dr Sharon O'Kane of Renovo Ltd. Both highlighted the differences between academic and industry and the dynamic nature of life in a start-up company.

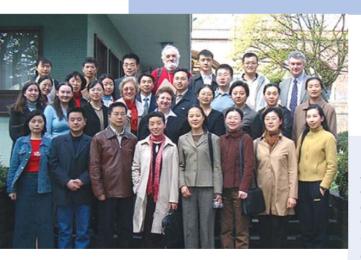
Dr Maire Smith, Chief Executive of Manchester Innovations, said that Project Unity would increase the opportunities for researchers to interact enhancing the pipeline of exciting prospects for knowledge transfer.

For further information about IP and commercialisation, please contact Jan Hilton at jan.hilton@maninv.com



www.maninv.com

Voices from China



Twenty-four university teachers from all over China made up the fourth group participating in the joint programme by China Scholarship Council (CSC) and the Teaching and Learning Support Centre at UMIST (TaLSC). The group, all from differing academic backgrounds, attended a series of taught sessions and tutorials over 19 weeks.

Rosemary Warner, TSEE Programme
Director at TaLSC, said: "We are privileged
to be the only university in the UK which
was chosen by the CSC on the basis of
our very successful Academic Practice
course for new lecturers.

"There is the expectation that our Chinese colleagues will teach in English when they return to China and that they will have learnt about the UK culture of education. They observe teaching in their host departments and prepare assessed teaching observations and reflective portfolios in order to attain the UMIST Certificate."

Li Hong (Sylvie) from Shanghai University said: "I have been a teacher in Shanghai University for twelve years; however, this is the first time for me to reflect on my teaching in a way that ensures future improvement.

Kuo Honghong (Sunny) from Xidian University, Xian City, said: "Having attended the lectures in my host department, the differences have deeply impressed me. For example, students are regarded as learning partners and interaction is especially emphasized in classes."

Kou Ge (Grace) from Nanjing Institute of Science and Technology said: "UMIST has many international students and I had the chance to make friends with people from many different places. Taking part in the TSEE programme is a really special experience and I enjoy it."

Research

NHS & Manchester Innovation

The Victoria University of Manchester scooped both joint first prizes at the North West NHS Innovation Awards ceremony at the Lowry Theatre.

The awards aim to identify and promote innovation and innovative practices in the NHS to bring about improvements in the delivery of healthcare, and the ceremony provided an excellent opportunity for ideas to be shared across the region.

David Woolley from Oncoprobe Limited, a VUM spin-off company based at Central Manchester and Manchester Children's University Hospitals NHS Trust, was awarded the joint first prize for his entry; a technology to facilitate the selection of anticancer drugs specific to individual

cancer patients. David's innovation is a technology that listens to cells much as a stethoscope listens to the body. He commented: "What we try to see is which drugs will be effective for a particular cancer. Many people are familiar with combination chemotherapy- what we try to do is eliminate those drugs that will not work and identify those that will".

Dr Shaheen Hamdy from the VUM Department of Medicine (and based at Salford Royal Hospitals NHS Trust) was also joint first prize winner of the



Dr. Salil Singh, Dr David Glover (MIL), Dr. Shaheen Hamdy

innovative device category with a medical device to promote the rehabilitation of swallowing problems in stroke patients. Dr Hamdy commented: "We've got clinical trials on board and the results are very promising. The prize money will be used to help develop the device with our industrial partners."

All winners received a financial award to help further development or completion of their innovation and the intention is to develop a bedside, portable version of the device.

Power Plants

Scientists at UMIST are helping Manchester sculptor Michael Trainor to go down a storm - his next dramatic installation will have as its centrepiece a lightning conductor. His latest works will become the focal points for Cornwall's first university.

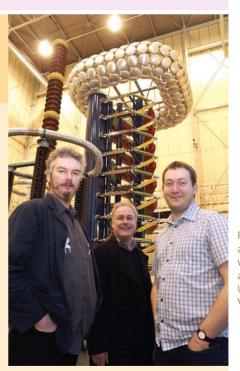
Michael's 'Power Plants' are sculptural plant forms, which will spring into life in response to the changing temperature and climate, powered by renewable energy sources.

To achieve this, Michael sought help from a physicist to put them into practice. He contacted KnowledgeNorthWest, the service which helps businesses find expertise from within the region's universities. As a result he is now working with UMIST to test different materials and technologies for each of his three pieces.

Among his sculptures will be The Lightning Seed, on the roof of the new campus, in the shape of a large seedpod which will attract lightning, causing it to 'germinate' and grow when it strikes.

The work is being carried out at UMIST's National Grid Transco High Voltage Centre, which can create its own `lightning strike' and which will be used to test the Lightning Seed sculpture.

Michael said: "Power Plants acknowledges the unique mix of arts and technology courses that the new campus



will offer. To put the project into practice I recognised I would need some serious scientific input but I struggled to find specialists who could help. Finally I called on KnowledgeNorthWest, who were able to track down the right academics within five days of my call. Now I am looking forward to working with UMIST to develop and test my ideas."

Pictured from left: artist Michael Trainor with Malcolm Bailey and Dr Ian Cotton of UMIST, in the High Voltage Centre

Research

Planet Suite

The Manchester Cosmochemistry and Isotope Geochemistry Research Centre was officially opened on Tuesday 27 April by Professor Sir Keith O'Nions, who is the Director General of the Research Councils.

Researchers in the Centre, based in the School of Earth Sciences, will measure the isotopes (atoms of an element that differ in their mass) that occur in rocks from the Earth, Mars, Moon and Meteorites.

This information can be used in many ways. It provides a time-scale for all geological events from the formation of the Earth to the present day. Isotopes are

used to investigate the last moments of a stars life by studying the remnants of supernovae trapped as dust in meteorites.

On Earth they tell us about climate change, how oil and gas migrate in sediments, and where we can safely store the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide.

These and many other applications are now possible in the new Centre that houses a suite of laboratories equipped with state-of-the-art equipment for the analysis of naturally occurring isotopes in the environment and the cosmos.

A new £2 million research centre focusing on the formation, history and structure of the Earth and other planets has opened at the Victoria University of Manchester.

Professor Grenville Turner, who is the leader of the Isotope Geochemistry group, said: "The new laboratories will put us in a great position to apply our expertise in understanding the nature of the solar system to the problems of our environment here on the Earth".

The Centre has been built thanks to a £2.1 million grant from the Science Research Infrastructure Fund. The Isotope Geochemistry Group was established at the VUM in 1989 and currently comprises of 19 researchers and students.



Boost For Brain Sciences

Researchers based at the Victoria University of Manchester have been awarded almost £1.25 million by the Medical Research Council as part of a major initiative aimed at strengthening brain sciences research in the UK.

Of the seven awards, five were awarded to the School of Psychiatry and Behavioural Sciences, one to the School of Biological Sciences and another to the Department of Psychology.

All of the projects are aimed at building foundations for future work to help tackle major mental health problems. The innovative projects chosen cover a wide variety of scientific approaches to address major disorders and diseases such as depression, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and schizophrenia.

The awards range from basic studies of genetics and mechanisms of disease to creating new packages of care for mental health and future development of clinical trials.

The awards were split into two categories – 'pathfinders' – projects which promise

'high risk high payoff' research which will act as a springboard for future research bids; and 'trial platforms' which aim to build the capacity for future proposals for clinical trials in mental health.

The awards made to the School of Psychiatry and Behavioural Sciences were as follows:

Professor Alistair Burns, based at Wythenshawe Hospital, was awarded £168,000 for research into the way Alzheimer's disease develops.

Professor Christine Barrowclough was awarded £180,000 for her collaborative work with the University of Liverpool on preventing relapse in people diagnosed with bipolar disorder.

Dr Linda Gask and Professor David Richards (School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting) were awarded £165,000 to look at the case management of depression in primary care.

Dr Richard Gater, who is based at the MRI, was awarded £204,000 for work looking at persistently depressed Pakistani women.

Dr Adrian Wells, in collaboration with University College London, was awarded £119,000 to look at ways of improving depression with modular treatment.

From the School of Biological Sciences, Professor Risto Kauppinen was awarded £206,000 for magnetic resonance methods for imaging certain types of stroke.

And from the Department of Psychology Professor Matt Lambon Ralph, was awarded £207,000 for understanding the neural basis of semantic impairment in certain types of dementia.

News

"FORRAY" Into Space

It was blast off for the 'space age canary in the mineshaft' developed by a team of UMIST scientists as it took off from the Russian Space Agency's launch site, at the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, for the International Space Station last month.

The UMIST experiment codenamed FORRAY (Fluorescence Orbital Radiation Risk Assessment using Yeast) – which contains living yeast cells engineered with jellyfish genes so that they become increasingly fluorescent as they repair chromosomes damaged by the radiation – was carried aboard a Soyuz rocket that took off in the early hours of 19 April.

Astronauts are exposed to 100 times the radiation level received on Earth and this increases their risk of cancer. Radiation intensity is quite simple to measure. However risk of exposure to cosmic radiation is not really understood – the FORRAY device investigated this. The astronauts pressed a plunger every day mixing millions of dormant yeast cells with nutrients, forcing them into two compartments: one exposed to the damaging space radiation, and one shielded by aluminium. There were six

plungers, one for each day of our mission aboard the ISS. The rocket returned safely to Earth on 30 April.

Back in Manchester, the team are measuring cellular fluorescence in the exposed and unexposed yeast, allowing them to link radiation levels to DNA damage. The same yeast, trademarked as GreenScreen, is used by UMIST spin out company Gentronix Ltd in products designed to detect potential DNA damaging agents in drug development and environmental samples.

The team were not rocket scientists at the start, and the challenge was enormous. To satisfy the exacting standards of the European Space Agency (ESA), FORRAY needed to withstand the shock of lift off with its associated extremes of vibration and G forces, as well as vacuum stress in space. It also had to be easy to use and weigh less than 0.5 kg.



Placing FORRAY into the Soyuz rocket



/www.esa.int/SPECIALS/Delta_Mission/index.html

Project Director Dr Richard Walmsley from Biomolecular Sciences said: "The team worked incredibly hard – long hours of micromilling, early leaks, frustrations, not to mention the four-way phone link ups between NASA, UMIST, ESA and the Russian Space Agency– but final take off was a tremendous achievement for the whole team."

The design and construction team were Project Manager Dr Andrew Knight, Professor Peter Fielden and Dr Nick Goddard from the Department of Instrumentation and Analytical Science (DIAS), Biotechnology Specialist Dr Nick Billinton, also at BMS, with engineering support from Ian Smale.

People



Notes from a Nobel Prize Winner

Nobel Prize Winner, Clive Granger, whose work has fundamentally changed the way economists think about financial and macroeconomic data, gave a personal account of his 'Nobel Experience' in an open lecture at the Victoria University of Manchester on Monday 26 April 2004, organised by the Schools of Economics and Accounting and Finance.

Professor Granger, who has worked closely with academics at the University, was awarded the Nobel Prize for Economic Sciences in 2003 (with Professor Robert Engel) for their discoveries in the analysis of economic time series data. These are sequences of numerical observations over time, such as the levels of stock prices each day or the levels of national income each year.

Professor Granger's great breakthroughs concerned the relationships between these variables and showed that traditional statistical methods could be misleading if applied to variables that tend to wander over time, without returning to some long-run resting point.

Professor Granger is pictured with President-designate, Professor Alan Gilbert.



http://les.man.ac.uk/ses/

House Proud



Building attendants from House Services (VUM) had their own graduation ceremony recently when they received their NVQ Level 1 certificates.

More than 40 staff from the Directorate of Estates have completed the course by working for an hour and a half each week over 15 weeks since June last year, fitting in the course alongside their shifts. The course covered areas such as building maintenance and cleaning.

Dave Lomas from Estates, who organised the training, said: "This was part of raising the standard and professionalism of House Services. The staff have all had a lot of in-house training but to have externally recognised qualification is even better. They have all taken pride in their achievement."

The certificates were presented at a special ceremony in Staff House.

Students

Sarah Pipped at the Post

UMIST swimming sensation Sarah Heyes has narrowly missed out on her dream of going to the Olympic Games this summer. Despite reaching three finals in the British trials, and swimming two personal bests, Sarah was edged out in some titanic world-class races.

Sarah came fourth in the 400M Individual Medley, fourth in the 200M Individual Medley and seventh in the 400M freestyle. She equalled her personal bests in both of the Individual Medley events with times of 4.51.7 and 2.19.1 respectively.

But despite reaching three finals, Sarah was disappointed with her performances. She said: "I was training really well up to



the trials and was the fittest I'd ever trained and training the fastest I'd ever trained, but at the end of the day it just wasn't meant to be."

Another Opening...

Drama student Benji Sperring has proved to be a match from Anne Robinson on the show The Weakest Link, by walking away with £2,970, and spending it on a production at the Palace Theatre.

Benji, a budding actor and member of VUM's drama society, decided that the best way to spend the cash was to stage a production of the drama group's latest work, Stephen Sondheim's 'Assassins'. Benji is producing, directing and starring in the stage show, and it will be no ordinary show as it's the first amateur production ever to be staged at the Palace Theatre.

Benji commented: "It's been a great experience and, with the money I have won, we are helping to increase people's involvement in theatre, by bringing this particular show to the Palace. I really couldn't think of a better way to spend the money!"

The production runs from 6 May to 8 May and tickets are £15 (£10 for students). To book call 0870 060 768



Media Interest



The ever-growing number of television channels, radio stations, publications and websites looking to fill their airtime and pages, means academics are in great demand to talk about their work.

Medicine, psychology, politics and social studies are perenially popular subject areas and academics in these fields are regularly called upon to lend their comments to a story – many developing second careers as media commentators in the process.

But how - often complex - academic research is ultimately presented in the media is a big question for academics, keen to communicate their work but equally keen that it should be reported accurately.

This conference which is being organised by six postgraduate students from the Victoria University of Manchester, will be the first of its kind to explicitly seek dialogue between the diverse groups involved in the media process. It will also question whether the media, in all its myriad forms, is

The highly topical issue of how research is portrayed in the media is the subject of an interdisciplinary conference at the Victoria University of Manchester Mis/Representation in Media on 17 and 18 June 2004.

responsible for the representations and stereotypes they create.

Dr Peter Lawler, Lecturer in International Relations, Department of Government, VUM who is chairing one of the sessions, said: "This timely conference addresses one of the central political, cultural and social issues of today. The politics of 'spin' and the representation or misrepresentation of such things as terrorism and armed international intervention are only the most visible faces of a complex relationship between the media, politics and daily life.

"Today's publics are confronted by a maze of words and images whose claim to authority are increasingly contested and contestable. Against this backdrop, a conference which endeavours to make some sense of the global media circus and which bridges the various levels of the academic community has to be warmly welcomed."

VUM Chancellor Anna Ford, who has lent her support to the conference, said:"I'm glad to say a few words about the Media Conference at the Victoria University of Manchester. I believe more strongly than ever that we have never been in greater need of a free robust, intelligent, well-informed and independent press who will continue to "shine a light" into the darkness. And I include in that a free and independent BBC."

Sessions will include:

Mis/Representation and Politics in Media, chaired by Dr Peter Lawler (Department of Government, VUM).

Mis/Representation of History in Media, chaired by Dr Gareth Palmer (University of Salford).

Mis/Representation of Social Reality and Identity in Media, chaired by Dr Sian Jones (VUM).

Mis/Representation in Advertising, chaired by Professor John Corner (University of Liverpool).

Media Forum chaired by Dr Helen Wood (the Victoria University of Manchester) will discuss the overarching themes of the conference. Panellists will include Johann Hari (columnist The Independent), Dr Rajinder Dudrah (VUM), Professor John Corner (The University of Liverpool), and Professor Jonathan Bignell (University of Reading) and representatives of the BBC.

There will also be a media workshop that will comprise a series of short question and answer sessions and presentations by professionals and advisers in the media sector. These will include representatives from Manchester University Press, the Careers Service and the academic sector.

The event is free but attendees are asked to contact the organisers in advance. If you would like further information or would like to contact those involved please visit the website below or e-mail pgconference@man.ac.uk.

The postgraduate organising committee consists of Jasem Tarawneh (Law), Oxana Poberejnaia (Government), Carrie LeBlanc (Art History), Alex Berratta (English), Marcus Brittain (Archaeology) and Tim Clack (Archaeology).



Project Unity

Project Unity Communications

Several members of staff have commented on the need for two-way communications within Project Unity, in order to ask questions or to simply comment on the process.

Since the inception of the Project Unity website it has been possible for staff to comment using the e-mail address projectunity@lists.man.ac.uk. This email address is still in use for those who wish to pass comment or ask a question, and it will continue to be in place as a means of communication until October 2004. It is for all communications and feedback except Human Resources (HR) - a separate system of communications for HR is detailed below.

Once the single institution is fully operational the External Relations Directorate will commission a full audit of all internal communications and further avenues of communication will be implemented where necessary.

Human Resources Communications

Many of you will have specific Human Resources questions that you would like answered. The Project Unity website contains useful guidance information and access to up-to-date new and ring fenced posts, as well as a list of the Human Resource representatives who, in addition to your current or future line managers, are available to answer your questions. The document is available in the Human Resources folder, which is located on the left hand side of the Project Unity website homepage at http://www.projectunity.man.ac.uk/

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What's On



Contact Theatre

Tue 25 May 2004 - Sat 29 May 2004, £9/£6
Paines Plough in a co-production with Drum
Theatre, Plymouth and Hampstead Theatre
THE STRAITS

The Straits tells the story of four teenagers, living in Gibraltar as children of the British Forces during the summer of 1982. But for the sons and daughters of the British Forces, another war beginning in the South Atlantic will soon bring a dark heart to their games.

Following the smash hit GAGARIN WAY, for his second play Gregory Burke draws on his experiences growing up in a family stationed in Gibraltar during the Falklands War.

Suitable for ages 14+. Some strong language and nudity. Education resource pack and workshops available. Contact Jennie on 0161 274 0651 for more information.

Wed 26 May 2004 - Sat 29 May 2004, £8/£5 Manchester University Drama Department ROBERTO ZUCCO

It is a cold, lonely night in the city. The nightclubs are pounding underground whilst the faint neon hum breaks the silence of the street. In Little Chicago, the city's red light district, business is going well whilst from a nearby prison, criminal Roberto Zucco escapes. Incarcerated for murdering his father, now out on the streets again, he collides with anything and everything in his path.

Contact Theatre, Oxford Road, Manchester Tickets/Info: 0161 274 0600
For information on other events please visit our website www.contact-theatre.org
A limited number of tickets are available from just £4 on the day from the Ticket Office between 11am - 4pm daily.

Department of Music

Friday 14 May, 6.3opm
The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall
Procter-Gregg Awards
A public recital given by students from the
Department of Music

Department of Music

School of Music and Drama, Coupland Street 0161 275 4982 www.art.man.ac.uk/MUSIC

Gig Guide Manchester Academy 1, 2 & 3

Tues 11 May
Kevin Montgomery - £12
Wed 12 May
The Bronx - £7.50
Thurs 13 May
Victory Records Tour - £7
Fri 14 May
Bad Religion - £14
Hanky Park - £7
Sat 15 May
Story of the Year - £7.50

Karl Bartos - £12

Thur 20 May
Graham Coxon - £12.50
Fri 21 May
Hoobastank - £8
Amp Fiddler - £12
Sat 22 May
Colin Vearncombe - £10
Coheed & Cambria - tbc
Sun 23 May
Jesse Malin - £9
Mon 24 May
The Datsuns - Sold Out
Tues 25 May
Phoenix - £8.50

Wed 26 May
Banco De Gaia - £12
Thur 27 May
Gretchen Peters - £14
Fri 28 May
The Killers - £7
Sat 29 May
Ozric Tentacles - £12
Hothouse Flowers - £18.50
Sun 30 May
INME - £9
Wed 2 June

My Chemical Romance - £7.50

Students' Union Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL

Tickets from:Piccadilly Box Office, easy Internet Cafe, (c/c) 0871 2200260 Online @ www.manchesteracademy.net Royal Court (Liverpool) 0151 709 4321 (c/c) Students' Union 0161 275 2930



DISPLAYS/COLLECTIONS

Walter Crane to 23 May 2004 In May 2002, The Whitworth Art Gallery and the John Rylands University Library jointly acquired a major archive of material from Walter Crane's (1845-1915) studio. A selection of the archive will be displayed alongside work already in the Whitworth's collection, providing an insight into Crane's prolific and wide-ranging career.

Rembrandt Rediscovered and Anne Desmet to 19 May 2004

This collection display focuses on printmaking and features a large group of etchings and drypoints by Rembrandt, as well as wood engravings and collages by the contemporary printmaker Anne Desmet, seen together with her personal selection from the Gallery's print collection. Rembrandt Rediscovered is the culmination of a project to conserve all the prints by the Dutch artist in the Whitworth's collection.

William Morris "Ministering to the Swinish Luxury of the Rich" 10 April to December 2004 An exhibition by David Mabb. Mabb recycles familiar images from the Gallery's holdings of William Morris material to produce a new installation

Blasting the Future! Vorticism in Britain 1910 - 1920 7 May to 25 July 2004

Though short lived, Vorticism was a vigorous and influential art movement in early twentieth-century Britain. This exhibition, the first survey in thirty years, will include works by Wyndham Lewis, Wadsworth, Bomberg, Nevinson. Organised in partnership with the Estorick Collection, London.

Susie MacMurray from 15 May 2004 In March 2004, Susie MacMurray worked as Textile Artist in Residence at The Whitworth Art Gallery. During this time she created a new piece of work for the gallery's textile collection, made almost exclusively from peacock feathers. This new work will be on display alongside other textiles from the collection.

TOURS AND EVENTS

Every Saturday at 2pm there is either an Exhibition Tour or an Eyeopener Tour.

Susie MacMurray - Susie and students from City College Manchester will discuss their experience of working together at the studio, and the kinds of materials and techniques they have been experimenting with. Fri 21 May, 2pm, FREE

Blasting the Future! - Curator's Tour, *Tues 25 May, 2pm, FREE*

Vorticism and the War - Lecture by Dr Jonathon Black, Fri 28 May, 2pm, £2 (students FREE)

CONCERTS

The Coupland Brass Quintet Sat 15 May, 3pm, FREE.

Whitworth Art Gallery Oxford Road, o161 275 7450, www.whitworth@man.ac.uk

Opening hours Mon to Sat 10am - 5pm, Sun 2pm - 5 pm FREE Admission

Gallery Café The café sells a selection of drinks and light meals. 0161 275 7497

Gallery Shop The bookshop stocks a range of art and design books, cards and gifts. 0161 275 7498



International Society

TRIPS

Day visit to Knutsford and Sat 15 May

Little Moreton Hall

Mon 17 May Trip to see Carmen performed

at the Opera House

Sat 22 May Day visit to Oxford.

Sat 29 May Day visit to Robin Hood's Bay

and Scarborough

FVFNTS

Sat 15 May National Evening Every Tuesday 8pm until late The Melting Pot @ The Thirsty Scholar (next to Oxford Road Station).

THEATRE AND MUSIC

For details about the availability of tickets for various theatre and music performances, please visit our website.

International Society, 327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)0161 275 4959 www.internationalsociety.org.uk Monday - Friday 9:30am - 5pm

Jodrell Bank

The facilities at Jodrell Bank are going through a period of redevelopment. The Visitors Centre currently has a café, an exhibition space and a 3D theatre open, and visitors can still explore the various trails and the natural habitats of the Arboretum's 35 acres with its 2000 species of trees and shrubs and National Collections. In January 2004 Jodrell Bank completed a 180 degree observational pathway close to the base of the world famous Lovell radio telescope.

Tuesday 1 June to Friday 4 June, 2pm Meet an Astronomer

Find out the answers to all those astronomical questions you have always wanted to ask. Meet on the Observational Pathway, under the pagoda.

Wednesday 2 June, 2pm Children's Guided Walk of the Arboretum This walk will give children a chance to explore and find out about trees and their natural habitats. It is essential to pre book for this walk, we would also suggest that parents accompany their child.

Jodrell Bank Science Centre & Arboretum

Macclesfield, Cheshire 01477 571339 www.jb.man.ac.uk

John Rylands Library

The John Rylands Special Collections Library, Deansgate, will be closed for a period of approximately 2 years, until 2005, for essential refurbishment and the construction of a new visitor and interpretative centre. Access to all the special collections is available through the main University Library on campus. A Special Collections Reading Room is open on Purple Four, Monday to Friday 10am - 5.15pm and Saturdays 10am 1pm. Readers may find it helpful to contact us in advance on 0161 275 3764. Further information can be found on our website www.rylibweb.man.ac.uk/spcoll/

John Rylands Library, 150 Deansgate, Manchester, M₃ 3EH

0161 834 5343 www.rylibweb.man.ac.uk/spcoll/



Manchester Museum

Saturday 15 May (Adult Learners' Week), 2.00 - 4.00pm

Beloved and Forsaken

Following a public tour of the exhibition, join Spring Hurlbutt and Jane Wildgoose as they engage in a public conversation on the themes of processes involved in creating "Beloved and Forsaken." Jane Wildgoose is an artist, writer, and lecturer at the Winchester School of Art.

Saturday 15 May 1.30 - 4.00pm

A Dip in the Mersey

Explore the River Mersey with the Mersey Basin Trust. Find out about the weird and wonderful life found there and create your own incredible creatures. FRFF

Saturday 15 & 29 May, Sunday 16 & 30 May, 2.30pm

Graeme Pye, our very own Victorian gentleman, is back again to guide you on this special tour around the Museum. Meet at reception. FREE

Tuesday 18 May (Adult Learners' Week), 1.00 - 2.00pm

Dinosaurs of Patagonia... The Real Lost World! Patagonia has recently been the centre of attention for the world's biggest dinosaur discoveries. Join Dr Phil Manning for a lecture on his work in South America. featuring some of the most desolate dinosaur-hunting grounds in the world. FREE

Thursday 20 May (Adult Learners' Week), 1.00 - 3.00pm From Dinosaurs to DNA

A chance to explore the techniques used for genetic research. There will be the opportunity to 'cut' sections of DNA and, following preparation, load them onto a gel and visualize the results. FREE

Saturday 22 May, 2.00 - 3.30pm

The Stonehenge Enigma

Presenter of the BBC series Meet the Ancestors, Julian Richards, talks about the most famous prehistoric monument in the world and the advances of archaeology that can at last answer some of the fundamental questions about Stonehenge. An Alchemy event, £5 per person

Saturday 22 May, 1.30 - 4.00pm

Amazonian Journey

Take a journey down the Amazon, meet some of the live animals in the Museum's collection and learn about our conservation programme. Create your own rainforest creature in our art and craft workshop.

Sunday 23 May,12.00 3.00pm Sande Mask Hats

Art and craft session inspired by the Living Cultures gallery.

Saturday 29 May, 1.30 - 4.00pm

A Trek Down the Nile

Find out more about the world of the ancient Egyptians as you take a trail through the galleries on a scavenger hunt. Followed by an ancient Egyptian art and craft session.

Monday 31 May,1.30 - 3.30pm

Bones and Skeletons

Find out about our bones and skeletons in this drop-in workshop. X-rays and model bones will be available for handling along with an art and craft activity to build your own skeleton FRFF

All drop-in events cost £1 per child, unless otherwise stated. For group bookings please call 0161 275 2648. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Manchester Museum Oxford Road, o161 275 2630, www.museum.man.ac.uk Opening hours, Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sun 11am - 4pm Free admission, booking is essential for all programmes

Chaplaincies

St Peter's House Chaplaincy

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10.30am & 6.30pm (Evening Worship Term-time only) FOYER 10am-4pm. An area where students and staff can relax and meet friends. A tea/coffee machine is available. Precinct Centre 0161 275 2894 sph.reception@man.ac.uk

Avila House RC Chaplaincy (next to the Holy Name Church)

Mass Times Mon - Fri 1.05 pm (term-time only) Oxford Road 0161 275 6999/273 1456

Mass every Sunday at 10am

UMIST Chaplaincy Chaplains on UMIST site Monday to Friday Floor B, Room B 25

Renold Building UMIST 0161 236 3311 Ext 2522

Mosque: Main Building Prayer Room: Renold Building B₂6

Seminars & Lectures

Monday 10 May

Dept of Social Anthropology: "Men and masculinities in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Zambia". Dr Anthony Simpson (Manchester). 4pm, Room 5.1, Roscoe Bldg.

Tuesday 11 May

CCSR: "Occupational segregation and part-time employment in Britain and the United States: the benefits of a multi-group measure of segregation". Jane Elliott (Liverpool). 4pm, 1st Floor Studio, Old Dover St Bldg. All welcome.

School of Art History and Archaeology: "'The dirtiest city in Europe'. Aesthetics, hygiene and the spectacle of Rome". Richard Wrigley (Nottingham). 5.15pm, Room 1.70, Architecture and Planning Bldg.

CHSTM: "Warren S McCulloch and the emergence of modern neurosciences". Tara Abraham (Max Planck Inst). 4pm, Room 3.29, 3rd Floor, Maths Tower

School of Planning and Landscape: Contemporary Issues in Urban and Environmental Research. Research students' Poster Session. 4pm, Hanson Room, Architecture and Planning Bldg.

NPCRDC: "Empowerment and modernisation in a Primary Care Trust". Ruth McDonald. 2pm, Seminar Room 2, 5th Floor Williamson Bldg.

Wednesday 12 May

Manchester Business School Vital Topics talk: Turning a passion for food into a successful family business. Nighat Awan, Chief Executive, Shere Khan Group. Email Sue Huzar to reserve a place: s.huzar@mbs.ac.uk

Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research:
"The climate impacts of aviation (specifically on
the fuel trade-offs and air space congestion
issues associated with restricting cruise
altitudes to avoid contrail formation)". Dr
Victoria Williams (Imperial College). 4pm, Room
C16, The Pariser Bldg, UMIST.

British Computer Society in Manchester: AGM and Safety Critical Systems. David Gould (NATS). 6.45pm, Room D.7, Renold Bldg, UMIST. Buffet 6.15pm. Further information: www.bscmanchester.org.uk

Dept of Physics and Astronomy Manchester Centre for Nonlinear Dynamics: "Granular avalanches in fluids". Dr Sylvain Courrech du Pont (Bristol). 4pm, Blackett Lecture Theatre, Schuster Laboratory.

Manchester Contemporary China Seminar:
"Uyghur nationalism in Xinjiang and the 'War on
Terror'". Dr Michael Dillon (Sheffield). 4pm, Room
A112. Arts Blde.

Dept of Chemistry: "Molybdenum hydroxylases: relevant to thio-mo chemistry". Prof Charles Young (Melbourne). 2pm, Room G.53, Chemistry Bldg.

Dept of Chemistry: "Chemo- and stereoselectivity in oxidative carbon-nitrogen bond forming processes". Prof Andrei Yudin (Toronto). 4pm, Room G.53, Chemistry Bldg.

SERA-Labour Environment Campaign: "Nuclear clean up: how safe are we in the North West? With the heart of the nuclear industry in the North West, should the industry now lead in the decommissioning of nuclear plants and ensure best practice in nuclear waste management?" 7.30pm, Manchester Town Hall, Albert Square. For information contact Lydia Meryll 0161 249 0943.

Thursday 13 May

Manchester Medical Society joint meeting with Research into Aging: "Inflammation in acute stroke - taking science from bench to bedside". 5pm, LT2, Stopford Bldg.

Faculty of Medicine – Imaging Science and Biomedical Engineering: "Recent advances in the diagnosis and treatment of cerebral aneurysms". Dr D G Hughes (Manchester). 5.15pm, LT3, Stopford Bldg. All welcome.

Dept of History: "Masters or subjects? The difficulties of writing a history of the Irish and the British Empire". Dr Donal Lowry (Oxford Brookes). 5pm, Room A113, Arts Bldg.

Friday 14 May

Dept of Physics and Astronomy Condensed Matter Physics: "Kinematic anisotrophy in an isotropic medium – the behaviour of phonon pulses in liquid helium". Charles Williams (Exeter). 4pm, Moseley Lecture Theatre, Schuster Laboratory.

Tuesday 18 May

Manchester Medical Society – Imaging – Gray Hartley Lecture: "The atom, the electron and radiology in Manchester - an historical perspective". Prof I Isherwood CBE. 6pm, Health Sciences Postgraduate Centre, Manchester Royal Infirmary.

NPCRDC: "Translating Policy into Research: Primary care research, PCTs, and the new NHS". Frederick Chen (University College London). 2pm, Seminar Room 2, 5th Floor Williamson Bldg.

Wednesday 19 May

CHSTM: "Curare - The Flying Death". Professor Ove A Nedergaard (University of Southern Denmark). 4pm, Room 3.29, Maths Tower.

Dept of Physics and Astronomy - Manchester Centre for Nonlinear Dynamics: Title to be announced. Dr Olivier Pouliquen (IUSTI, Marseille). 4pm, Blackett Lecture Theatre, Schuster Laboratory.

Jodrell Bank Observatory Colloquia: "Extra-solar planets". Keith Horne (St Andrews). 4pm, Lecture Room Jodrell Bank.

Thursday 20 May

CHSTM History of Medicine Lecture: "The myth of the 'malaria tolerant native'. Medical research and colonial development in South Africa in the 1920s and 30s." Prof Randall Packard (John Hopkins University). 5.30pm, Lecture Theatre 2, Stopford Bldg.

Dept of Chemical Engineering: "Challenges in batch process performance monitoring". Prof Julian Roberts (Newcastle). 12pm, Room C63/64, Jackson Mill, UMIST.

School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting: "As the yellowness of a lemon is from its acidity'. Bourdieu, class and gender in nursing". Jane Brooks (Leeds). 4pm, Rooms 28-29, Coupland 3 Bldg.

Friday 21 May

Dept of Religions and Theology - Media and Contextual Theology: "Reimaging radio in Rwanda". Jolyon Mitchell. 10am, Room A4, Faculty Committee Room, Arts Bldg.

Dept of Physics and Astronomy Condensed Matter Physics Group: Title to be announced. Prof David Khmelnitskii (Cavendish Laboratory). 4pm, Moseley Lecture Theatre, Schuster Laboratory.

Monday 24 May

Dept of Chemistry: "Title to be announced". Prof Shu Kobayashi (Tokyo). 4pm, Room G.51, Chemistry Bldg.

Tuesday 25 May

CCSR: "Schedules of work and family life in Britain - towards a typology using qualitative data". Collette Fagan (Manchester). 4pm, Studio, 1st floor Dover Street Bldg. All welcome.

Faculty of Education - Teacher Professional Development: "Models of professional development for teachers and their relationship to school effectiveness". Bill Boyle. "Why are new teachers leaving the profession?" Amanda Barton. "Improving mentor training: an evaluation of practice". Liz Smith. 12pm, Room C3.19, Humanities Bldg.

NPCRDC: "A nurse practitioner to support general practice? Does substitution of care result in an increased quality of health care and a decrease of the workload of GPs?" Miranda Laurent (University of Nijmegen). 2pm, Seminar Room 2, 5th Floor Williamson Bldg.

Wednesday 26 May

Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research: Title to be announced. Dr Mark Pelling (King's College). 4pm, Room C16, The Pariser Building, UMIST.

Jodrell Bank Observatory: Title to be announced. Tom Muxlow. 4pm, Lecture Room, Jodrell Bank.

Centre for Philosophy: "Collective goods and public health". Angus Dawson (Keele). 4pm, Room OG.16, Old Dover St Bldg. All welcome.

Dept of Physics and Astronomy Nonlinear Dynamics: "Self-organised behaviour in driven colloidal systems". Prof Wilson Poon (Edinburgh). 4pm, Blackett Lecture Theatre, Schuster Laboratory.

Thursday 27 May

Faculty of Medicine - Imaging Science & Biomedical Engineering: "Developing a musculoskeletal ultrasound service in the District General Hospital". Dr G M Hoadley (Blackpool). 5.15pm, Lecture Theatre 3, Stopford Bldg.

Manchester Medical Society - Paediatrics Regional Meeting: "Investigations in childhood obesity". Dr C M Hall. "Strategies and interventions in obesity". Dr P Gately (Leeds). "New monogenic obesity syndromes". Prof P E Clayton (Manchester). "Chinese medicine in childhood eczema". Dr N Lampert (Birmingham). 2pm, Lecture Theatre 1, Wythenshawe Hospital.

Dept of Chemical Engineering: "A loaf less ordinary: bubbles, bran and bread during a New Zealand sabbatical". Dr Grant Campbell (UMIST). 12pm, Room C63/64, Jackson Mill, UMIST.

Friday 28 May

Dept of Physics and Astronomy - Condensed Matter Group: "Towards graphite-based electronics". Kostya Novoselov (Manchester). 4pm, Moseley Lecture Theatre, Schuster Laboratory

For further info or to list seminars contact unievents@man.ac.uk

Looking Back

Aerial Shot of UMIST and City Centre, 1962

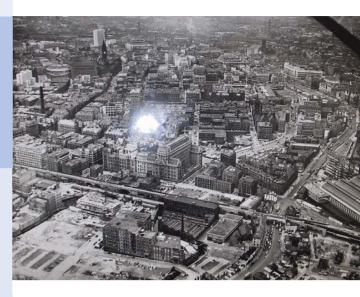
This aerial photograph shows a developing UMIST campus and its proximity to Manchester city centre as the Renold Building rises beside the railway line.

To the far right, you can see the glass canopies over Piccadilly Station's platforms, then follow Piccadilly Approach to Piccadilly Gardens before reaching the large white department store Debenhams (then Paulden's) at the bottom of Market Street. Further ahead is a smut-darkened Manchester Cathedral. To the top left hand side is Manchester

Town Hall with its white clock face and next-door Central Library.

Many of the buildings across the city are now long-gone, including those on Granby Row, back on the UMIST campus.

Architect WA Gibbon designed the Renold Building in 1962. Following major refurbishment, it now boasts a 500-seat theatre, two 300 seat theatres, five 140-seat theatres, 20 flexible seminar rooms and 1200 square metres of exhibition space, with a high specification of audiovisual aids and professional technicians on-site.



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Noticeboard

TRDN ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

Tuesday 18 May, 9.30am - 4pm, Council Chamber The University of Manchester The Teaching, Research and Development Network is a University of Manchester/UMIST network to support scholarship and research in teaching and learning. The theme of the sixth annual symposium is 'Linking research and teaching'. Opening keynotes will be followed by four parallel workshops and poster presentations, closing with a panel-led discussion.

To book a place please email trdn@mana.cuk or visit the TRDN website for more information: www.intranet.mana.cuk/rsd/ci/profess/trdn/index.html

HALLE ORCHESTRA

Bridgewater Hall, Manchester

Season tickets are available for 8 Halle Orchestra concerts to be played in the Bridgewater Hall from Oct 04 - May 05, for only £48. For more information ring or fax Phil Gerrard on 0161 485 2698

CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE

Cafe Scientifique....a place where, for the price of a cup of coffee or a glass of wine, ANYONE can come to explore the latest ideas in science and technology. CafeMuse, Oxford Road (Manchester Museum). Free entry – booking essential.

To book a place email cafe.scientifique@man.ac.uk or use the booking form at

http://www.business.man.ac.uk/cafe-scientific/Cafe-web.htm

Classifieds

HOUSE FOR SALE

Fallowfield. 1 bedrm flat, spac, well presented ideal for 1st time buyer. Situated on the 2nd flr benefitting from dble glaz, gd size living accomm & ample storage space. Conv situated for the centre, the property has well maintained communal gdns, parking & lock up garage.

OIRO. £115,000. Email: rutha_bell@hotmail.com

ACCOMMODATION TO LET

West Didsbury. Tidy non-smoking female prof/PhD student to share 2 bed flat. Bright, airy, dble glazed, 2nd flr in purpose built block, parking, bus stop right outside. 5mins walk from restaurants, shops. Didsbury Village 10 mins. Rent £75pw or £300pcm + bills. Email:sunnyshine411@hotmail.com

Heaton Moor. F/F s/c luxury lifestyle aparts situated in det Victorian villa conversion. Quiet, safe, conv area. Fully equip 1 bedrm (dble) & studio (dble) aparts, with private parking. Rent neg includes water rates. 0161-432 4885 or 07816 618 280 to view.

Glossop. 1st flr 2 bed purpose furn duplex apart. Well maintained property, rec dec, gd carpets, exc cond. Spiral staircase. 5 mins walk to station, direct line to Piccadilly. Close to town centre, open countryside gd walks. Dep & refs reqd. £475pcm. 0161-480 8583.

West Didsbury. Rm in my hse avail July onwards. Conv for buses, gdn etc. Would suit pg or visiting academic. £280pcm inc bills. 0161-445 1647.

Fallowfield. 2 d/bedrm, newly refurn, purposebuilt 1st flr flat. Sep study. Fitted bathrm with shwr, fitted kit, w/machine, d/wisher, f/freezer, ECH. New carpets, decoration. Covered private parking, beautiful gdns. £625pcm. 07966 472 960 or email: alistair@perrynicholls.co.uk

Bramhall/Cheadle Hulme. Extremely sought after loc. F/F 2 bed bungalow, inc GCH, microwave, fridge etc. Very comfortable & cosy. Beautifully dec, small pleasant gdns with parking for 2/3 cars. Prof person(s) only. 0161-485

Burford Court, Cotterdale Close, M16. Spac, mod, new 2 bed apart. GCH, DG, fit kit, entry phone. Allocated parking in gated dev, f/f. £550pcm. 0208 979 7508.

Cose to Mauldeth Rd station, Ladybarn. A Irge rm in a 2 bedrm f/f terr hse. Shared kit/din, living rm, bathrm. N/S. Prof/pg only. £80pwpp exc bills & council tax. 07958 159 776.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

Tuscany holiday cottage to let. Superb setting near mountains. Florence, Siena, Arezzo easily accessible. Ideal walking, sight-seeing etc. 0208 699 8883. Details and photos on website:http://freespace.virgin.net/gp.ck/Email:gp.ck@virgin.net

West Coast Scotland holiday cottages nr Oban. 18th Century listed buildings by Loch & mountains, pub, tearooms within walking distance. Great walks from hse. Extensive website www.bonawehouse.co.uk or 01866 822 309.

Brittany. Hilltop farmhouse. Self-catering. Simple, natural, tranquil, organic produce, walks, rides, woods, rivers, menhirs. South coast beaches 25mins. 01453 860 058. Email: susie.gloster@virgin.net

2 traditional styled Breton holiday gîtes in Southern Brittany, France. Open all year round. www.oak-tree-cottages.co.uk

Georgian country hse on Shropshire/Welsh border. About an hour from Manchester. Private gdns, lovely trees. Sleeps 16 in 8 bedrms, 6 baths. Luxury. Ideal for family gatherings. Email: george.dowswell@man.ac.uk

Holiday cottage in west of Ireland to let. Unusual, highly scenic coastal pos in County Donegal. Sleeps 6. Full details email: b.carroll@umist.ac.uk

Steps to Unwind. Bespoke Trekking breaks to Scotland & Snowdonia. Luxury walking holidays in Costa Del Azahar, Spain. 01942 274 812 or 07789 255 912. Email: markeddyo1@yahoo.co.uk Web: stepstounwind.co.uk

Luxury Villa in Orlando, Florida. 4 beds, 3 baths, with 24ft pool & spa, overlooking lake. Close to Disney, shops, restaurants & local attractions. Very spac, beautiful furn, 4 poster bed, fully equip, games rm, accommodates up to 8 people + cot. From £400pw. 0161-439 0408 or email: kate@mickeysorlandovilla.co.uk

Andalucia-Gaucin. In a beautiful white village, a uniquely designed villa, built as a series or apartments & cottages, around a central courtyard & pool. Sleeps 2-13 (6 bedrms/6 bathrms). Breathtaking views to Africa. Summer avail. 01865 791 999 or www.thespanishvilla.com

Lleyn Peninsular. 4 bedrm stone cottage to rent. Stunning panoramic views over Porth Neigwl (Hell's Mouth) bay & Snowdonia Mountain Range. Lovely 300 yr old stone cottage, sleeps 8. Newly renovated to a very high standard (Aga style cooker/log burner etc). Area of outstanding natural beauty. Great walking, windsurfing, bird, dolphin & seal spotting. 01758 760 664.

CAR FOR SALE

W Reg Fiat Punto 1.2. 88k miles, FSH, Silver, 10 CD Changer. £2000 ono. 01457 835 340 between 10am & 1pm. Evngs & Weekends 7-9pm.

MISCELLANEOUS SALES

Ikea dble desk (Effektiv), fitted unit with 2 oak tables 160 x 80 cms each. 1 semicircular corner table & 3rd table 75 x 75 cms. 2 matching shelves 160 x 30cms each. Metal legs & fittings. All in gd cond. Buyer dismantles & collects. £150. 0161-434 5625 or email: peter.mittler@man.ac.uk

1 Bosch f/fridger, 1 Hoover w/dryer, 1 farmhouse pine din table (seats 6) with 6 chairs. All between 2-4yrs old & in very gd cond. £190. (27)55024.

Lrge Rosewood Executive Desk (1mtr wide x 2mtr long). Exc cond. £250 ono.0161-248 3034 between 9am & 3.30pm

Dark wood writing bureau with fold-down front & 6 drawers £40. 4 dark solid wood din chairs (high backs) in need of some re-upholstery £10 each or £30 for all. Avail to collect from Stockport area, can discuss delivery. (27)52828 (day) or 01261 429 6729 (evngs) or email: mark.baldwin@man.ac.uk

WANTED

Car share Chester-Manchester daily. Usual office hrs. Share car/driving or fuel contribution if non-driver. 01244 679 710 after 7pm.

SERVICES

Counselling/Psychotherapy - Sandra Gregson. Diplomas in Counselling/ Psychotherapy; Stress Management & Reflexology. Sandra is a well-respected Therapist/Trainer, with 10 yrs' experience of therapeutic care. From a safe, nurturing & professional approach - Sandra works with individuals in addressing a wide range of issues affecting their general wellbeing and quality of life. Appts in Central (close to universities) and South Manchester. For further info - contact Sandra on 0161 747 8103.

lan Hancock, BDS, Dental Surgeon, 180 Oxford Road (nr Manchester Museum). Courtesy, quality, safety. Same day attention for genuine emergencies. 0161-273 8484.

Psychotherapy/counselling available for individuals and couples. Confidential and supportive. Member of the Manchester Institute for Psychotherapy. Contact Josanne Cowell. 0161-224 1634.

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Painter/Decorator. Good quality painting & decorating, inside/outside work undertaken, tidy workman, 0161 877 1845 or (27) 53003.

Therapeutic Massage. Look after your mind and body and improve your general health with regular massage from an experienced practitioner. For more information/booking contact Josanne Cowell DTM. 0161-224 1634.

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Just The Job



With some of the best facilities of any Drama Department in the country at his disposal, Chief Technician Karl Spencer is enjoying the benefits of working in the new

School of Music and Drama building.

Karl played an important role in the final stages of the planning of the building – he was in there before the builders had left - and advised on the purchase of the new lighting and sound room equipment.

He's very much a behind-the-scenes person, which is where he prefers to be. His main role is working with Drama students, helping them with the technical aspect of staging performances as part of their studies in the John Thaw Studio. There are currently 180 undergraduates and up to 20 postgraduate students – nearly all of them come to him for help and advice.

"There's a lot to do but I'm here for the students, they're my priority. It's the best part of the job. If I can think they leave the university having learnt something from me then I'm happy."

It is his commitment to the students that earned him the inaugural John Owens Award for Teaching and Learning in 2001, for which he was nominated by alumni who had benefited from his support. Karl is also involved in planning course content.

Karl Spencer

Chief Technician, Department of Drama



Although his job title may be Chief Technician, as the Drama facilities have expanded, so has his role.

The state-of-the-art facilities mean that the Department now has a full performance licence (before they were limited to eight performances per year) and the performance space is in demand from visiting professional companies, the BBC and Granada.

The building is also often booked for conferences and meetings and he is responsible for timetabling all of these and making sure all the rooms are prepared.

Karl started out helping to stage productions at school in Heywood. He went on to do a BTEC Diploma in Electronic and Electrical Engineering (Theatre Studies) at Grange Arts Centre in Oldham and came to the University 18 years ago where he has worked ever since. "I only intended to come here for a couple of years to get some practical experience but I got promoted and stayed. I really enjoy it, there is not a day

when I get up and think `I've got to go to work' - every day is different."

A typical day for Karl could be liaising with a visiting theatre company about their needs for a forthcoming production, training students on video camera techniques, building a set for a production, making a sound tape or planning a course.

The Department is involved in a lot of outreach projects including work with Manchester-born actor John Thaw's former school Ducie High. The John Thaw Foundation funded the new drama studio which bears his name. Karl also visits prisons with students through the work of the Department's Theatre in Prisons Centre.

"To come to this from the facilities we had before has exceeded all our hopes. The possibilities are endless, we can do things we would never have thought possible before. Other universities are coming to us to see what we have here."



http://www.art.man.ac.uk/DRAMA/

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