

# UniLife



## Sign of the times

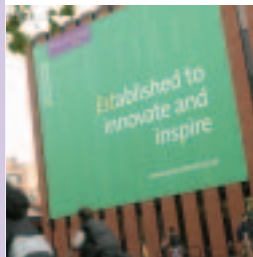
New signage  
hits the campus

# NewsDigest

## Contents

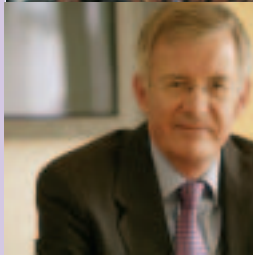
- 3 Sign of the times
- 4 President's Message
- 6 News
- 11 Research
- 12 People
- 14 Signage Project
- 16 Profile
- 18 Whats On
- 20 Seminars/Noticeboard
- 21 Looking Back
- 22 Classified Ads
- 24 Just the Job

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



**3**

The University unveils its new signage around the campus, bearing the University's new logo and announcing key messages in support of its new brand.



**4**

A Personal Message from the President, Professor Alan Gilbert, on the coming together of the two universities to form The University of Manchester which he describes as a "unique chance to re-think the idea of a university".



**7**

A new series of workshops for staff to promote mental and physical health through exercise and self-help has been launched for all staff and students.



**8**

While the University looks to the future it marks some of its past achievements with the unveiling of several blue plaques honouring distinguished former staff and students.



**16**

Profile of Dugald Mackie, Registrar of The University of Manchester, who returns to the city 30 years after starting his career at Didsbury College.

# Sign of the times



**The signage for the new University has been officially unveiled by the former VC's of UMIST and VUM, and the President of the new institution. Professors Alan Gilbert, John Garside and Sir Martin Harris came together to reveal the new-look signs in the University's main quad.**

Together they held up one of the square-shaped signs which will be placed at the entrance to every building. All of the new signs will carry the new purple and white logo, which will sit in the top left hand corner.

The signs are the product of months of consultation and hard work by a Project Committee which was formed in January to produce an entirely new set of signs to appear on the fronts and sides of

buildings, and at key points around the campus.

An entirely new strategy has been developed as part of the project with the aim of making it easier for people to find their way around campus. One of the most significant changes is that school and department names will not appear on any signage, just the names of buildings.

For full details see page 14.

## News

# A Personal Message from the President

It is with a sense of extreme good fortune that I am taking office as the first President and Vice-Chancellor of The University of Manchester, for there will be few opportunities, if any, in the international higher education world over the next decade to compare with what is being attempted in Manchester.



## News

“ We have a unique chance to re-think the idea of a university, not with any thought of jettisoning enduring values and responsibilities but with a determination to give them contemporary relevance. ”

I begin also with a sense of gratitude to colleagues across the new University. I deeply admire the remarkable imagination, competence, willingness to embrace change, generosity of spirit and sheer hard work that numerous people in both VUM and UMIST have brought to Project Unity. More than 100 planning groups involving more than 500 staff, students and lay-people have been directly engaged: many, many more have been committed and supportive. I am indebted to them all.

We are all engaged in something singularly important. It does not take profound wisdom to know that universities are among the most important institutions in the world in the early 21st Century. As knowledge institutions par excellence they are expected to play a major role in discover, innovation and wealth creation; and as tolerant, inclusive learning institutions, they have enduring responsibilities for upholding rational, humane values in civil societies beset with dangerous tensions and deep cultural alienation. If ever the world has needed powerful, authentic universities, it is now.

Yet it is not clear that contemporary universities are ready for such onerous expectations and responsibilities.

Although demand for their services has never been greater, universities have generally been under-valued by Government over recent decades, and the full range of their responsibilities has rarely been well understood by the wider society. Student/staff ratios have risen significantly; political and bureaucratic intervention and regulation have burgeoned; terms and conditions of academic employment have deteriorated; morale in many cases has diminished. For their part, universities have not coped well with several decades of sustained growth in student numbers. They have become large, complex and not very efficient bureaucracies trying, often without pleasing anyone, to combine the management of growing complexity with

the distinctive higher education legacy of devolved, collegial decision-making.

Those circumstances confirm just how precious the opportunity is that beckons the new University of Manchester.

We will never again have the kind of freedom the merger accords to re-engineer policies, processes: systems and procedures in ways that promote quality and efficiency and minimise bureaucratic demands on academic time. Most of all, we have a priceless but passing opportunity to re-calibrate our expectations and ambitions to match the unbounded potential of the new University.

It must by now be becoming evident to all my Manchester colleagues that one of the most important contributions I think I can make as President and Vice-Chancellor is to challenge the University community – repeatedly if necessary – to elevate its ambitions, expectations and criteria of success well beyond those characteristic of Britain’s “big civic” research universities.

I know that this may perturb colleagues who are rightly proud of the wonderful achievements and high standing of both “Owens” and UMIST. I greatly admire those achievements, but will nevertheless be unapologetic about challenging those who are content with being part of a very good institution which has been given the potential to be great. There is a simple syllogism here: (i) A responsible university always strives to be the very best that it can be; (ii) The University of Manchester has a rare opportunity to lift itself into the very highest echelon of international research universities; therefore, (iii) The University of Manchester has a responsibility to pursue the goal of becoming one of the finest universities in the world.

That is the reasoning that has produced the Manchester 2015 Agenda, of which all staff will by now have received their own copy.

Now is not the time to talk about the Agenda itself, except to say that it is merely a means to an end. That end, if the Agenda is realised by 2015, will be a University of

Manchester acknowledged internationally both for its stewardship of the core values inherited from 900 years of higher education history and for the virtuosity and international recognition of the scholars and students it attracts, the research it produces, the value-adding impact of the intellectual property it develops and the worldwide demand for its graduates.

Planning and performance monitoring will not be a conspicuous or intrusive feature of such a University, but rather an integral part of its institutional culture that protects researchers, scholars, teachers and support staff from ad hoc impositions and re-work. The University will have retained its character as a community of scholars, including students, and the non-academic staff who support them. Leaders, managers and administrators are important in such a community for enabling and facilitating scholarly excellence and ensuring its sustainability. Their roles, too, have expanded. As universities have become larger, more complex, more costly, more encumbered by accountability requirements and regulatory compliance obligations, facilitating scholarly excellence has in turn become a singularly demanding endeavour, requiring administrative and support staff of the highest calibre.

I will begin immediately a round of discussions with Heads of Schools and groups of their colleagues, and their counterparts in the various administrative Directorates, to listen to their views about the viability and validity of this vision, and (just occasionally) to challenge them by wondering aloud whether their ambitions match the immense potential of our University.

In the meantime, may I welcome you to your new institutional home, and wish you all great personal satisfaction and professional achievement in its service.

Professor Alan Gilbert,  
President, The University of Manchester

## News

# Lord Faulkner on Campus to Discuss Student Crime

**Lord Faulkner, the Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs and Minister responsible for street crime in Manchester, visited the University to talk to students about crime.**



During the visit Lord Faulkner met with Steven George, General Secretary of the Students' Union Benson Osawe, Academic Affairs Officer, and Amelia Lee, Welfare Officer. The University's police liaison officers Simon Collister, Stacey Arthern and GMP's Chief Inspector Hassall and Inspector Terry Crompton were also in attendance, as well as Dr Pat Sponder, Head of Support and Services and Peter Roberts, the University's Acting Head of Security.

Lord Faulkner quizzed the students on crime and its prevention on campus and the surrounding areas, and in turn the students spoke to him about the issue of crime, students and Manchester.

The University plays an active role in the University Local Area Partnership- a crime and disorder partnership, which comprises of staff from the police, University, Students Union and City Council. The partnership meets every six weeks to discuss crime reduction issues, and Amelia Lee reported on its work to Lord Faulkner.

Lord Faulkner was in the region to promote the expansion of a radical scheme to reduce reoffending in Greater Manchester.

## Careers Fair

The Business, Careers & Community Division of the University is about to launch its new season of careers fairs. As usual, there is a wide range of companies and institutions taking part to promote their opportunities to students of The University of Manchester.

Popular with exhibitors and visitors alike, they provide ideal forums for undergraduates to make informed career decisions about what to do once they graduate. With sponsorship from The Guardian and The Independent, they are set to be truly national events, maintaining the University's position at the top of the Careers Fairs preference list with

companies and institutions. Staff are asked to encourage students to come along to the events and to take full advantage of the opportunities on offer.

**Wednesday 6 October:** Ethnic Diversity Fair (jobs fair aimed at Black and Asian students)

**Wednesday 27 October:** Finance, Business & Management Consultancy Fair (jobs and placements fair)

**Thursday 28 October:** Science, Engineering & Technology Fair (jobs and placements fair)

**Wednesday 24 November:** Postgraduate Study Fair (postgraduate study opportunities)

**Thursday 25 November:** Law Fair (jobs, placements and courses in the legal sector)



## News

# Exercise your mind and body



**A new programme of workshops promoting mental and physical health through gentle exercise and self-help classes has been launched for all staff and students.**

The Wellbeing Programme provides the unique opportunity to wind-down during a lunch hour or between lectures.

The aim is to encourage a positive sense of mind and body through a unique programme which offers classes in Tai Chi, Yoga and Pilates, in addition to courses in stress reduction and improving your confidence and self esteem.

The programme is a joint venture between the University's Counselling Service and the Sports Directorate, and is the first time the two services have combined to provide a programme which offers a uniquely holistic approach to health and wellbeing.

Steve Potter, Director of Counselling, said: "The time seems right for this kind of approach. People are increasingly aware of the importance of looking after their body and in that they see mental and emotional health as part of general health. The Wellbeing Programme aims to

help people recover a sense of balance in their lives and provides an escape from the stresses of everyday life."

A new Wellbeing Room is now open on the lower-ground floor of St Peter's House on Oxford Road, where many of the classes will be held. The room has been decorated with calming colours and provides a retreat from the hustle and bustle of campus life.

"The Wellbeing Room is a comfortable space and is right at the centre of the campus," says Gail Heathcote-Milner, Sports Development Officer. "It should be possible just to pop out during the day for a class."

For a full list of workshops and courses on offer visit the website. To book a class please contact Gail Heathcote-Milner on tel 275 2864.



## News



# Plaques mark past achievements

**As the University looks to the future, it is also remembering its past achievements. A series of blue plaques honouring former staff and students have been erected on the sides of some of the campus' most prominent buildings.**

Four plaques have gone up in recent weeks, in the main quad, at the entrance to the Beyer Building and on Coupland Street.

The plaques are part of an initiative originally set up by VUM's Cultural and Heritage Committee to mark the 150th anniversary of the establishment of Owens College.

The four plaques honour Marie Stopes (Beyer Building), famed for establishing Britain's first birth control clinic, Peter Mark Roget (Coupland 3), inventor of the Thesaurus, children's author Alison Uttley (Coupland 2) and Ellen Wilkinson (Main Quad), the first woman to be appointed Minister for Education.

Each plaque bares the name, birth and death dates, and a brief synopsis of the individual's achievements or how they were associated with the University.

In total there are now six blue plaques, the first of which was erected in 2001 in honour of famous West Indian cricketer Frank Worrell, a former BA Admin student who graduated in 1959. The second plaque was unveiled in 2002 by Lord Sainsbury in honour of Tom Kilburn and FC Williams who created the world's first stored-program computer at the University in 1948.

Dr Tim Stibbs, who has helped organise the plaques, said: "These plaques are marking the achievements of those associated with the University of the past and are there to perpetuate that sense of achievement in the future."

"They are even more poignant now as they mark the history of the Owen's University and the contribution it has brought to the new institution."

## 'Oscar' nominations for researchers

University researchers have been nominated for this year's World Technology Awards, which is held in association with Nasdaq, Microsoft, TIME magazine, Science magazine, and CNN.

The World Technology Awards honour individuals and corporations from 20 technology-related sectors viewed by their peers as being the most innovative and doing the work of the greatest likely long-term significance. Award categories range from biotechnology, space and

energy through to ethics, design and entertainment.

The team's nomination is for the development of a "robot scientist" that generates hypotheses about the function of particular genes in baker's yeast - and then designs and carries out experiments to test them, that will eliminate as many of the hypotheses as possible.

Steve Oliver, Professor of Genomics, commented: "The Robot Scientist project was both interdisciplinary and multi-institutional. To get such a project to

succeed took not only hard work, but also a strong cooperative spirit amongst all of the team members - both computer scientists and biologists. It is great to see this team effort being recognised by nomination for this prestigious international award."

The awards, considered to be the Oscars of the technology world, will culminate in a ceremony on 8 October in San Francisco, where the winner will be announced.



## News

# Professor Perera Retires

**Professor Katharine Perera, Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor at The Victoria University of Manchester, retired on 30 September having served the University for 27 years.**

VUM Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Martin Harris joined many colleagues on 28 September to bid Katharine a fond farewell, and presented her with a parting gift.

Katharine joined the University in 1977 as a lecturer in Linguistics, and gained her PhD in 1989, and her teaching and academic standing earned her a Chair by 1991.

In 1994 she was appointed as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Teaching, Learning and Academic Quality, and subsequently became Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Academic Development and Academic and Financial Planning. In 2000 she became Senior Pro-Vice-Chancellor.

Her contributions to the University include Chair of Standing Committee of Senate, Chair of Academic Standards and Quality Committee, Chair of Planning Sub-Committee, Chair of Information Systems Committee, and Chair of Library Committee.

Professor Katharine Perera commented: "I'm enormously impressed by the amount of work that has been achieved by the vesting date of the University. I'm also extremely positive and optimistic about the prospects for the new University and shall enjoy reading about the it's successes in the future.

"I wish everyone every success in this venture."



# Free Financial Makeovers On Offer

The BBC is looking for couples aged between 25 and 40 to take part in a personal finance series on BBC3. If you are facing a major financial challenge in your life-going back to higher education as a mature student, giving up work to have a child, or redundancy, you may be just what they are looking for.

In each programme, two couples will be given expert advice on the way to a healthier bank balance by two award-winning financial experts.

If you're interested phone 02920-323493 or email [hilary.king@bbc.co.uk](mailto:hilary.king@bbc.co.uk).

# Open for Business

**The University's Legal Advice Centre has re-opened after the summer break.**

The Centre gives free legal advice to University staff and students, as well as members of the public. The advice is given by Law students, under the supervision of local lawyers and professionally qualified teaching staff. Advice can be given on a whole range of legal matters, all of which is treated in the strictest confidence.

Appointments are available at 12pm and 1pm Monday to Friday during teaching weeks, excluding exam revision periods. If you'd like to use the service or require more information please call 2757977 or email [free.legal@man.ac.uk](mailto:free.legal@man.ac.uk)

## News

**Julia Handl, a PhD Chemistry student, has been awarded a 2000 Euro prize this month, in recognition of her Masters Thesis.**

Julia Handl being presented with her prize by the Bavarian Minister of Science, Dr. T. Goppel.

# Julia's top prize in Europe

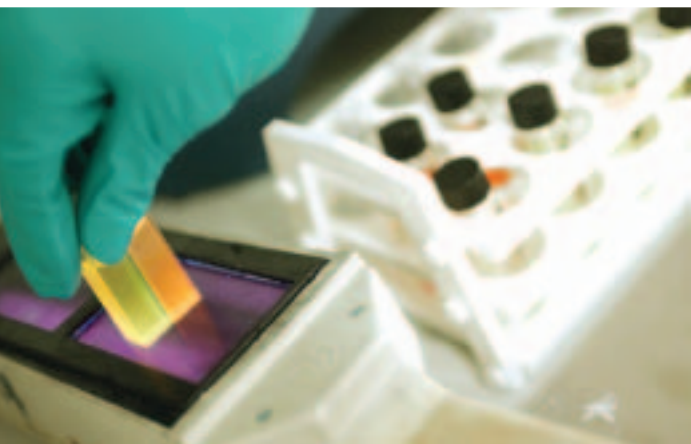


This is one of five annual prizes for excellent Masters and PhD theses by female engineering students in Germany, aimed at recognizing female role models in engineering studies and at encouraging more women to take up engineering degrees.

From 1998 to 2003, Julia Handl studied computer science at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg (Germany) and Monash University (Australia). Her Masters thesis was entitled "Ant-based methods for tasks of clustering and topographic mapping: extensions, analysis and comparison with alternative techniques"

and was supervised by Prof. G. Goerz at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, and Prof. M. Dorigo and Dr. J. Knowles at the Free University of Brussels (Belgium).

Julia is presently supported by a scholarship from the German Gottlieb-Daimler and Karl-Benz Foundation, working under the supervision of Professor Douglas Kell and Dr. Joshua Knowles (a BBSRC David Phillips Fellow), and will be moving into the Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre.



# Two Grand Ideas

Two creative students have been awarded £2,000 each after coming up with innovative ways to encourage school children to study sciences at university.

Five teams from both Universities took part in the competition held in June, but the ideas of Calum Matheson (Computation Department, UMIST) and Tim Booth (Department of Physics and Astronomy, VUM) were judged to be the best.

The challenge is run by Teach First, a charitable education-business

partnership that transforms exceptional graduates into inspirational teachers and places them in challenging London schools.

Calum's concept, to give youngsters a realistic idea of how mathematics will be useful to them in later life, and Tim's project '3durate', to develop a free website providing an exciting approach to science, will now go head to head with the Teach First challenge winners from Bristol, Bath and Edinburgh universities and University College London.

## Research

# Lessons in e-language

**Regular users of the internet will no doubt be familiar with expressions like 'lol', meaning 'laugh out loud', and emotional icons or 'emoticons' such as ;-)** denoting a wink.

The birth of this e-language and its use during online research interviews was just one of the topics discussed at the Economic and Social Research Council's Research Methods Festival.

The University of Manchester's Professor Angela Dale, Director of the ESRC's Research Methods Programme and festival organiser, said the event presented cutting-edge developments and plenty of opportunities for the 600 delegates to debate and disagree.

"An important focus is on excellence in methods of conducting cross-national comparisons – particularly important with an expanded European Union and globalisation of markets," said Prof Dale.

"Major international speakers provided a disciplinary mix with all the opportunity that this offers for new methods and new approaches."

The festival formed part of the ESRC's strategy to promote excellence in social science research.

As for the emoticons, experts told delegates that the absence of bodily presence during online research meant a lack of visual communication so interviewees often used 'net speak' to replace these lost facial and vocal expressions.

## Seminars on the Horizon

A new series of virtual seminars has just been launched by ten of the Worldwide University Network (WUN) partners.

The WUN is an international alliance of leading research universities from the USA, UK, China and Europe – which aims to encourage academics to work together to enable the creation and transfer of knowledge.

The seminar series, called 'Horizons in Human Geography', is aimed at postgraduate students and members of staff at the University. The series has been co-ordinated by a partnership between Geographer

Dr Kevin Ward from The University of Manchester, Professor Jamie Peck in Wisconsin and Professor Amy Glasmeier in Penn State.

The seminars are streamed onto the WUN website for future reference and for use by staff and students. Students at The University of Manchester who want the credits for the seminar should contact Dr Ward at [k.g.ward@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:k.g.ward@manchester.ac.uk) or telephone 275 7877.

The next seminar is taking place on Tuesday 5 October and will be taken by Noel Castree from The University of

Manchester and is entitled 'The means and ends of relevance.' Following this on Tuesday October 12th is James McCarthy from Penn State who will be looking at exploring political ecology.

All students and staff wishing to attend these seminars should go to the video conference room in the Kilburn Building on Oxford Road. The seminars start at 5pm UK time.

For more information about the seminar series visit the website or e-mail [dee.gilmore-stewart@man.ac.uk](mailto:dee.gilmore-stewart@man.ac.uk)

For further information about the Worldwide University Network visit the website.

## People



# Ringling the changes

**Many great occasions are accompanied by the sound of bell ringing, and on 1 October, bell ringers among University staff came together to celebrate the creation of the new institution.**

A band of eight ringers, comprising of four members of staff and four students, rang the bells at Sacred Trinity Church, Salford. The ringers rang a 'quarter peal' of about 1260 changes, a very complex arrangement.

Professor Tony Freemont, who came up with the idea when they rang the bells at Manchester Cathedral to celebrate 150 years of the Victoria University of Manchester in 2001, said:

"We are always looking out for ways to celebrate things through bell ringing, and this was the perfect opportunity. We chose one of the oldest methods of ringing because it is the most musical and because it one of the simplest things to play."

Many of the ringers who took part are members of the Manchester Universities Guild of Change Ringers (MUGs). MUGs have rung for the last

58 years at Sacred Trinity, making it the ideal place to ring the quarter peal.

The eight members were assigned one bell each, which they rang for over an hour.

"The bells are relatively light, so it wasn't too tiring. It is the mental concentration which is the hard bit when you've got to remember 1260 changes", said Tony.

# Dentist takes top teaching prize



Dr Mackie with dental students

A unique pilot course will be set up after a leading children's dentist scooped a £50,000 teaching award.

Dr Iain Mackie, a senior lecturer in the Dental School paediatric Dentistry Unit, was one of 50 higher education staff across England and Northern Ireland to win a National Teaching Fellowship- presented in September.

A national authority on the management of dental trauma in children involved in accidents, Dr Mackie plans to use the money to develop the country's first integrated undergraduate course that will see dentists, dental therapists and dental hygienists taught together to encourage team learning.

Speaking about the project, Dr Mackie said: "I am delighted to have received this award,

which will help take us forward and keep Manchester at the forefront of dental teaching and research."

He added: "I think it is extremely important to keep the students involved so that they take an active role in the whole teaching, learning and assessment process. It is very important that the learning process is enjoyable and the students remain happy and enthusiastic and I try to maintain a humorous and practical approach."

As well as his teaching work, Dr Mackie, who has worked at the University for more than 20 years, also treats patients and carries out research in the field. His books are used for teaching across the world and he has also been instrumental in developing standard professional protocols for dealing with paediatric dental traumas."

## People

# Pete goes Forth for charity

People do some pretty crazy things for charity, and Web Support Officer Pete Wilcock is no exception, having just jumped off one of the world's tallest bridges to raise money in the fight against heart disease and leukaemia.

Pete, also a recent UMIST graduate, was one of 450 people who took part in the event at the Forth Rail Bridge (near Edinburgh), Scotland. The challenge was to abseil 160 ft off the bridge safely onto the ground below.

The event was a family affair for Pete who was roped into the stunt by his dad. He was also joined by his mum, two sisters, sister's partner and brother-in-law. In total they managed to raise an incredible £6,500 between them.

"My dad spotted it on a website and he thought it would be a laugh if the whole family did it. He's a railway enthusiast and thought it would be great to do it off the FRB," he said.

The jump was organised in a pub next to

the bridge, but Pete daren't touch a drop of alcohol before the jump because he knew what was coming next.

"I was the first to go. The scariest part was having to step over a safety fence and onto the ledge which was the last thing between you and the ground."

"It was windy on the way down and I was very close to the wall so I was bouncing off the wall a little bit. You were basically thinking 'this is very, very high, and I would like to get down very, very soon.'"

Pete personally raised over £425, the majority of which will go to the Anthony Nolan Trust, a national charity which helps find bone marrow donors to help treat leukaemia sufferers. The rest will go to Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland.

If you would like to make a donation to the Anthony Nolan Trust please visit their website.



<http://www.anthonynolan.org.uk/>

# Fine farewell for Professor

## A special event marking the retirement of one of the Department of Computation's original founders has been held at UMIST.

Senior staff and colleagues gathered to celebrate the many valuable contributions which Bernard Richards, Professor of Computation and Medical Informatics, has made over the last 38 years.

Professor Richards, who joined UMIST as a Senior Lecturer in 1966, is credited with helping to create the Department, which until 1970 was the 'Computer Group' in the Mathematics Department. Alongside Professor Gordon Black, he helped the Department gain its independence and masterminded its move from the Pariser Building to the newly-built MSS building.

At the event, Linda Macaulay, Head of UMIST's Department of Computation, delivered a speech outlining the Professor's achievements and thanked him for his 'devotion' to UMIST.

"Professor Richards will be missed by all his colleagues and friends in Computation. He has been a constant figure throughout the lifetime of the Department from the founding of our first BSc degree in Computation in 1968, to the creation of the new School of Informatics in 2004," she said.

Professor Richards carved out a niche for himself in the developing field of Medical Computing. He became the first Professor of Medical Informatics in the UK and set up the World's first Database in Obstetrics for both mother and baby.

In 1998 he was made 'British Computer Society Fellow of the Year', and that same year, he was awarded the Wenceslas Medal from Charles University for services to medicine in Prague.



Picture from left: Professors Harold Hankins, Bob Wood, Bernard Richards and Head of Department Linda Macaulay

# University unveils its new image across campus

If you've taken a stroll down Oxford Road recently, then you can't have helped but notice the giant signs draped down the sides of many of the campus buildings. Big, vibrant, and colourful – this is all part of the University's new image.



These enormous signs which sprawl up to 50 metres across the Stopford, Kilburn and Maths and Social Sciences Buildings, among others, are part of the new University's 'signage strategy'. Brightly coloured, emblazoned with the new logo, and announcing key messages such as 'Established to Enhance Research and Advance Discovery', they have been erected to launch the new 'brand', and as a statement of the University's intent to be one of the world's most prolific research-led institutions.

Considering their size, it seems wrong to say these signs are just a small part of the signage strategy, but it's true. These signs will only be up for three months in line with the launch of the new University, but across campus, there are around 300 other permanent signs which are in the process of going up.

The new signs vary wildly in size and function, but retain the same colour scheme using light and dark shades of grey to set off the bright purple and white logo which sits in the top left hand corner of every sign.

“ Not only are there hundreds of existing UMIST and Victoria University of Manchester signs to take down, but the new signs have had to be designed, branded and manufactured in a very short space of time. ”

Small square signs will mark the entrance to buildings. ‘Hot spot’ signs will be placed at key points around the campus with user-friendly maps and intercoms for SOS calls, while high-level signs have already been placed at the top of some of the campus’ tallest buildings. The largest signs around campus will be the gateway signs, which will stand six metres tall and will mark the outer edges of the campus, while LED technology will be used on conference signs to advertise events taking place on a particular day.

Project Manager Tony Arnott, a member of the Signage Project Committee, chaired by Brian Clancy, was put in charge of the project back in January.

“This has by no means been an easy task,” he says. “An enormous amount of work has gone into coordinating the requirements for the new signage and it has involved working with engineers, electricians, health and safety officers and the City Planning Authority, to name but a few.”

“We have even had people abseiling down buildings to fit the new signs, because we haven’t been able to get cranes and vehicles close enough, but we are very happy with the progress so far.”

Not only are there hundreds of existing UMIST and Victoria University of Manchester signs to take down, but the new signs have had to be designed, branded and manufactured in a very short space of time.

One of the first decisions made by the Committee was to appoint a signage

consultancy, with the experience and expertise to deliver the finished product in time. One of their jobs was to what the signs should look like, and also where they should go, and what they should say.

“The end result is a completely new signage system,” says Tony. “Instead of trying to direct people across campus, using dozens of signs, the new signs will only direct people to buildings in the immediate vicinity. This means less signage which in turn simplifies directions, and makes them easier for people to use and follow.”

“The other significant change is that we will no longer have the names of departments or schools on buildings, but just the name of the building, which means we only ever need to update internal directories, rather than the signs themselves, which is particularly useful when you consider how much people are going to be moving around.”

The image of the new University played a very significant part in the entire process. The colours used and the gloss finish applied to each sign was carefully chosen in order to project the right image.

The University’s Marketing Manager, Paul Starkey, who also sat on the Committee, said: “The signs needed to reflect our key messages. They needed to say that we’re a big, prestigious University, and we chose the colours, and the best quality materials to achieve this.”

“The design is also clean, simple and modern, and the fact that each sign is coated in an anti-graffiti gloss, should

mean that we are able to maintain that image over time.”

Another key consideration in producing all of the signage was ‘accessibility’. The signs had to be colour friendly, for the visually impaired, and an accessible route is being carefully marked out around the campus, in line with the new Disability Discrimination Act which came into effect on October 1st.

Research was also done into how students move around the campus, and how signs could be best positioned to help them get to where they’re going quickly.

Patrick Hackett, the former President of UMIST’s Student Association another Committee member, said: “Providing the student perspective on signage was primarily about making staff aware of how students move through the campus and when they shall need the signage to be present on campus. We did this by identifying the high-traffic areas, and putting key directional signs there.”

Tony Arnott is hopeful that the majority of signs will be up by 22 October, and the remaining signs will be up by Christmas. Reflecting on the project so far, he said: “Considering the first sign went up on 10 September on the John Rylands University Library we have made incredible progress. We are very pleased with the results so far and we hope these signs will project the right image of the University.”



## Profile

“ Communication, communication, communication - that's what it's about. ”

# Mackie's Mission

**Dugald Mackie never dreamt he would be the Registrar of The University of Manchester, and he wouldn't have left Glasgow for any other job, but now he's here, he's a man on a mission.**



"I never thought in a million years that I would be Registrar of The University of Manchester." So says Dugald Mackie, whose appointment to that very position makes him think back to his first administrative appointment 30 years ago - in Manchester. He came, a new Edinburgh graduate (Politics and Modern History), to help set up a new CNA exam system (shades of time to come) at Didsbury College. He also came to do some academic research in his spare time at this University, in the John Ryland's Library. The research never got finished. "My job at Didsbury was a baptism of fire," he says with his ready sense of humour. "I had six middle-aged women to manage - I quickly learned a lot about managing teams."

That was the start of a career which has propelled Dugald into the highest ranks of higher education administration, including helping set up the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council (SHEFC) and, later, reorganising student finance, resulting in the abolition of up-front tuition fees in Scotland.

Apart from his two years at Didsbury and then just over three at Aston, he has used his considerable energy to the benefit of his native Scotland. In 1980, still in his

twenties, he moved to Strathclyde. He spent 12 years there, ending up as Deputy Registrar responsible for planning and management information.

In 1992, he came to a major move. He became the first Secretary to SHEFC, set up after the binary divide to deal with devolved funding, but ahead of devolution proper. The scale and novelty of the enterprise appealed to him - a continuing drive.

"It was a great opportunity to help to start an organisation from scratch and to get to know all the higher education institutions in Scotland - and let them know we were on their side," he says enthusiastically. "I felt that I was in a position to help the whole sector and to make sure that the £600 million of public money got to the right places. I was also able to see at close quarters the relationship between the Scottish Office and Whitehall. I learned how to mix with the civil servants."

He also had the good fortune to work with a man he admires, Professor John Sizer, the Council's Chief Executive, and with the Council's Board, which included high-powered executives and English Vice-Chancellors. In short, in just under

four years, he learned the ropes - another thing he loves to do. He was also elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts during this period. He enjoyed it all immensely, but the pull of running a single institution was stronger. The opportunity to go to the University of Glasgow and work with Sir Graeme Davies was irresistible.

"Again it was great opportunity and a real challenge," he says. "We had to get the University back on track and restore it to the front rank of research-led institutions. I helped to modernise the structure, giving the administration more a sense of its role in supporting research and teaching. I was very lucky - Graeme Davies was great to work with - always supportive, very kind and great fun."

As you might expect of a man with his energy, which often found its outlet in his love of mountaineering, he was much in demand in a wider sphere, usually to do with innovation, corporate planning and finance.

From 1994-98, he was Honorary Treasurer of the UK Association of University Administrators, and from 1997 to 2000 chaired its Corporate Planning Forum. In 1999, the newly-selected Scottish





## CV

### Name

Dugald Mackie

### Position

Registrar

### Education

Ayr Academy then University of Edinburgh, MA in Politics and Modern History 1974

### Career History:

1974 - 76

Didsbury College

1976 - 1980

University of Aston

1980 - 1992

University of Strathclyde, latterly as Deputy Registrar

1992 - 1996

Scottish Higher Education Funding Council, Secretary of the Council and Director of Planning and Administrative services

1996 - 2004

University Secretary, University of Glasgow

### Other:

1989 - 1993

Honorary Treasurer, Mountaineering Council of Scotland

1998 - 2004

Board Member, UCAS

1998 to date Board Member, New Opportunities Fund then Big Lottery Fund

2004 to date

Member DfES Higher Education Regulation Review Group

Parliament drew him in as a member of its Independent Committee of Inquiry into Student Finance. Their report, as we now know, recommended major changes. "We followed the Dearing principle - that those who benefit from higher education should be expected to contribute," he says. "We said that up-front tuition fees should be abolished. Our report was widely welcomed and had the effect of reversing the downturn in applications. I found the experience intellectually stimulating and I maintain a permanent interest in student finance."

He also got to play an active role in the global organisation, "Universitas 21", and in 1997, with Sir Graeme Davies, went to a conference in Melbourne. One man he met there impressed him even then - Professor Alan Gilbert. "I thought that he had an extraordinary grasp of a global vision," he says. Who could have thought then that they would end up together in Manchester, actually in adjoining office suites?

Since 1998, he has been involved with the National Lottery, first as a member of the New Opportunities Fund Board, distributing millions of pounds to health, education and the environment. Currently, he is a board member of its successor, The Big Lottery Fund, which distributes half the Lottery good causes proceeds, around £700 million annually.

"It gives me tremendous satisfaction to see what wonderful benefits the intelligent applications of lottery funds can bring," he says. "We are providing new facilities for Physical Education in schools throughout England, for example, and stimulating a renaissance in sport in schools."

But back to the day job - and he is quite open with the thrill of getting it. "I would

not have left Glasgow for any other job," he says. "To be involved in creating effectively a new university on this scale at this time is a privilege for me. We are creating what my idea of a university is, bringing together civic and technological distinction, strongly based in a city and its region. I welcome the opportunity to help to bring about change and to be part of an ambitious agenda, which aims to make Manchester one of the leading universities in the world."

His sense of mission could not be stronger. His sense of openness and accountability could not be stronger either: "communication, communication, communication - that's what it's about," he says. "At the administrative level, we have the opportunity to take a fresh look at how we support the staff of the University," he adds. "I hate committees for committees' sake - their existence depends on their value." It isn't often that you hear an administrator, let alone a Registrar, talk of hating committees.

Coming to Manchester as Registrar and Secretary, and Head of Administration, to give him his proper title, is one thing. But, as a private individual, Dugald rejoices in the city itself. He loves classical music - and another dream he never had was to have an apartment, as he has now, adjacent to Bridgewater Hall. He also enjoys serious walking in the country (recently in Patagonia), though he doesn't climb mountains any more, and he has found a country retreat near Llangollen. So, he and his partner Andrew are happily launched on this new chapter in their lives.

For Dugald himself, those far-off days in Didsbury have come full circle, like starting all over again.

# What's On



## Manchester Museum

Fridays (during term time), 11am -12 pm  
**Magic Carpet**  
 Storytelling and story making for the under fives.

Saturday 9 October 1.30 - 3.30pm  
**DNA Your Onions**  
 Find out what makes us who we are in this introduction to DNA. Learn how to extract DNA from an onion. FREE (suitable for ages 8 and over).

Sunday 10 October 11.00am - 3.00pm  
**Wear Your Art on Your Sleeve**  
 Let your imagination run wild and create your own weird and wonderful plant life design inspired by our collections. Mix a monkey with a marigold or a deer with a dandelion and put your creation on a t-shirt to take away with you. This event kicks off The Big Draw Season running throughout October in the North West. To find other events in your neighbourhood, visit [www.thebigdraw.org.uk](http://www.thebigdraw.org.uk). FREE

Wednesday 13 October (Times tbc)  
**Hunting Dinosaurs in the 21st Century**  
 Join Curator of Palaeontology Phil Manning as he takes to on a visual journey to Patagonia, where you can find some of the richest dinosaur- hunting grounds in the world. For more information and to book your place call 0161 275 8788. FREE

Saturday 16 October 1.00 - 4.00pm  
**Drawing on the Museum**  
 Work with our artist and make your mark on the Museum. Using our courtyard as a concrete canvas, reveal your most treasured possessions in chalk. We'll be inside if it rains.

Saturday 23 October 1.00 - 4.00pm  
**African Routes: The Community Perspective**  
 Encounter African people's personal experiences of Manchester through film, discussion and objects from the Museum's collections. FREE

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, 0161 275 2630, [www.museum.man.ac.uk](http://www.museum.man.ac.uk)  
 Opening hours, Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sun 11am - 4pm  
 Free admission, booking is essential for all programmes

## Gig Guide Manchester Academy 1, 2 & 3

Weds 6 Oct <b>Blues Explosion</b> Ron Sexsmith	Mon 11 Oct <b>Pitchshifter</b>	Sun 17 Oct <b>!!!</b>
Thurs 7 Oct <b>Nazareth</b>	Tues 12 Oct <b>Cult of Luna</b>	Mon 18 Oct <b>The Darkest</b>
Fri 8 Oct <b>Roni Size</b>	Thurs 14 Oct <b>Lloyd Cole &amp; the Commotions</b>	Weds 20 Oct <b>22-20's</b>
Sat 9 Oct <b>36 Crayfish</b>	Thurs 14 Oct <b>Freestylers</b>	<b>Southside Johnny &amp; the Ashbury Jukes</b>
Sat 9 Oct <b>Karl Bartos</b>	Sat 15 Oct <b>Bebel Gilberto</b>	Thurs 21 Oct <b>The Ordinary Boys</b>
Sun 10 Oct <b>Cowboy Junkies - seated gig</b>	Sat 15 Oct <b>Goldielookinchain</b>	<b>The Earlies</b>
<b>Bill Nelson &amp; The Lost Satellites</b>	Sat 16 Oct <b>Oceansize</b>	
	Sat 16 Oct <b>Fatboy Slim + Jonny Quality</b>	
	<b>Hugh Cornwell &amp; Band</b>	

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



## Contact Theatre

**CLEAN BREAK**  
**COMPACT FAILURE**  
 Chelle and Denise go way back. Denise, with her loud mouth and long extensions, makes the 'same old, same old' of prison life not so bad. But when Denise leaves – no goodbye, no nothing – Chelle figures she's just about run out of friendships. Then Ruthie walks in, bringing new hope and lots of laughter. Compact Failure is commissioned and performed by Clean Break, the theatre, education and new writing company for women with personal experience of the criminal justice system.  
 "Passionate, dynamic writing"  
 The Times on 'Breathing'  
 Wed 6 Oct 2004 - Sat 9 Oct 2004, £9/£6

**LIGHT ENSEMBLE**  
**OFFLINE**  
 'All the lonely people where do they all come from?' (Eleanor Rigby; Lennon & McCartney) Offline explores how loneliness and communication are linked. Is the decrease in human interaction creating more lonely people and leaving us all asking, "Where do we belong?"  
 Following last year's sell-out piece 'Bright Sky', for their third play Light once again draw upon human emotions resulting in a piece that anyone can identify with.  
 "True to their name.....an illuminating experience" City Life  
 Tue 12 Oct 2004 - Sat 16 Oct 2004, £8/£5

**TARA ARTS**  
**MANDRAGORA: KING OF INDIA**  
 Written by Nirjay Mahindru, Directed by Jatinder Verma, Designed by Claudia Mayer  
 Mandragora takes its audience on a thrilling flight of fantasy to an imaginary India. As his Queen gives birth to an heir, King Mandragora's kingdom is plagued by a terrifying series of omens. Flying fish and fiery peacocks can be explained, but who are the alien creatures with chalky-white skin and what do they want? This fast and funny new production creates a vivid world, populated by kings, soothsayers and clowns, threatened in a clash between old and new civilisations. So sit back and enjoy this rollercoaster ride through Tara's parallel universe!  
 "This delightfully colourful production is a breath of fresh air" Big Issue  
 Thu 14 Oct 2004 - Sat 16 Oct 2004, £9/£6

**Contact Theatre**, Oxford Road, Manchester  
 Tickets/Info: 0161 274 0600  
 For information on other events please visit our website [www.contact-theatre.org](http://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.

## 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



## John Rylands Library

The John Rylands Special Collections Library, Deansgate, will be closed for a period of approximately two 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 Floor 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/](http://www.rylibweb.man.ac.uk/spcoll/)

John Rylands Library,  
Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PP  
0161 275 3751  
[www.rylibweb.man.ac.uk/spcoll/](http://www.rylibweb.man.ac.uk/spcoll/)

## 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.

### EVENTS

The Lovell Public Lecture Series  
Weds 29 Sept, 7.30pm, £5/£3

The finest clocks in the Universe: putting Einstein to the test - Lecture by Prof. Andrew Lyne, Jodrell Bank Observatory.

Jodrell Bank Science Centre & Arboretum  
Macclesfield, Cheshire  
01477 571339 [www.jb.man.ac.uk](http://www.jb.man.ac.uk)

## The Whitworth Art Gallery

### DISPLAYS/COLLECTIONS

**William Morris "Ministering to the Swinish Luxury of the Rich"** to 23 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.

**Ship Ahoy!** to February 2005  
This exhibition of watercolours, prints, wallpapers and textiles includes depictions of galleons, fishing smacks, trading vessels, warships and freshwater boats. The exhibition also features a Ship Ahoy! Reading area providing children's books with stories about ships, pirates and the deep blue sea.

**Walter Sickert 'Drawing is the thing'**  
October to 5 December 2004  
This extensive loan exhibition of Sickert's drawings offers an unrivalled insight into his techniques, themes and, most importantly, his reasons for the drawing.

**Whitworth Art Gallery**, Oxford Road, 0161 275 7450 [www.whitworth@man.ac.uk](http://www.whitworth@man.ac.uk)  
Opening hours Mon to Sat 10am - 5pm, Sun 2pm - 5 pm FREE Admission  
Gallery Café 0161 275 7497 The café sells a selection of drinks and light meals.  
Gallery Shop 0161 275 7498 The bookshop stocks a range of art and design books, cards and gifts.  
Collection Exhibitions Archive Now Online. The Whitworth's online 'Collections Catalogue' now allows you to browse and search selected exhibitions held at the Gallery over the past 10 years. Follow the link from [www.whitworth.man.ac.uk](http://www.whitworth.man.ac.uk)

### TOURS AND EVENTS

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

**Walter Sickert**  
- Curator's Tour, Tues 12 Oct, 1.15pm, FREE

**Walter Sickert**  
- Curator's Tour, Tues 16 Oct, pm, FREE

**Big Draw**  
- Through the Keyhole Party Sat 16 Oct, 2pm, FREE

**Poetry Festival**  
- Carol Ann Duffy, Simon Armitage and Tom Paulin - Sat 16 Oct, 7.30pm, £7.50/£5

**Talk**  
- Uses and Abuses of William Morris Wed 20 Oct, 2pm, FREE

## 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](mailto: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

## Tabley House

The University of Manchester's Stately Home  
Small conference and meeting rooms available year-round. Licensed for weddings and baby-naming ceremonies.  
In 2004, the house will be open to the public from 1st April until 31st October on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays & Bank Holidays from 2pm to 5pm. (Last entries 4.30pm). Admission £4.00 (adults); £1.50 (children and students). 10% discount for parties of 25 or more adults booked in advance to visit during normal opening hours. Prices on application for group visits outside these hours.

**Tabley House**,  
Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0HB  
Tel: 01565 750151 [www.tableyhouse.co.uk](http://www.tableyhouse.co.uk)  
email: [inquiries@tableyhouse.co.uk](mailto:inquiries@tableyhouse.co.uk)



# Seminars

6 - 15 October 2004

## Wednesday 6 October

Tyndall Centre: "UK energy demand and the announcement effects of the UK climate change levy (econometric) provides evidence of path dependency in energy demand". Dr Terry Barker (Cambridge). 4pm, Room 16, Pariser Bldg.

School of Materials Research Colloquia: "Trends in materials usage in gas turbines". Dr Colin Small. 2.15pm, Room D13, Manchester Materials Science Centre, Grosvenor St.

## Thursday 7 October

Manchester Medical Society PAEDIATRICS AGM and Presentations and Symposium: Speakers: Prof J Bamford (Manchester), Mr I C Lloyd (Manchester), Dr B Bose-Haider (The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust), Dr J E Wraith (Manchester), Dr M R Judge (Salford). Coffee 10.15am, Lunch 1pm, Symposium 2pm, Postgraduate Health Sciences Centre, MRI.

Imaging Science and Biomedical Engineering: Presentation of 2nd Year Projects. Speakers Dr J S Mills, Dr A Talwalkar and Dr C Wallace. 5.15pm, LT3, Stopford Bldg.

## Tuesday 12 October

School of Nursing, Midwifery & Social Work Research Forum: "Review management of childhood asthma in Primary Care: the practice nurse's role. Linda Milnes. 12.30pm, COPE Room, Coupland III.

Manchester Medical Society SURGERY Presidential Address and AGM: "Reflections on a peculiar practice". Mr E S Kiff (Manchester). 8pm, Chancellors Conference Centre.

NPCRDC: "Local authority scrutiny: check mate?" Anna Coleman. 2pm, Seminar Room 2, NPCRDC, 5th Floor, Williamson Bldg.

CHSTM: "Negotiating risk: technology and accidents in American history". Arwen Mohen (Delaware). 4pm, Room 3.29, Maths Tower (tea at 3.30pm).

CCSR: "South Asian voting patterns". David Cutts and Ed Fieldhouse (Manchester). 4pm, 2nd Floor, Crawford House (entrance from Booth St East).

## Wednesday 13 October

Manchester Medical Society PATHOLOGY: "Haematological malignancies - modernisation and NICE guidelines". Dr A G Smith (Southampton). 5.30pm, Theatre 2, Medical School.

European Matrix Interdisciplinary Seminar: "The American cartel revolution and its implications for European competition law". Dr Alan Riley (CLaSF). 2.15pm, Law School Common Room, R3.07, Williamson Bldg.

School of Materials Research Colloquia: "Polymer nanowires encapsulating magnetic self-assembled filaments". Dr. Jean-Michel Guenet. 2.15pm, Room D13, Materials Science Centre.

Transport Seminars: "A transport policy viewpoint". Scott Hellewell (Transport Consultant). 5.30pm, Cordingley Lecture Theatre, Architecture and Planning Bldg.

## Thursday 14 October

Manchester Medical Society ANAESTHESIA Presidential Address and AGM: "Alternative medicine - friend or foe?" Dr R G Ghaly (Wigan). 7pm, MANDEC.

Centre for Screen Studies "Adventures on Film" Penny Woolcock, one of the UK's foremost film directors in conversation with moderator Dr. Alan Marcus 5:15pm, Bragg Lecture Theatre, Martin Harris Bldg, Coupland St. Admission Free.

Imaging Science and Biomedical Engineering: "Functional imaging - seeing the brain in action". Prof S Williams (Manchester). 5.15pm, LT3, Stopford Bldg.

# Noticeboard

## October 4 - 9,

Week 2  
Festival of Drama  
The John Thaw Studio Theatre  
Martin Harris Building

## Tuesday 5 October,

6.00pm (Free)  
New Theatre  
I'm Older Now But I Still Hate You by Sijlee Marx  
En-Suite Lies by Rowan Martin  
Maybe Tomorrow by Nicola Schofield

## Wednesday 6 October,

6.00 - 8.00pm (Free)  
Studio X

## Thursday 7 October,

7.30pm (£7.00/£5.00)  
The Grey Area - Construction Productions

## Friday 8 October,

6.00pm (Free)  
Film Screenings, Bragg Theatre

## Friday 8 & Sat 9 October,

7.30pm (£7.00/£5.00)  
Three Bar Solo by Ted Moore  
Envision Theatre Company

## Saturday 9 October,

10.00am - 12.00pm (Free)  
ATMO-SPEARE - A Workshop by The Assembled

Further details on all the above events can be found on the Drama website:  
<http://www.art.manchester.ac.uk/DRAMA/departments/events.htm>  
Ticket reservations - 0161 275 4928 (10am - 3.00pm.)

## Manchester Poetry Festival

### 7 - 16 October

Including Faber and Faber 75th Anniversary Gala Reading at the Whitworth Art Gallery featuring Carol Ann Duffy, Simon Armitage and Tom Paulin.  
For full listings contact Stephen Kingston 0161 792 8956/07957 982960 email [Stephen@care4free.net](mailto:Stephen@care4free.net)

## Looking Back

# The John Owens Building

rd

## John Rylands University Library of Manchester

Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine  
 One Day Conference  
 "Medical History in Manchester"  
 Saturday 16 October 2004  
 MANDEC  
 The University of Manchester  
 Tickets: £25 (£20 unwaged/students).  
 For more information ring 0161 275 8740 or email [special.collections@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:special.collections@manchester.ac.uk)

## Legal Advice Centre

The Legal Advice Centre is currently taking appointments for the beginning of October onwards. The Centre operates during term-time and provides free, legal advice in strictest confidence to both students, staff and members of the public. Clients are advised by law students supervised by local lawyers and professionally qualified teaching staff.

Precinct Centre, Oxford Road. Opening times: Mon - Fri 10am - 2pm

Tel: 0161 275 7977. Fax: 0161 275 7976. Email: [free.legal@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:free.legal@manchester.ac.uk)

## Earn £5 in 30 minutes

The Dept of Psychology, is examining how people read. The experiment lasts for approximately 30 minutes and involves reading individual sentences on a computer screen and responding to a subsequent question as quickly as possible by pressing respective answer buttons (this is not an assessment of your reading skills). This project has been approved by the Departmental Ethics Committee. If you are interested in taking part please contact Dr Judith Holler ([judith.holler@psy.manchester.ac.uk](mailto:judith.holler@psy.manchester.ac.uk)).

You can take part if you are aged between 20 and 35, an English native speaker, not dyslexic and not involved in studying or researching aspects of language (also you should not have taken part in any other of our previous research).



**Pictured is one of the original drawings of the John Owens building by the architect who designed over 100 years ago, Alfred Waterhouse.**

Waterhouse, who also designed the Manchester Town Hall and The Royal Courts of Justice in London, is thought to have exhibited this drawing to the Royal Academy in 1872.

The original budget for the building was £40,000, and it is not difficult

to imagine how much more it would cost to construct a building of this size and grandeur today.

Most noticeable is the fact that the Quad does not exist, and neither does the Whitworth Hall. At the time much debate was given to the design, not least as to whether the building should be set back, or stand nearer Oxford Road.

Funnily, in 1901 one former student commented that the inside of the building reminded him more of a swimming baths.

# Classifieds

## HOUSES FOR SALE

**3 bed flat.** Secure parking, back garden, new bathroom, new high quality laminate floor throughout. 15 mins walk to University. £132,950. Call Jo on 275 8548 or 07811 275 952.

**3 bed sem-det.** Garage, front & back gdn, central heating, dble glazed. New bathrm. Exc area, close to all amenities. £179,500. 0161-256 4700 or 07944 656 295.

**A modern 3 bedrm semi-det hse with garage & driveside parking.** Gdn to F & R, CGH, dble glazed windows. Alarm & security lighting systems, + utility rm & separate wc. An ideal family hse within 10 mins reach. £129,950 but can be further neg for a quick sale. 0161-224 9357.

**Deane Ave, Cheadle. Middle quasi semi,** 3 bedrms, no vendor chain. Very well presented. GCH, UPVC dble glazed, gdn/driveway, cul-de-sac position. Would suit first time buyer, single person or small family. Ideally loc close to village, Morrisons, schools & motorway access. £129,950. 07967 362 892.

**Heaton Mersey area. Lrge penthouse apart.** 2 dble bedrms, 2 bathrms, security system. Garage & parking. Panoramic views of the Pennines & Cheshire, din rm & breakfast rm. Nr Didsbury, airport & motorway. £224,000. 0161-442 4094.

**Didsbury. 4 bed semi-det.** New bathrm, attractive gdn. Exc local schools & amenities. £310,000. 0161-448 9934.

## ACCOMMODATION TO LET

**West Didsbury. Rm in hse with gdn.** Would suit non-smoking female pg or visiting academic. Conv for buses. £65 incl bills. 0161-445 1647.

**Withington. Short term solution.** 1 rm + box rm to let for 2 mnths from Sept. Rent neg. 0161-434 6139.

**Chorlton.** Lrge rm avail in quiet family hse. Close to Metro & bus routes, ideal for Univ. £15pn inc breakfast or neg rate for more than 3 nights. 0161-864 1246 or email: johnvalmcclean@onetel.com

**Chorlton-on-Medlock.** 1 dble bedrm f/f (Bosch w/machine). Walking distance to city centre, secure car park. Freshly dec. South West facing balcony. 12mnth lease. £450pcm inc of service charge & water rates. 07949 125 370 or email: ben.stephenson1@ntlworld.com

**Chorlton.** Very comf 3 bed Victorian end terr avail from early Feb to early Aug 05. Suit visiting academic & family. Conv for buses/shops & gd range of local facilities. 10-15 mins drive to Univ. F/F with modern alarm, w/machine, t/dryer, d/washer, f/freezer. No pets & non-smokers only. £700pcm + bills & mnth's dep. Email: k.g.ward@man.ac.uk

**Mottram/Glossop border.** Spac 2 bed ground flr apart. Neutral decoration throughout, exc cond. Approx 150 yrs old. Garage & small enclosed gdn to rear + forecourt parking for 1 car. Property is close to M67, 5 mins Tameside Hosp. Highly sort after area. Surround by open countryside, viewing highly recommended. £550pcm. 0161-480 8583.

**Altrincham.** F/F dble or single rm avail to rent in a lovely 3 bedrm semi. A stone's throw from the bus to town, tram, train to Chester & Altrincham town centre. All mod cons inc Sky & TV provided in bedrm. Would suit non-smoking pg & staff. Dble £250. Single £200. Both inc bills. 07919 102 176.

**Glossop, Padfield.** 3 bed lrg attic conv furn property. New kit, stone fireplace, exposed beams, neutral dec throughout, exc cond. Village environment. 10 mins walk to train station direct line to M/cr/Glossop. 5 mins to Countryside Longendale trail, desirable area. Council Tax Band A. £525pcm. 0161-480 8583.

**Rusholme.** Dble rm in mid-terr. Exc amenities nearby with gd public transport links. On rd parking avail. All mod cons, cable tv, internet access. Non-smokers only. Would prefer mid-wk lets, price neg. (27) 5 4488 or 07834 898 215.

**F/F 3 bed bungalow,** study, garage, gdn. Peak District views, 14 miles from M/cr. Easy access to A6, bus & rail services. £750pm. 01663 733 490.

**Glossop, Padfield.** 2 bed terr property. New bathrm, new kit, new carpets, neutral dec throughout. Exc cond, GCH, dble glazed. Viewing highly recommended. Avail immed. 10 mins rail station direct line to M/cr. Close to Countryside Longendale trail. Sailing club, swimming baths & local library. Council Tax band A. £495pcm. 0161-480 8583.

**Quiet Chorlton cul-de-sac.** Lovely new Bellway homes 1st flr flat. 2 dble bedrms, huge kit/din. Dble glazed, F/F to high standard. Gd public transport. Ideal for post doc/grad/prof. Long term, no-pets, non-smoker. Refs please. £625pcm. 07904 380 268.

**Rusholme/Vic Park.** Rm with hse with gdn. Broadband connected. Would suit n/s female pg or prof. Close to bus routes. Avail 5/10. £250pcm + bills. Email: diane\_chan77@yahoo.co.uk

**Stretford.** 2 dble bedrm hse off Chester Rd with attic conversion, suit for office use (web access already in place). 2 recept rms & extended kit, gdns to f & r & side. Off-rd parking. Avail f/f, newly dec & carpeted. GCH & dble glazed. £550pcm. Avail end of Oct 04. 07957 360 491 to view.

**Glossop, Victoria St.** 2 bed 1st flr flat. First let, new kit, new bathrm, neutral dec throughout, cream carpets. Galleried lnge exc, must be viewed. 2 mins centre & train station direct line to M/cr.

**Bramhall/Cheadle Hulme.** F/F 2 bed Bungalow, GCH, Newly dec throughout. New Combi boiler, microwave, auto washer etc. Very comfortable & cosy. Small pleasant gdn f & r. Parking for 2/3 cars. Extremely sought after loc. Close to bus/train to Stockport/M/cr. Prof staff only. 0161-485 3112.

**Rusholme.** Dble Rm in a mid-terr. Exc amenities nearby with gd public transport links. On rd parking avail. All mod cons, cable tv, internet access. Non-smokers only. Would prefer mid-wk lets, price neg. (27)54488 or 07834 898 215.

## HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

**Florida avail from Oct 2004.** Air cond 3 bedrm, 2 bathrm fully equip brand new villa close to Disney, Sea world, Universal Studios. Clubhse, swimming pool, kiddie pool, tennis court & playground area. Short drive from Orlando airport, close to shops, restaurants & motorway system. £350pw. 0161-494 2879 or 07760 453 738. Flights, car hire, them park tickets can also be arranged.

**Puerto del Carmen, Lanzarote.** Spac, stylish apart. Sleeps 5 in comfort. Both dble bedrms en-suite. Sun terrace overlooks beach & sea. From £245pw. Special prices for families. www.casapalmeras.co.uk

**Languedoc-Roussillon.** French village hse to let in spectacular loc. Walks, mountains, rivers, wine in abundance. 30 mins from coast, sleeps 4-6. 07985 168 099 or email from www.geocities.com/roquebrun\_let

**Tuscany holiday cottage to let.** Superb setting near mountains. Lrge gdn, air conditioning. Florence, Siena, Arezzo easily accessible. Ideal for walking, sight-seeing, museums, restaurants, wine tasting, swimming & much more. 0208 699 8883. Details and photos on website: <http://freespace.virgin.net/gp.ck/> Email: gp.ck@virgin.net

**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@mickeysortlandovilla.co.uk

**Andalucia-Gaucin.** Beautiful White Village, uniquely designed villa, built as 3 apart & 2 cottages with central courtyard & pool. Sleeps 2-13. Breathtaking views to Gib & N Africa. 07801 341 856 or [www.thespanishvilla.com](http://www.thespanishvilla.com)

## CARS/MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE

**Fiat Seicento** sporting 3 dr hatchback. 2002, red, CD, alloys, airbag etc. Tax for 2 mnths. Only 17,500miles. So cheap to run & insure. £3,000 or any serious offers considered. 07919 102 176.

**Honda Civi 1.5 LSI,** automatic, M Reg. 55k miles. VGC. 6 mnths rd TAX, MOT until Jan. Sale due to overseas relocation. £1,200. 07817 908 180 or email: c.lopez-diez@umist.ac.uk

**Rover Mini 1.3** German limited edition Cooper made for UK market (RHD), Pearlescent silver, sports pack, MPI, full cream leather interior, walnut dash, red carpets. CD player, immobiliser, driver airbag, TAX & MOT, just serviced. Absolutely immac & a real rarity. Reg 1999, 28k miles. £5,195. 0776 208 302 or email: joanne.nightingale@man.ac.uk

**VW Polo 1995 N Reg.** 1300CL, only 34k miles. Taxed & MOT, FSH, electric windows, central locking, ex cond. £2,500. 0161-442 9763 after 6pm or 07791 169 119.

**Honda Civic 1.6 VTi.** 3dr, V Reg. Low mileage. Aqua Green. Sun roof & air con. £4,000. 0161-969 4986 or 0161-273 6048.

## MISCELLANEOUS SALES

**Furniture. 2 seater & 1 chair,** 1 table & 4 chairs, 1 divan bed, 2 wardrobes, 2 bedside tables, 2 coffee tables. Exc cond. £250 ono. (27)56747 or email: n.sillikas@manchester.ac.uk

**Gents' racing bike, like new,** 8 gears £40. Bike carrier for car, universal fitting, never used £20. Morphy Richards Trouser press/valet. £40ono. 0161-442 4094.

**Traditional black upright piano,** free to a gd home. 0161-872 2904.

**Computer printer.** Canon BJ600 bubble-jet colour printer. Ideal for home printing. Contains in-use ink cartridges. Contains un-used ink cartridges. Will deliver with M/cr area. (27) 51642 or email: mdeasgj2@manchester.ac.uk

## WANTED

**2 or 3 bedrm, 1 or 2 bathrm semi or f/f hse in Chorlton** or other area close to University. Can start short or long term lease from Nov 1/04 to Jan 1/05. Evngs 0161-718 9800 or email: awmoore@icisc.ca.

**Visiting academic seeks 1 bedrm flat nr Univ for 4 wks** April/May 05. (27)54891 or email: r.durrell@manchester.ac.uk

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## Just The Job

# Philippa Adshead

## Visitors Centre Manager

**From “Joe Public” to some of the world’s biggest celebrities, Philippa Adshead has greeted them all at the University’s Visitors Centre.**



With its huge glass doors, leather chairs, and hi-tech plasma screen, the Visitors Centre is a very inviting place. Combine this with a prime location on the Oxford Road, adjacent to the main archway, and you don’t have to wait long before people start wandering in.

On an average day, the Centre receives over 100 visitors, each with a different question or query, and it is Manager Philippa Adshead’s job to point them in the right direction.

“The Visitors Centre’s primary function is the main reception point for the University, but it varies on a daily basis because we never know who is going to come through the door,” she says.

“We get people who are attending meetings, students who can’t find lecture theatres, and even people trying to trace lost relatives who used to work here. You’ve got to have good investigative skills, and use your initiative quite a lot.”

Philippa was hired to work in the Visitors Centre when it first opened its doors in 1999. Over the last five years she has helped to establish it as a place to meet, a central point of query and as a place for the public to find out more about the University.

Her favourite part of the job is interacting with the people who come in, and being able to help wherever she can.

“I am very keen that people are helped, especially at this time of the year when students are thousands of miles from home, and you’re making them feel that if they have a problem there is somewhere to come.”

“One of the other things I like about the job is how many local people come in. Before the Visitors Centre opened there wasn’t a reception and people would come in and say ‘Am I allowed in here?’ And it’s nice to be able to tell them about the University, and if we have time, show them around.”

Over the years Philippa has had visitors from all walks of life from inquisitive locals, to the celebrities like the Bee Gees and David Dickinson, but she’s had a few strange ones too.

“I’ve had a man come in saying he wanted the contents of his vacuum bag examining, and even someone with half a tomato which they claimed look like a celebrity!”

“Sometimes it is hard to keep a straight face, but whatever the query, and whoever’s asking, you want a visitor’s first impression of the University to be a good one, so my attitude is to try and help everybody.”

The Visitors Centre is open from 9am – 5.15pm Monday to Friday and features specially-developed information points where visitors can view multimedia presentations on all aspects of the University

Next Issue is 18 Oct

### News Contact

**News and story ideas**

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 email uninews@manchester.ac.uk  
 deadline 8 October

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