

UniLife

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Manchester wins Two Cities Boat Race



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Letter from the President



"Chinese students oust UK pupils from top universities." I was irritated to read that heading on the front page of the *Sunday Times* recently. My annoyance was not so much because the statement is untrue, for experience teaches us to have a healthy scepticism of the media. What irritated me was that this often-repeated falsehood borders on the mischievous. It also fails to take account of the very real benefits that the presence of Chinese and other international students bestow on UK universities.

Leaving aside the overriding academic and cultural reasons why an international institution would wish to recruit students drawn from across the world, let me focus here on the financial considerations, which while secondary are nevertheless important.

The simple fact is that there is no trade off between home and international students in English universities. Within a sensible tolerance band, home student numbers are determined by an agreement between the university concerned and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). The access of home students to higher education in England is thus governed by a purchaser-provider model managed by HEFCE, with the number of home students enrolled in higher education being determined essentially by the Government's willingness to provide funding.

Up to a point, a university may enrol additional home students, but the only additional funding it receives for doing so is the recently-introduced £3,000 "top-up" fee. Each suitably-qualified international fee-paying student, on the other hand, contributes, on average, around £12,000 per annum to the university concerned. (Fee levels differ from institution to institution and course to course, so the average figure is indicative only.)

Such students never take the place of home students. The funding agreement that each university has with HEFCE prevents that. But the income that international students provide does represent an increasingly important investment in the quality of the staff and facilities from which all students – and, ipso facto, the wider national

interest – benefits immensely. Universities do not make profits, but they are costly to run, even when managed with the utmost efficiency. In national policy terms, the choice is either to enable universities to invest in quality or fall behind the best higher education systems elsewhere in the world.

Manchester has always attracted world class scholars, and produced wonderfully successful graduates. We want all students in Manchester to receive a higher education comparable with the best available anywhere in the world. But the world of higher learning is undergoing revolutionary change, and we will fall behind international best practice unless we are able to invest heavily and intelligently in e-learning, and succeed in enriching the learning environment that Manchester offers all its students through informed, judicious use of the best emerging e-learning technologies and pedagogies.

We can not – and must not – compromise our entry standards to attract international students, but the truth is that the enrolment of good international students is of immense benefit to all students, and improves our chances of making Manchester a better place to learn to be a scholar or to undertake research.

For when we talk about the imperative for revenue generation in UK universities, we are talking essentially about what it takes to safeguard the quality of the ideas, graduates, research and innovation that the UK has a right to expect of its universities. The ambitious nature of the Manchester 2015 Agenda simply makes the imperative more acute in our own case.

Professor Alan Gilbert
President and Vice-Chancellor

Manchester wins Two Cities Boat Race – but only just!

The University of Manchester is celebrating after beating Salford in a nail biting end to this year's Two Cities Boat Race.

Manchester came from behind to win 4 - 3 in the seven-race regatta, which took place over a 500-metre course at Salford Quays, finishing under the landmark Lowry Bridge.

Although slightly down on last year's record crowds, hundreds of spectators, including Salford MP and deputy Labour leadership challenger Hazel Blears, lined the banks of the Quays to watch the seven races.

The dragon boat racing, which took place earlier in the day, was also well-supported as 22 crews of local companies, university staff and students raced the 40-foot vessels. The dragon boat champions were a team of Manchester Architecture students called The Architecture Boys, dressed in bright pink!

Last year Manchester won comfortably 6 - 1, but this time it went right down to the wire with the Men's Eight finally clinching victory over Salford in the last race of the day. Hazel Blears then handed out the trophies to the winning rowers.

The University of Manchester's Sales and Marketing Manager Richard Handscombe said: "This year's Two Cities Boat Race was one of the most exciting regattas ever. It demonstrated Manchester's rowing superiority and provided the spectators with some fantastic racing and heart-stopping action... it was a great day out."

The Two Cities Boat Race – which has been running since 1972 - is now an established highlight in the sporting and social calendar of many staff and students as well as local people in Manchester and



planning has already started for the 2008 event.

The event is also significant for the amount of work put in by volunteers from both universities, to help with stewarding, programme selling and event set-up. This year's event raised money for

SPARKS, a charity which supports medical research for children.

ITV Granada and the Manchester Evening News were the official media partners of the 2007 Two Cities Boat Race.

Jodrell Bank: 50th anniversary celebrations for the Lovell Telescope

This summer the Lovell Telescope, Jodrell Bank's 'Big Dish', celebrates its 50th birthday in style. An exciting programme of public events has been planned that features the work of the telescope and the ways in which it inspires scientists and non-scientists alike.

Building work began in 1952, when Sir Bernard Lovell joined forces with the engineer Charles Husband to create the world's largest telescope.

'Lovell's Contraption', as it was known to the locals, was completed in 1957 when, over the summer months, it slowly inched into life.

And in October 1957 it raced to full completion in time to watch the flight of Sputnik 1, the first artificial satellite and the dawn of the space age. The telescope was then the only instrument on Earth capable of watching its carrier rocket speeding around the planet.

Fifty years on it is still the third largest fully steerable telescope in the world. It is at the heart of MERLIN, the UK's national radio astronomy facility run from Jodrell Bank.

Sir Bernard recalls, "When it was constructed the engineers said to me, 'My dear fellow, you'll be jolly lucky if the structure lasts for fifteen years!'. I am delighted that it continues to play a significant role in international astronomy."

Celebrations this summer take their framework from the landmark dates in 1957, and look to the future – heralding both the next 50 years of astronomy and the approaches to be taken at the new Centre for Visitors planned at the Jodrell Bank site. See page 17.

The celebrations this summer launch a three year series of events funded by the Science and Technology Facilities Council in anticipation of the new Centre for Visitors planned at Jodrell Bank. Dr Teresa Anderson who is developing this project explains "This year takes the 50th anniversary as a springboard for looking at new ways of engaging with the excitement of space and astronomy. The following two years will explore further new approaches and areas and form the pilot events structure for the new Centre."



Honour for Sir Bernard

Readers of the Sky at Night magazine and The Radio Times have voted Bernard Lovell one of the top astronomers of all time.

Sir Bernard came in at number seven, with Galileo Galilei topping the list.

In his descriptions of the astronomers who made the top ten, Sir Patrick Moore wrote "The Lovell Telescope remains at the forefront of research and has showed the way to all who followed it."

Sir Bernard is the only living astronomer on the list.

In brief

Genetic equality call by Nobel Laureate

Nobel Laureate Professor Sir John Sulston called for clearer provision against workplace discrimination based on a person's genetic makeup during a talk at the University on April 24.

Speaking at the Faculty of Life Sciences' Annual Lecture, the pioneer of genomic research and winner of the 2002 Nobel Prize warned that rules governing insurance companies and genetic inheritance should also be examined.

"Since the discovery of the key molecular principles of life over the last half century, biology has grown from a largely academic discipline into one of great social and industrial value," said Sir John, former Director of the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute in Cambridgeshire.

"This shift has brought obvious benefits in terms of investment but it has also brought the need to balance profitability with the demands of social justice.

"One example of this is genetic equity – safeguarding the right to non-discrimination regardless of one's genetic inheritance.

"In the UK, equitable access to healthcare is provided by the National Health Service but in other spheres, particularly employment and insurance, there is a serious need for clearer provision against unfair discrimination."

Sir John, who with colleagues Sydney Brenner and H Robert Horvitz won the Nobel Prize for mapping the entire genome of the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans*, was heard by more than 400 fellow scientists and guests in the Whitworth Hall.

Pick n mix

Some of the most interesting archives which are held in UK universities and colleges can now be viewed in a monthly exhibition.

Each month the University's Archives Hub based in MIMAS (Manchester Computing) runs a 'Collection of the Month' and this month the University's digital artist in residence, Aileen Collis from the School of Materials, has selected images of archives and has created five beautiful new digital designs from them.

The images in the exhibition called Pick n Mix are of items held in John Rylands Library, and in the archives held by Heriot-Watt, Dundee and Exeter universities, which, with three departments at Manchester form this unique collaboration.

The Archives Hub provides a single point of access to nearly 20,000 descriptions of archives held in more than 150 UK universities and colleges.

www.archiveshub.ac.uk

University honours world leaders in property, cancer and economics



Tom Bloxham MBE, Chairman and Co-Founder of property development company Urban Splash, received an honorary degree at The University of Manchester last month.

Tom studied politics at the University, before entering property development. He was awarded an MBE for his services to architecture and urban regeneration in 1999.

He chairs Arts Council England (North West) and also sits on the Arts Council England and has advised the Government on property matters. Tom is also chair of the new Manchester

International Arts Festival and chair of the IPPR Centre for Cities Think Tank.

The University also honoured world leaders in the fields of cancer research and economics, awarding honorary degrees to:

Professor Alex Markham, outgoing Chief Executive of Cancer Research UK, the largest cancer research non-governmental funding body in the world. Alex Markham is stepping down in order to return to Leeds University.

Prof. Dr. Werner Hildenbrand, Emeritus Professor of Economics at Bonn University. Werner

Hildenbrand also holds honorary degrees from the Université Louis Pasteur in France and Bern University in Switzerland and he is an honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Bob Herz, chairman of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) and one of the most influential figures in the accounting profession. Previously, Bob was a senior partner with PricewaterhouseCoopers, who he joined in 1974 upon graduating from The University of Manchester with a B.A. in economics.

Employability boost for international students

Students who have lived or worked overseas will gain further valuable work experience thanks to International Talent, a new initiative run by the MLP, Careers and Employability Division.

This free, professional brokerage service assists companies who are researching or expanding into overseas markets to hire international students for short-term project work, to assist their business development.

Paul Banks, Managing Director of Image Alchemy Ltd and a guest speaker at the launch event in May, has employed several University of Manchester students to explore European and South East Asian markets. He said: "The quality of the candidates applying for positions has been outstanding. The International Talent service is way ahead of anything else within the commercial sector and has helped my business enormously."

Examples of projects that overseas students have assisted with include: assessing new overseas

markets for products and services; document translation; overseas customer satisfaction surveys; developing international contacts, and event management for overseas clients and visitors.

Amanda Wood, Head of International Career Development at the University, explained: "The latest International Student Barometer results, which surveyed over 1,500 international students at this University last autumn, revealed an overall dissatisfaction with opportunities available for career-related work experience. International Talent tackles the issue head-on, by providing practical assistance to improve these students' chances of securing valuable UK-based work experience.

"Businesses will benefit from the specialist language skills, cultural knowledge and work experience that our international students - indeed, any of our students who have international experience - can offer."

For further information, call the International Talent Team on 0161 275 2828, or visit:



Rylands re-opens

The John Rylands Library on Deansgate re-opened to the public on Monday 14 May. University staff were able to see the fantastic results of the recent £16.5 million transformation for themselves in two special preview events on Tuesday 8 and Thursday 10 May.

Staff who visited on 8 May were able to enjoy a performance of music written for the occasion by Music Composition Masters students and performed in the Library's wonderfully atmospheric Reading Room.

The public opening has been a huge success, attracting almost 500 visitors per day in the first week, many of whom were visiting for the first time. Librarian Bill Simpson said, "The public reaction to the building and its collections has been overwhelmingly positive. We are pleased to be able to show off the results of the Unlocking the Rylands project to such a broad range of visitors - from the University community and local residents to international visitors."

The project has improved access for visitors with the addition of a new entrance wing including lifts to all floors. Improved visitor facilities include a new giftshop and café. New exhibition areas display examples from the Library's treasures, tell the story of the building and engage the public with interactive displays. The Library's programme of changing exhibitions begins with The British Library's The Silk Road and the Secrets of Silk, showing until 11 August.

The Library is open every day: Mon and Wed-Sat 10am-5pm, Tues and Sun 12noon-5pm. For further visitor information, please call 0161 306 0555. The Library's services for readers re-opened on 10 April. For more information about reader services, call 0161 275 3764.

University strikes executive education deal with BP



Key representatives from BP and the University at the signing ceremony

The University is to deliver executive education programmes for global giant BP as part of a multi-million pound strategic partnership.

The two parties have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), marking their intention to establish a closer working relationship across recruitment activities, research, education, and the application of scientific knowledge.

As part of this relationship, The University has been selected by BP to host 'Managing Projects' and 'Engineering Management' education programmes, after competing against other leading UK universities.

Managing Projects will draw on expertise within Manchester Business School and the School of Mechanical Aerospace and Civil Engineering to provide world-class project management education to professionals in the BP Group.

The Engineering Management programme will be delivered by academics from the Schools of Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering (MACE), Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science (CEAS) and Manchester Business School (MBS).

The programmes will be piloted and introduced over the next year. The total investment from BP across the two training programmes is in excess of £4 million.

BP Alternative Energy is also sponsoring post graduate research in The School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE), and is looking to draw upon multi-disciplinary expertise within MACE's wind technology research programme.

Professor Alan Gilbert, President and Vice-Chancellor of The University of Manchester said: "We are immensely proud that a global company like BP has chosen The University of Manchester to deliver world-class training for its most talented and ambitious people.

"These projects are just the start of what promises to be a long and prosperous partnership that, as it continues to flourish, will bring together the most skilled and gifted individuals from both organisations, forging a special link which spans both commerce and higher education."



Phase One of the Estates Plan draws to a close



SCAN Building

No-one can have failed to notice the huge amount of building work which has been going on around the campus since the merger in October 2004.

But with Phase One of the building programme drawing to a close, *UniLife* takes a closer look at some of the new buildings, and some of the University's exciting plans for the future.

It is the biggest capital programme in the history of Higher Education in this country, creating new high-quality facilities costing £620m. Our new-look campus will attract the best international scholars and students to Manchester, as well as providing state of the art facilities for research and high quality learning environments.

Director of Estates Diana Hampson praised the hard work of her team, as well as the many consultants and contractors who have worked with them on the various projects. She said: "We are delivering a campus which will help to make The University of Manchester one of the leading Universities in the world by 2015. As we complete each project, staff and students are seeing some impressive facilities opening up right across the campus. It's an exciting time to be in Manchester."

A number of projects are already completed, including the Stopford teaching labs, Functional Biology, the Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre, Smith Building, the Chemistry Building, the new multi-storey car park and the spectacular John Rylands refurbishment on Deansgate.

This summer, more buildings will be handed over to the University, including AMPPS (Astronomy, Mathematics, Physics and Photon Science) and Humanities.

SCAN, the new £65m flagship building for the University with its distinctive rotunda on Oxford Road, will become a focal point for major events and a point of first contact for prospective students and members of the public. It will house Student Services, Catering, the School of Nursing, the Institute of Health Sciences as well as a block of new student accommodation towards the rear.

As well as creating such new buildings, the University is putting some of its older facilities on the market in order to raise around £50m towards the cost of the capital programme. This has always been planned as part of the Project Unity Business Case prepared at the time of the merger.

The Directorate of Estates has explored the property market and the likely value of property across the campus and a list of buildings to be sold has been approved by senior management. In the first instance, the University has decided to offer for sale buildings closest to the city centre or in desirable residential areas that are likely to command the highest market price.

Amongst the academic buildings to be offered for sale are the Moffat Building, the Maths and Social Sciences Tower, the Morton Building and the Fairbairn Building on the Sackville Street campus. The Directorate of Estates has already been in contact with the relevant Heads of Schools to

develop in consultation with them detailed plans for the relocation of staff and academic activities.

A number of non-teaching buildings are also to be offered for sale including the following buildings managed by the STARS Directorate: Chandos Hall, Hardy Farm, Manchester Conference Centre and Weston Hall. Staff currently working in these buildings will remain employees of the University (unless they choose otherwise).

Meanwhile, the University's Board of Governors has agreed to name some of our new buildings in honour of some famous names from Manchester's illustrious history, including Nobel prize winning economist Sir Arthur Lewis, the founder of computer science Alan Turing, Nobel prize winning physiologist and biophysicist AV Hill, political campaigner Ellen Wilkinson and the eminent Jewish philosopher Samuel Alexander.

- The SCAN Building will be called University Place
- The Humanities Building Bridgeford Street will be called the Arthur Lewis Building
- The AMPSS Building will become the Alan Turing Building
- The Smith Extension will be known as the A.V. Hill Building
- The Lime Grove (Arts) Building will be called The Samuel Alexander Building
- Humanities Devas Street will be called the Ellen Wilkinson Building

The Projects

Here we take a look at some of the exciting projects which have been completed, or are nearing completion, in Phase One of the campus redevelopment.

FB 1 building (Functional Biology)

Project Value: £9.7m
Completed: January 2006
Located behind the Bioscience Incubator, FB 1 took almost two years to complete. The building's top two floors are taken up by Core Technologies, one floor from the Faculty of Life Sciences and one from the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences. There are approximately 55 research groups and 240 research scientists in total and their main areas of research interest include heart disease and diabetes.

Smith Extension

Project Value: £39m
Completion date: August 2008
The Smith Extension will be completed next summer and will house staff from two combined Faculties, Life Sciences and Medical and Human Sciences. There will be approximately 30 academic staff from both Faculties as well as a further 150 research and support staff.

Relocation of the School of Pharmacy

Project Value: £17.7m
Completed: February 2007
This project was completed earlier this year to allow Pharmacy to relocate to the Stopford Building.

Stopford Building teaching labs

Project Value: £2.25m
Completed: September 2005
Refurbishment project and a doubling in size of the existing teaching laboratories

Smith Building

Project Value: £14.7m
Completed: December 2006
D Wing was completed last year whilst the final piece of the jigsaw, the A-D hub, is now being fitted out ready for occupation at the end of this year.

Chemistry

Project Value: £14.11m
Completed: September 2006
This refurbishment and extension project was completed in time for the 2006 academic year allowing Chemistry students to move in and enjoy the state of the art facilities

AMPPS (Astronomy, Mathematics, Physics and Photon Science)

Project Value: £58.9m
Completion date: June 2007
This project is due for handover imminently, some three months ahead of schedule. AMPPS is a new building, housing Photon Science on the ground floor. It will be followed by some refurbishment of the existing Schuster Building for Physics, which dates back to the 1960s.

SCAN Building

Project Value: £64.7m
Completion date: February 2008
This eight-storey flagship building is taking shape on Oxford Road, replacing the outdated Maths Tower. The project is being completed in phases, which means that the 300-room student accommodation block towards Upper Brook Street will be ready for occupation in time for the start of the next academic year. The School of Nursing will move in during the autumn, whilst the distinctive rotunda at the front of the building will be completed in February 2008. Inside there will be a modern 1000-seat lecture theatre/seminar space. The building will also house Student Services and Catering.

Humanities

Project Value: £31.5m
Completion Date: June 2007
Due for completion shortly, the new Humanities Building will house the School of Environment and Development, as well as the School of Social Sciences.

Multi-Storey Car Park

Project Value: £10.1m
Completed: April 2006
The new multi-storey car park has been open for 12 months now and has proved highly successful, bringing the number of parking spaces back to the levels of 2004. Meanwhile, the University also struck a deal with the City Council to improve public transport, including the new 147 bus link from Piccadilly Station.

Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre (MIB)

Project Value: £39m
Completed: Summer 2006
MIB has been operating successfully since last summer and has already been named joint Building of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce, sharing the title with the impressive Beetham Tower.

John Rylands University Library, Deansgate

Project Value: £17.54m
Completed: February 2007
The Library has been closed for major refurbishment since late 2003. As well as the construction of a new Entrance Wing, essential conservation work to the historic building has been completed and new exhibition galleries have been installed. Reader service restarted in April, with the exhibition galleries and the Historic Reading Room reopened to visitors last month.



In brief

MACE Showcase

Postgraduate research students in the School of Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering (MACE) hosted their second highly successful research showcase day recently.

Organised entirely by postgraduate research students and supported by the School's 300 research students and academic staff, the event attracted interest from across The Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences and also external organisations such as BP.

Held in the Renold Building, the event attracted 66 posters and 54 research talks by the PhD students. The posters and presentations reflected the diverse research being undertaken in the school including aerospace engineering, energy, environment and climate change, extreme loading and design, nuclear engineering and manufacturing and laser processing.

The Research Showcase Day was conceived so that the PhD students in the School of MACE could gain experience in the organisation of a technical conference.

Substantial prizes were given for the best presentations and posters, providing a slight competitive edge to the event.

Dr Caesar Merrifield, Director of Graduate Studies in the School of MACE said: "The day was characterised by enthusiasm, good humour and a collegial approach to all the activities, and was enthusiastically supported by the academics in the school."

Leverhulme Award

Dr Rein Ulijn from The School of Materials has received a prestigious award in recognition of his outstanding expertise. The Leverhulme Trust Research Leadership Awards supports research that has the promise to bring about a compelling change in the wider shaping of research disciplines.

The award to Rein's Group, based at the Manchester Interdisciplinary Biocentre (MIB), is worth £800,000 over five years and will fund a team of four post doctoral researchers and two PhD students. The team will work on new biologically inspired approaches to enhance the complexity of self-assembled biomaterials.

From the dozens of entries received, only twelve research awards were made by the Leverhulme Trust. Each university was only allowed to submit a single bid.

Rolls Royce Partnership



From the left: Professor John Perkins (Vice President and Dean of The Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences), Rik Parker (Rolls-Royce), Dr Stephen Long (facility project manager at Rolls-Royce) and Dr Sandy Smith (Director of the Rolls-Royce UTC at the University).

The University and Rolls-Royce have unveiled a new £1 million experimental facility, which will boost the development of high-tech electrical systems for planes, ships and energy generation.

It will complement the existing Rolls-Royce University Technology Centre (UTC) and will develop and evaluate ultra-compact and intelligent electrical networks for use in a range of products including Uninhabited Autonomous Vehicles (UAVs).

Housed in the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE), the facility is being jointly funded by Rolls-Royce and the Systems Engineering Autonomous Systems Defence Technology Centre

(SEAS-DTC) programme co-ordinated by BAE Systems and sponsored by The Ministry of Defence.

Professor John Perkins, Vice-President and Dean of The Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, said: "This latest development will allow further exchange of skills between The University and Rolls-Royce and will provide fresh opportunities for training and development."

Rolls-Royce established the University Technology Centre (UTC) in Manchester in 2004 to pursue research into innovative electrical technologies for aerospace, marine and energy applications. It is part of the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering's Power Conversion Group.

£2 million dwarfism study launched

An international team of researchers led by Dr Mike Briggs of the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell-Matrix Research in the Faculty of Life Sciences have been awarded more than £2 million to study the genetic causes of dwarfism in a bid to develop future treatments.

Ten European and one Australian partner organisations will investigate some of the most common bone disorders that lead to short stature.

Earlier research by the various groups had identified the genetic mutations that cause some of the conditions associated with dwarfism. The collaborators now intend to use this unprecedented experimental resource in the form of 10 genetic disease models to take their work to the next stage of development.

"There are more than 200 unique and well-characterised types of bone disorder, ranging in

severity from relatively mild to severe and lethal forms," said Mike Briggs, "and, although individually rare, as a group of diseases they have a combined incidence of more than 1 in 4,000."

"This is an exciting project that brings together an international group of experts to hopefully rapidly advance our knowledge of the genetic causes of dwarfism.

"By the end of this research we hope to have identified the major molecular problems that cause these disorders and be much closer to identifying potential therapeutic targets."

The research project – called EuroGrow – is funded by a European Union grant of €3.14m plus €500K from the Australian Medical Research Council. Investigations will concentrate on the most common causes of dwarfism, including achondroplasia, which affects as many as one in every 10,000 children.

e-Science Awareness Day 1st May

Professor Nancy Rothwell, Vice-President of Research, opened the e-Science North West (ESNW) Awareness Day/Showcase held at the School of Computer Science on May. With over hundred attendees and twelve live demonstrations of e-Science projects the event was a major success.

The e-Science Directors, Professor Carole Goble from the School of Computer Science and Dr John Brooke from Manchester Computing, commented, "We planned for a vibrant event showing e-Science at work across the University and were delighted by the enthusiastic response. The exhibitors and speakers spanned the whole campus from MIB to Jodrell Bank, and across disciplines from all four Faculties. We were proud to show the many research successes following from the University investment in e-Science."

Demonstrations included the myGrid project that allows biologists to easily link up applications for "in silico" experiments and the AstroGrid project that provides a virtual observatory across all astronomical wavelengths. The Manchester Physics node in the GridPP project demonstrated that it runs more productive computing cycles than the entire national Grids of major European countries. Infrastructure projects included decision support tools for engineers in the water utilities and support for a University Campus Grid via tools for



collaborative working and advanced visualization. The PsyGrid project demonstrated a secure multi-centre clinical data capture system.

There were talks from the National Centre for e-Social Science (NCeSS), the National Centre for Text-Mining (NaCTeM), the UK AccessGrid Support Centre (AGSC), all major UK e-Science facilities based at the University. Manchester Computing and MIB presented facilities and tools to provide researchers from the University of Manchester increased computing power for faster results. For further details on e-Science projects and the work done by ESNW, please see www.esnw.ac.uk

Background Information

The e-Science North West Centre (ESNW) was established at Manchester in 2001 as part of the UK e-Science EPSRC Core Programme and it is the North-West Region node of the e-Science Centres network that forms the Grid backbone for the UK. ESNW is now well established within the University of Manchester thanks to a major £3.1 million pound investment by the University in infrastructure, real estate and staff. It is a joint partnership between the School of Computer Science and Manchester Computing.

www.esnw.ac.uk

Egyptians, not Greeks were true fathers of medicine

Scientists examining documents dating back 3,500 years say they have found proof that the origins of modern medicine lie in ancient Egypt and not with Hippocrates and the Greeks.

The research team from the KNH Centre for Biomedical Egyptology at The University of Manchester discovered the evidence in medical papyri written in 1,500BC – 1,000 years before Hippocrates was born.

"Classical scholars have always considered the ancient Greeks, particularly Hippocrates, as being the fathers of medicine but our findings suggest that the ancient Egyptians were practising a credible form of pharmacy and medicine much earlier," said Dr Jackie Campbell. (pictured right).

"When we compared the ancient remedies against modern pharmaceutical protocols and standards, we found the prescriptions in the ancient documents not only compared with pharmaceutical preparations of today but that many of the remedies had therapeutic merit."

The medical documents, which were first discovered in the mid-19th century, showed that ancient Egyptian physicians treated wounds with honey, resins and metals known to be antimicrobial. The team also discovered prescriptions for laxatives of castor oil and colocynth and bulk laxatives of figs and bran.

"Many of the ancient remedies we discovered survived into the 20th century and, indeed, some remain in use today, albeit that the active component is now produced synthetically," said Dr Campbell.

"Other ingredients endure and acacia is still used in cough remedies while aloe forms a basis to soothe and heal skin conditions."

Fellow researcher Dr Ryan Metcalfe is now developing genetic techniques to investigate the medicinal plants of ancient Egypt. He has designed his research to determine which modern species the ancient botanical samples are most related to.

Professor Rosalie David (pictured left), Director of the KNH Centre, said:



"These results are very significant and show that the ancient Egyptians were practising a credible form of pharmacy long before the Greeks. Our research is continuing on a genetic, chemical and comparative basis to compare the medicinal plants

of ancient Egypt with modern species and to investigate similarities between the traditional remedies of North Africa with the remedies used by their ancestors of 1,500 BC."

In brief

'Build parks to climate proof our cities'

Scientists looking at the effect global warming will have on our major cities say a modest increase in the number of urban parks and street trees could offset decades of predicted temperature rises.

The University of Manchester study has calculated that a mere 10% increase in the amount of green space in built-up centres would reduce urban surface temperatures by as much as 4°C.

This 4°C drop in temperature, which is equivalent to the average predicted rise through global warming by the 2080s, is caused by the cooling effect of water as it evaporates into the air from leaves and vegetation through a process called transpiration.

"Green space collects and retains water much better than the built environment," explained Dr Roland Ennos, a biomechanics expert in Manchester's Faculty of Life Sciences and a lead researcher in the team.

"As this water evaporates from the leaves of plants and trees it cools the surrounding air in a similar way to the cooling effect of perspiration as it evaporates from our skin."

Taking Greater Manchester as their model the team worked out the impact that increasing the amount of green space would have on the urban climate as well as on water retention.

"We discovered that a modest increase of 10% green space reduced surface temperatures in the urban environment by 4°C, which would overcome temperature rises caused by global warming over the next 75 years, effectively 'climate proofing' our cities."

The research, published in *Built Environment*, also examined the effect increased green space would have on the amount of rainwater urban areas capture and retain.

Schools boost for Romani culture

Language specialists at The University of Manchester have launched the first ever DVD-ROM devoted to the Romani language - spoken worldwide by millions of people known as Gypsies.

The free resource - called "Romani: an interactive journey" - will be used by tens of thousands of schoolchildren across Europe - including the UK - in a drive to increase awareness and tolerance of Romani culture.

Romani is now the largest minority language in the European Union since Romania and Bulgaria joined in January.

The content is based on research carried out by the Economic and Social Research Council funded Romani Project at the University's School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures.

The DVD is supported by the Government Department for Education and Skills as part of efforts to encourage minority languages and help pupils to discover their own cultural heritage.

Improving mental health care



Researchers at the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences have been awarded more than £5m to help improve mental health care by the Department of Health.

Five research projects were funded from the £45m National Institute of Health Research grant, including Professor David Challis's three-year investigation into the best ways of managing elderly

people with dementia and depression at home and in care homes. His team at the Personal Social Services Research Unit (PSSRU) will work with Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust.

Professor Tony Morrison and his team, Professors Richard Bentall, Nick Tarrier, Christine Barrowclough and Gillian Haddock and Dr Steven Jones,

will examine treatments for psychosis and how they can help patients learn to build a meaningful life.

Professors Max Marshall and Shon Lewis got funding to research schizophrenia and suicide prevention.

Dr Nav Kapur is part of a team carrying out research for the national suicide prevention strategy for England.

And Dr Linda Gask will look at increasing the fairness of patients receiving treatment from high-quality mental health services in a project led by the University of Liverpool and involving the Manchester Primary Care Trusts.

Health Minister Rosie Winterton said: "This significant new research funding stream, which will be worth up to £75m each year when fully established, provides a marvellous opportunity for the NHS to carry out research that will lead to improved health care or better health care delivery in the near future."

Maggots rid patients of MRSA

University researchers are ridding diabetic patients of the superbug MRSA - by treating their foot ulcers with maggots.

Professor Andrew Boulton and his team used green bottle fly larvae to treat 13 diabetic patients whose foot ulcers were contaminated with MRSA and found all but one were cured within an average of three weeks, much quicker than the 28-week duration for the conventional treatment.

Professor Boulton, who published the results in the *Journal Diabetes Care*, has now been awarded a £98,000 grant by Diabetes UK to carry out a randomized controlled trial to compare this treatment with two others.

Professor Boulton said: "Maggots have been used since the Napoleonic Wars and in the American Civil War they found that those who survived were the ones with maggots in their wounds: they kept them clean. They remove the dead tissue and bacteria, leaving the healthy tissue to heal.

"Still, we were very surprised to see such a good result for MRSA. There is no reason this cannot be applied to many other areas of the body, except perhaps a large abdominal wound."

Professor Boulton and his team, including senior nurse Ann Knowles, have used maggots to treat diabetic foot ulcers of patients for ten years. More recently they found that many of their patients were suffering from MRSA-contaminated foot ulcers which led to their first study.

They treated 13 patients, aged 18-80 years with chronic foot ulcers that had suffered loss of feeling and reduced blood supply and all but one of the patients was cleared of the superbug.

In their second study, he and his team will compare larval treatment with antibacterial silver dressings and the biogun treatment, which uses ionized air to eradicate bacteria.

Professor Boulton said: "This is very exciting. We have demonstrated for the first time the potential of larval therapy to eliminate MRSA infection of diabetic foot ulcers. If confirmed in a randomized controlled trial, larval treatment would offer the first non-invasive and risk-free treatment of this increasing problem and a safe and cost-effective treatment in contrast to the expensive and potentially toxic antibiotic remedies."

Students as Partners

The 9th Annual 'Students as Partners' Presentation Evening once again highlighted the exceptional and extensive work that is undertaken by students to support and develop their peers. Over 1500 students were recognised for their involvement in student-centred activities including Peer Support and the Student Team Working Awards with many taking the time from exam revision to receive certificates and awards.

The evening is now an established prestigious event, a number of representatives from 'Students as Partners' sponsors, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) attended alongside senior University staff to recognise the valuable, voluntary efforts made by students in programmes such as Peer Assisted Study Scheme (PASS) and Peer Mentoring. The transferable skills students develop through these programmes are highly valued by employers and many students also received certificates from PwC following completion of their 'Personal Development and Effectiveness Training' course in addition to certificates for the Manchester Access Programme student facilitators.

Representatives from PwC emphasised the need for such skills and a current employee and recent graduate from Manchester, Joe Harper, shared his experiences of how he had benefited from engaging in Peer Support, first as a mentor, then as a Student Coordinator for the BEconSc mentoring programme and finally working with 'Students as Partners' as the Sabbatical Intern for EPS, supporting all schemes across the Faculty.

In addition to receiving certificates for their involvement in Peer Mentoring, a number of students from the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work were also recognised following their presentations at the first, highly successful, 'Working with Students in Partnership' conference. This was a new initiative for the School, which saw over 80 students attend a series of student-led research/practice-based presentations.

The culmination of the evening was the announcement of the 'Outstanding Contribution to Peer Support Award' winners and the recipients of the Student Team Working Awards prizes and cheques. With

almost 100 applications, this decision was made harder for the panel. Many students waited on the edge of their seats (as did many of the staff!) for the results to be announced. In the extra-curricular category winning teams included 'Le Defi 2006 – Bouygues Construction' and 'Moberley Hall Residents: United against racism'. For the curricular category, the winners included undergraduate students from Textiles and Design as well as postgraduate students in Education.

It is recognised that many mentors, PASS Leaders, Student Coordinator and staff make exceptional voluntary contribution, far greater than expected in their roles. It is the commitment and dedication of these people that the 'Outstanding Contribution to Peer Support Awards' seeks to recognise. The recipients were: Sarah Featherstone (Staff Coordinator, MBS), Michael Melnyczuk (Student Coordinator - PASS, Civil Engineering), Christopher Pearson (Student Coordinator – Peer Mentoring, Pharmacy), Emily Wiles (PASS Leader, Life Sciences) and Holly Woolloff (Student Coordinator – Peer Mentoring, BNurs).

In brief



Nursing Conference

Last month the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work hosted its interdisciplinary student conference with the theme: Working with Students in Partnership. The conference was attended by students from all undergraduate programmes and postgraduates from taught and research programmes.

Delegates were welcomed by Head of School, Professor Karen Luker, followed by a keynote speech from Alison Norman, Director of Nursing Operations at the Christie Hospital, on The Competitive Edge.

David Woods, the Deputy Head of School, looked to the future with a thought provoking session on the school's forthcoming move to the new SCAN Building. The morning session concluded with Jenny Elan from the University of Central England presenting Hearing the Student Voice.

The afternoon sessions were presented by members of the student body. And presentations focussed on four key areas: Undergraduate Experience, Postgraduate Experience, Practice Issues and Student Participation.

One of the key aims of the conference was to give students an opportunity to experience a conference environment and to gain experience in presenting their experiences in a wider context. This proved to be a motivating experience for the students who took part. There was a very positive atmosphere with an excellent sense of camaraderie among presenters and audience.





Balment's Balance

There's something fishy about Richard Balment - his research. The key to it lies in the endocrinology of the tail of the flounder, just a small edible flatfish to most of us. But it is able to cope with the extremes of summer and of winter, with low-calcium freshwater and with calcium-rich seawater. The flounder's remarkable ability to maintain its blood composition, through kidney function and calcium balance, is fascinating in itself, but it also has significant messages for understanding our own body mechanisms and problems. "The fish's ability to make a massive switch to accommodate extreme changes is a marvellous study, but we can bring this information to our mammalian studies," he says. "Our quest generally is for what is important, not for what is just interesting."

That one example, in a nutshell, demonstrates what is at the core of Life Sciences. As Head of the Tissues to Organisms section of the Faculty - the other sections being Cells to Tissues, and Molecules to Cells -, Richard Balment, Professor of

Zoology and a physiologist by trade, reflects the holistic interlinking approach. Research at the micro level informs the bigger picture. On principals expounded by Nobel Laureate August Krogh, for every biological system you wish to study in detail, there will be an animal or plant model, which yields new insight into mammalian concerns. Systems Biology, the modern term for what at one time would have been known as Physiology, is now a critical area of research - and "model hopping" (comparative physiology) is key.

It is a tribute to Richard's eminence in the field and his own ability to balance a wide range of interests and responsibilities - Head of Section, research leader in Adaptive Organismal Biology, former Dean of International and Graduate Education - that he had the honour of being invited to give the prestigious Ian-Chester Jones Lecture at the XV International Conference of Comparative Endocrinology, held in Boston in 2005.

He was also successful in bringing the Conference of European Comparative Endocrinologists to Manchester last summer, which certainly tested his organisational skills as Chairman of the Local Organising Committee.

It is also a tribute to his sense of balance that he remains caring, committed, concerned for the welfare of staff and students, and good company. And he is a gifted communicator.

He is due to retire in the autumn after 30 years' service to the University, he has seen the place go through many phases and change beyond recognition, from the old departmental structure, to the present no-barriers organisation of the Faculty. Departments have been replaced by the three inter-connecting major areas of research and state-of-the-art core facilities belong to everyone. Nobody "owns" a lab any more. Equipment monies are pooled. And the concept of comparative studies, relating to human health, drives the agenda.

"We have a very intensive, active and fertile environment in which to carry out research," he says. "We have a tremendous opportunity now. We have been able to recruit immensely talented individuals and it gives me tremendous pleasure to be able to play a part in building the futures of our young scientists."

There is nothing self-serving about his saying that. On the contrary, he shrinks from proclaiming his role. But the evidence is there for all to see. His productive years as Dean of International and Graduate Education here were followed by his chairing the national Research Councils' group on graduate education and support, which he did for five years until 2005. "Graduate education has been a big part of my life, outside research and teaching," he says. "It is important to me and we managed to change many aspects, professionalising the whole system." Again, you see the Balment balance – the present and the future.

His own section, Tissues to Organisms, has been asking itself the crucial question "What are we really good at?" And the result is the recognition of five areas of first-class research: channels and transporters, neurobiology, systems neuroscience, eye and vision sciences, and adaptive organism biology, which he leads.

"Having defined the research groups, it is all beginning to work well," he says. "My job is to get people working together and to put in place systems and processes that give them the best possible

support to get on with their research. The biggest task is to support those remaining in inadequate accommodation until the planned new constructions are completed."

Unfortunately at present, the 87 staff, 86 postdocs and 101 PhDs are spread across five buildings – and some of those in the Stopford Building have to put up with work in progress as the building is adapted.

One key area which exemplifies the effort to ease administrative demands on research staff is that of grant applications and collaborations with industrial partners. The appointment of Simon Merrywest as the first Research Business Manager was crucial. "He provided a one-stop service – and the result is an increase in the number and success rate of grant applications, whilst the staff can get on with their research," says Richard.

After his retirement he will continue to hold an Emeritus position for three years to complete research papers and conclude current research programmes. His priorities are clear and he has a positive vision of the future. He communicates his enthusiasm easily – and with a smile. And he has a real sense of balance. Perhaps that owes something to the fact that he comes originally from a farming family. Even now, away from the job, he keeps 50 sheep you get the feeling that he would be quite happy to be left quietly with them – and the flounders, of course.

Name

Professor Richard J Balment

Current Post

Professor of Zoology
Head of Tissues to Organisms Section.
The University of Manchester

Education

1972 BSc first class Zoology,
University of Sheffield

1975 PhD Renal Physiology,
University of Sheffield

1996 DSc Comparative Endocrinology,
University of Sheffield

Career History

The University of Manchester appointments –

1994 – present Professor of Zoology
(ad personam).

1992-94 Reader

1989-92 Senior Lecturer

1977-89 Lecturer,

Other significant positions previously held:

- Chairman of the Integrated Biology Division
- Chairman of the Graduate School of Science Engineering and Medicine,
- University Dean for International and Graduate Education.



In brief

New Partnership to Create Salford Innovation Park

Manchester Science Park (msp), Salford City Council and the University of Salford have announced plans to create Salford Innovation Park adjacent to the University campus. The initiative will create over 15,000 sq m of flexible workspace for digital media, creative and cultural industries, complementing plans for mediacity:uk at Salford Quays, as well as attracting science and technology-based start-up companies to Salford.

The proposal will see msp acquire three sites in Salford: Technology House, the University of Salford Business Park and Salford Innovation Forum (currently under construction). Collectively these buildings will be known as Salford Innovation Park and will be managed as part of msp's portfolio of facilities. The University of Salford and the City of Salford will become shareholders in msp, joining the City and University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University and strengthening collaboration between business and academia.

msp Chief Executive Jane Davies who has been leading the discussions said: "This will be a major collaboration between the cities of Manchester and Salford and is a significant step towards delivering the Manchester: Knowledge Capital initiative. It will increase by 50% the amount of space msp has available to offer start-up companies and add a wider range of property options to our portfolio."

The project is due for completion later this year when further details will be announced.

Past Ventures

Previous entrants to the Venture Competition – where are they now?

Raul Munoz-Hernandez Winner Venture Further 2006

Raul proposed a new technology for production of novel antibiotics for infections such as MRSA. Raul has now set up a limited company and has made significant advances in product development all whilst still finishing his PhD.

Marcus Haggars Winner Venture Out 2006

Marcus put forward a system which could vastly improve the quality of life for amputees and people with spinal injuries. He has set up a limited company Perscitus Neural Prosthetics Ltd and is currently in talks with a number of sources of funding including the DTI, NWDA and angel investors.

Alex Ofosu-Adjei 3rd Prize Venture Further 2006

Origin Signed market high-quality stickers called 'LapSkins' for laptops. Last year Alex ran his own competition to encourage young designers and he has now branched out into selling artwork via his website www.originsigned.co.uk

PixelScape could perk-up painful PowerPoint presentations



Lynn Sheppard, Alasdair Rawsthorne, Prof John Durrell and Prof Rod Coombs (all stood, middle) with winners 'PixelScape', clockwise from bottom left, Chris Davie, Shen Kan, Roger Goldsbrough, Amy Freund, Elliot Woods and Piers Ridyard.

PixelScape have won the £25,000 first prize in Venture Further, the business creation stage of the University's Venture Competition. Their 3D projection system could breathe new life into painful PowerPoint presentations.

Three Physics students, two MBS students and one Physics graduate have developed PixelScape, a system which projects 3D images onto hundreds of tensioned threads. The result is stunning 3D colour projections measuring around one metre high, one metre deep and two metres wide.

PixelScape are Elliot Woods, Stuart Fisher, Piers Ridyard, Chris Davie, Shen Kan and Roger Goldsbrough. Team leader Elliot Woods is in the final year of a Master of Physics qualification in Physics and Enterprise. Elliot said: "Just getting into the finals of Venture Further gave us the confidence and experience to carry our idea forwards, but winning has put us in the best position a start-up business could be in. With the support from Manchester Science Enterprise Centre (MSEC) and the fantastic cash prize, we can go as far in one year as many companies would in three."

Professor John Durrell, Head of The School of Physics and Astronomy, said: "I am delighted a team led by a Physics undergraduate has won the Venture Further competition. The Enterprise option taken by Elliot has been an excellent addition to our School's portfolio. It has given students the opportunity to see how science can connect to the world of business and innovation."

"It's also pleasing to see a winning team composed of undergraduates and graduates from other Schools and Faculties. It is so important for students to discover the added value of collaborating across disciplinary boundaries."

The £25,000 top prize in the Venture Further competition includes £10,000 cash provided by AstraZeneca and Manchester Science Park and £15,000 in-kind support. The in-kind support includes incubator space with The University of Manchester Incubator Company (UMIC), legal advice from Eversheds, web and marketing advice from Thread Creative, business banking from Barclays and mentoring from competition organiser, MSEC in the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences.

Fanatea Ltd, which aims to set up a chain of tea houses providing Chinese flower tea products and individually designed services, took second prize in the competition. Third prize went to Niche Mobile Creations Ltd (NMC), which aims to market a mobile learning system for the delivery of educational mobile phone games and targeted advertising.

For further information about the Venture Competition including profiles of all finalist teams visit the web address below.

To find out about other courses, activities and resources for enterprise and entrepreneurship visit: www.manchester.ac.uk/msec

'Jeanius'!

Eighty Year 10 students from the North West arrived at The University of Manchester to take part in the Aimhigher Spring School. A new event in the Widening Participation calendar, the 'Jeanius' Spring School is a partnership between The University of Manchester's Widening Participation Team and the Whitworth Art Gallery.

The basis for the event was the Whitworth Art Gallery's Indigo Exhibition. The Year 10 students' brief was to design their own pair of jeans, along with a marketing strategy, by taking inspiration from the exhibits at the Gallery that explain the history and culture of denim.

The school students, who took time out from their Easter holidays to attend, were taught skills in areas as diverse as fashion and textile design, manufacturing and



merchandising, by lecturers and postgraduate students from the School of Material Sciences and the Faculty of Humanities.

The climax of the week saw the teams present a completed advertising campaign to a panel of judges at the Gallery, watched by their friends and families. The Spring School wasn't all hard work though; the students

stayed at Hulme Hall and enjoyed social trips such as seeing 'Fame' at the Opera House.

Summer School Co-ordinator Saskia Metcalf commented, "Their work was of such a high quality that we hope to see many of them return to enroll on courses at the University in the near future."

Parents get "The Rough Guide" to University

The second annual Parents' Rough Guide to University event saw more than 250 local parents and carers of young people, registered on one of the University's Widening Participation schemes, get an introduction to higher education.

Almost all had no personal experience of HE and the event aimed to provide information that would allow them to help their children make informed choices about their future educational options.

An accommodation and campus tour was followed by a Curator-led guided tour from education staff at the University's Whitworth Art Gallery, with interactive activities for parents and children.

Julian Skyrme, Head of Widening Participation in the Student Recruitment, Admissions and International Development Division which organised the event, said "An integral part of our widening participation strategy is to give parents, as



well as young people, opportunities to come into the University and learn about important issues such as admissions, student finance and graduate employability. They are huge 'key influencers' and whilst the vast majority have not benefited from firsthand experience of HE themselves, their impressive turnout on the weekend is testament to the demand for such days in helping them support their children in reaching their full potential."

Feedback from the parents highlighted three main things: many were surprised to learn that

there are no upfront fees or costs; everyone expressed surprise that the majority of graduate recruiters ask for a degree in any discipline; and, all agreed that despite increasing costs, university was still likely to be one of the best long term investments available to their children.

The event included input and presentations from the Student Services Centre on student finance, the MLP, Careers and Employability Division, the Centre for Continuing Education, current students, alumni and widening participation staff.



Pupils from St Aidan's Primary School at Wythenshawe Hall

Theatre in Education

Echoes of 17th century pistol shots have recently been heard at Wythenshawe Hall. They are part of an exciting drama for local schoolchildren, set during the English Civil War, devised and performed by Drama students from The University of Manchester.

The drama was just one of three innovative theatre programmes created and presented by students following the Theatre in Education course run by Senior Lecturer Tony Jackson. In each programme, drama was used to engage pupils from schools across Manchester in a range of topics and issues relevant to the national curriculum.

"The Siege of Wythenshawe Hall" was set in the historic Wythenshawe Hall at the time of the Civil War when the Royalist Tatton family were besieged by Cromwell's troops. Primary school pupils from nearby schools became involved as local citizens caught up in the events. Ali Davenport, the Hall's development officer, said. "The children are enthralled by the action unfolding around them as they get drawn into the tense atmosphere in the Hall. Hidden characters suddenly appear, servants arrive at doors with dramatic news, and people confide their worries and concerns. The interactive element is brilliant, allowing them to really take part."

A second team has been working with two groups in secondary schools (Trinity, Parrs Wood and Chorlton). Pupils watched performances and interrogated characters from the plays as they explored how the dilemmas and crises in the characters' lives had arisen, how they might be resolved and how they related to their own lives.

The drama was developed in collaboration with Manchester City Council Leisure Services as part of current developments aimed at bringing the Hall to life and providing more access for local schools.

What's On

Contact Theatre

Thu 7 June – Sat 9 June 8pm

Tamasha presents - The Trouble with Asian Men

Created entirely from real-life interviews, Tamasha lifts the lid on the modern-day Asian man in this revealing and often hilarious verbatim show. You might even recognise someone you know!

Fri 15 and Sat 16 7.30 pm

The Adventures of Carl Brogan

This innovative piece of hip-hop theatre is brought to you by Sharpening SAWDS and is directed by Baba Israel.

Sat 30 June – Sat 14 July 8pm

For All The Wrong Reasons

New work from Lies Pauwels (Victoria, Ghent, Belgium), one of the rising stars of European theatre. Her work combines theatre and dance, strange personalities and unexpected moods.

Oxford Road, Manchester
Tickets/Info: 0161 274 0600
www.contact-theatre.org

Tabley House

Small conference and meeting rooms available year-round. Licensed for weddings and baby-naming ceremonies.

Tabley House
Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 0HB 01565 750151
email: enquiries@tableyhouse.co.uk
www.tableyhouse.co.uk

Courses for the Public

The Centre for Continuing Education (CCE) runs a large and varied programme of courses designed for adults studying part-time whether for pleasure or personal/professional development. Most are open to beginners and no prior knowledge is assumed unless stated. Concessions are available to staff and graduates of The University of Manchester. Brochures/application forms available.

CCE, 1st Floor, Humanities Devas Street
0161 275 3275
www.manchester.ac.uk/continuingeducation

Burlington Society

The Society of Mature Students and Postgraduates in the Universities of Greater Manchester.

Burlington Rooms, Schunck Building,
Burlington Street (next to JRUL)
0161 275 2392
www.burlington.man.ac.uk

International Society

Overnight Trip! (three nights)

Fri 8 June - Mon 11 June

Cornwall

Sun 10 June

Lake District visiting Holker Hall, Haverthwaite Railway and Lake Windermere

Sat 16 June

York

Sun 17 June

Peak District visiting Matlock Bath and the Heights of Abraham

Overnight Trip! (two nights)

Fri 22 June - Sun 24 June

London

Sat 23 June

Scarborough

Sat 30 June

North Wales visiting Llangollen and Powys Castle

Sun 1 July

Liverpool (with guided coach tour)

Opening hours

Mon-Fri 9.30am – 7.00pm (during term time)

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

327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)

0161 275 4959

email: int.soc@manchester.ac.uk

www.internationalsociety.org.uk

Chaplaincies

St Peter's House Chaplaincy

SUNDAY WORSHIP

11am Holy Communion

12.15am Bible Study

12.45 Lunch (1st Sunday)

6.30pm Evening Worship (term-time only)

FOYER 10am - 5pm

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

Precinct Centre 0161 275 2894

email: sph.reception@manchester.ac.uk

RC Chaplaincy, Avila House

Mass Times (term-time only)

SUNDAY: 7pm (in the Holy Name Church) next door to Chaplaincy

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

Tues, Thurs: 12.15 pm in the Chaplaincy Chapel

Oxford Road (opposite the Students' Union)

0161 273 1456

email: info@rc-chaplaincy-um.org.uk

www.rc-chaplaincy-um.org.uk

The Jewish Student Centre and Synagogue

Hillel House, Greenheys Lane.

0161 226 1139

email: rabbiiyy@hotmail.com

www.rabbiiyy.com



The Whitworth Art Gallery

DISPLAYS/COLLECTIONS

Trade and Empire: Remembering Slavery

16 June – 1 July 2007

The exhibition explores slavery and its impact on trade and empire through objects picked from the Gallery's collection. These include a pair of 18th century watercolours by Thomas Hearne that show day-to-day life in the Leeward Islands.

Casterways until 1 July 2007

A multi-media installation featuring a surround-sound ambient audioscape by ethno-musicologist, Professor Steven Feld (University of New Mexico) and rows of collaged constructions by visual artist, Virginia Ryan

Shisha: Rusholme Project

29 June – 8 September 2007

Subodh Gupta's awe-inspiring and monumental sculptures evoke the sights and sounds of India. For the Rusholme Project, Gupta works with everyday objects used by South Asian communities to explore Rusholme's 'curry mile'.

Sleeping Beauties: Walter Crane and the Illustrated Book until March 2008

A new exhibition of highlights from the recently acquired Walter Crane Archive. Spanning the career of the artist and designer Walter Crane, the late 19th and early 20th century, the display presents his book illustrations. It features Crane's early commissions as well as original drawings from his famous Toy Book illustrations flower books and political cartoons.

A Secret Service: Art, Compulsion, Concealment until 29 July 2007

The human fascination with secrets is explored in this exhibition featuring the work of 15 international artists whose practice centres on the creation of secret worlds or the exposure of hidden facts.

Walter Crane and the Illustrated Book until April 2008

Focusing on the book illustrations of Walter Crane, this exhibition will span Crane's entire career, incorporating a range of illustrations from his early commissions to his world famous Toy Books, Grimm's Fairy Tales and private drawings created for his children.

The Uncertainty of Identity: The Biographies of Things to March 2008

This exhibition explores the contexts in which the identity of an art or design object is formed and destabilised – creating its 'life history' or 'biography'. Where does the object come from and who made it?

Featuring Walls: celebrating three centuries of wallpaper decoration to 30 Sept

Featuring Walls shows off some of the Gallery's most visually stunning and inventive decorations to explore wallpaper as a signifier of social status, a source of imaginative inspiration and a reflector of our cultural preoccupations.

The Textile Gallery

The new displays are arranged thematically around subjects such as Rites of Passage, Inspiration for Design and Recycling, with each highlighting the wide geographical and historical range of the collection.

TOURS AND EVENTS

Every Saturday at 2pm there is either an Exhibition Tour or an Eye-Opener Tour.

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 homepage at:

www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk

Oxford Road,

0161 275 7450

email: whitworth@manchester.ac.uk



Jodrell Bank

This summer, Jodrell Bank Observatory is celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Lovell Telescope in its summer pavilion 'The Hot Spot' on the lawns beneath the Telescope.

15 - 17 Jun

First Move Literary Festival Celebrates the first move made by the Telescope as it powered into life in June 1957. In association with *The Times*.

Fri 15 Jun

10am to 2pm **Talking to the Moon.** Schools workshops writing poems destined to be sent to the moon and back on Sun 17 Jun.

7:30pm **Alan Garner.** The award-winning author speaks about his sense of time and place. Introduction by Erica Wagner, Literary Editor of *The Times*. Book signing to follow.

9:15pm **Moving through Space and Time.**

Astronomer Tim O'Brien explains our view of the Universe. Tickets for the evening are £6 for adults and £5 for concessions.

Sat 16 Jun

2pm **It Dances - An Interpreted Move.**

The Jodrell Bank Observatory is delighted to invite you to a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Lovell Telescope's First Move. Come and be talked through the moves the Telescope makes as it points across space and time to observe the universe. Cream teas available on the lawn. No additional charge.

7:30pm **Jeanette Winterson.**

The stellar author of *Tanglewreck*, *Gut Symmetries*, *The Passion and Oranges* are not the Only Fruit. Introduction by Erica Wagner, Literary Editor of *The Times*. Book signing to follow. Tickets are £6 for adults and £5 for concessions.

Sun 17 Jun

2pm **Moonbounce.** A poem commissioned jointly by Jodrell Bank and *The Times* will be read out, transmitted to the moon, bounced off its surface and its echo picked up by the Lovell Telescope. Poems written by children at the workshop on Fri 15 Jun will also be moonbounced. Tickets are £6 for adults and £5 for children.

7:30pm **Jed Mercurio.** The author of *Bodies*, currently working on a new TV adaptation of *Frankenstein*, discusses his most recent book *Ascent*, a fictional account of a Soviet manned mission to the Moon prior to the launch of Apollo 11. Introduction by Erica Wagner, Literary Editor of *The Times*. Book signing to follow. Tickets are £6 for adults and £5 for concessions.

Fri 20 Jul 9pm to 12.30 am

Harry Potter Star Party

3D shows, portable planetarium shows, wizard activities, astronomy talks, telescopes available to see stars and planets (weather permitting) and lots more. Admission by ticket only, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows can be ordered at the same time as ordering tickets. Tickets are £6 for adults and £5 for children and include refreshments.

Wed 27 Jun 2pm, Wed 11 Jul 2pm, Wed 1 Aug 1.30pm (children's special)

Guided Walks around the Arboretum

Explore the 35-acre Arboretum with its 2000 species of trees and shrubs and National Collections in the company of an experienced guide.

For tickets and further information contact Jodrell Bank Observatory Visitor Centre, Macclesfield, Cheshire Tel: 01477 571339

www.manchester.ac.uk/jodrellbank

Summer opening hours

Every day 10:30am to 5:30pm, until Sun 28 Oct.

Closed on Fri 6 Jul and Thu 4 Oct.



John Rylands Library (Deansgate)

The John Rylands Library on Deansgate houses one of country's greatest collections of printed books, manuscripts and archives. It is widely regarded as one of the most beautiful libraries in the world. Both the building and its collections are of outstanding international significance. The Library has just re-opened after a £16.5 million transformation. The Unlocking the Rylands project will enable thousands of people to access the Library for the first time. Displays from the permanent collections will be complemented by a programme of changing exhibitions, starting with *The Silk Road* and *The Search for the Secrets of Silk* in partnership with The British Library.

Public opening hours

Mon and Wed-Sat 10am-5pm

Tues and Sun 12pm-5pm

Reader opening hours

Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

FREE ADMISSION

Tel: 0161 275 3764

email: jrul.special-collections@manchester.ac.uk

The John Rylands Library, 150 Deansgate,

Manchester, M3 3EH

www.manchester.ac.uk/library

Music and Drama at Manchester

Mon 4 June 2007 7.30pm

The University of Manchester Big Band. The University Big Band kick off Estival 2007 with a sharp mix of swing, bebop, latin and funk.

Tues 5 June 2007 7.30pm

Ad Solem - The University of Manchester Chamber Choir. Ad Solem end the academic year with performances of two triumphs of the choral repertoire written 150 years apart.

Tues 5 June 2007 1.10pm

The University of Manchester String Orchestra will perform a selection of music from their repertoire performed this year.

Wed 6 June 2007, 7.30pm

The University of Manchester Wind Orchestra - 10th Anniversary Concert. Music from Nigel Hass, Star Wars, Pirates of the Caribbean, Indiana Jones and lots more.

Thur 7 June 2007, 7.30pm

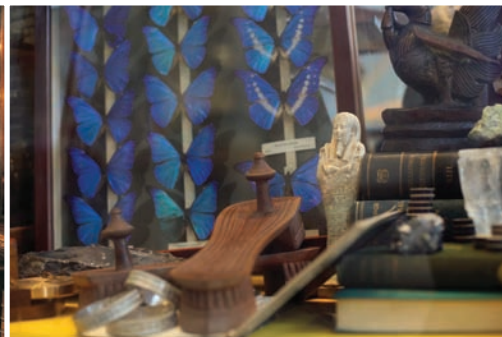
The University of Manchester Sinfonietta. A programme of well-known favourites with something for everyone. For further information contact:

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama Bridgeford Street Manchester M13 9PL

0161-275 8951/8950

email: boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk

www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre



The Manchester Museum

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

- **A Place For Everything: Making Order Out Of Chaos**
- **After Life**
- **Wild Britain**
- **Revealing Histories – Remembering Slavery**

TALKS AND EVENTS:

Big Saturday: Naming Nature

Saturday 9 June 11am-4pm

Find out how dinosaurs got their names and create new names for the animal of your choice. Join in creative workshops, handling sessions and gallery tours. Please call 0161 275 2648 for more information and booking.

Café Scientifique: Good Chemicals or Good Chemistry?

Monday 4 June 6.30-8pm

Café Scientifique

Book online at www.cafescientifique.manchester.ac.uk

The Manchester Museum Research Seminar:

Curating Diversity? Policy and practice in contemporary displays

Wednesday 6 June 3-5pm

Showcase

Explore the challenges faced by contemporary museums in representing diverse communities with Dr Helen Rees Leahy.

Café RSA: Tolstoy + Tea = Community Glue

Thursday 7 June 6-7.30pm

Book online at www.theRSA.org/events

Recent developments in classification and taxonomy – DNA, barcoding life and the internet

Monday 11 June 6.30-8pm

Ideas Café

Dr Andrew Polaszek from the International Commission will give a fascinating insight into recent developments into the rules on how scientists give names to animals. Booking required on 0161 275 2648

Ideas Café: An artist's response to classification

Monday 18 June 6.30-8pm

Bryony Bond, Alchemy Curator at The Manchester Museum, and artist Fred Langford-Edwards discuss his new photographic work *Temporary Names- Nomenclatio transitorius*. Booking required on 0161 275 2648

Jamie Shovlin

Monday 25 June 6.30-8pm

Ideas Café

Take a sideways glance at collecting in the Museum, from practicalities to museum legends with Alchemy Artists Jamie Shovlin.

Opening hours

Open: Tues-Sat 10 - 5pm

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

FREE Admission

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0161 275 2634

www.manchester.ac.uk/museum

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The University of Manchester Intellectual Property Limited's (UMIP) **free** seminar this month is on Consulting and the rewards it can bring you.

The seminar takes place on **Wednesday 13 June**

10am to 1pm (registration from 9.30am with tea and coffee at the Core Technology Facility (CTF)
46 Grafton Street (off Oxford Rd), Manchester, M13 9NT

Presentations will be made by a number of experienced individuals from academia and industry who will share their success stories and real world experiences of consulting.

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After Life: What would you like to happen to your body?

Mummification was important to the ancient Egyptians as they believed you needed your physical body to achieve life after death. Their belief in the afterlife became the driving force behind their funeral practices. Bodies were buried with objects relating to the person's life, which they would also need in the afterlife. Such objects included food, clothing and models of servants.

These practices might seem distant from our own burial and funeral customs, but in a recent survey conducted by Age Concern asking the question 'What objects would people like to take with them now?', answers ranged from very practical items like a light and some money, to the personal, a favourite teddy bear and a mobile phone for keeping in touch with loved-ones. Interestingly people also said they would like to be buried with an ancient Egyptian amulet.

British artist Christie Brown has made works of contemporary amulets in response to this survey and to time spent working with Ancient Egyptian materials. Brown's work and other contemporary artworks by Nadine Jarvis and Julian Stair can be seen at The Manchester Museum in After Life, a new installation in the Egyptian galleries. These interventions of artworks and some commercial products explore the wider themes of how people would like to be remembered and how we approach the material culture of death today.

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