

# UniLife

Issue 1 Volume 6

## Medieval treasures go digital



# Letter from the President



UniLife readers may have noticed recently that Manchester has improved its position in the 2008 Jiao Tong Shanghai "World University Rankings" from 48th in 2007 to 40th.

We should not exaggerate the significance of this news.

At best, the ranking of universities is a problematic exercise. Universities are too complex, too multi-functional, for even the most carefully designed ranking methodology to be anything other than a crude over-simplification of complex and often non-quantifiable outcomes, whether for individuals or for the social, economic and/or cultural good of the wider human community.

But some rankings are more reliable - and informative - than others, and for major research universities, the Jiao Tong "World University Rankings" is particularly useful for a number of reasons. For one thing, it does not purport to rank universities on all their activities, but concentrates explicitly on research performance. Secondly, while imperfect, as all such measures are, it combines a credible methodology with clear, transparent statistical processes to evaluate a balanced cluster of the most commonly-adduced and widely accepted criteria of institutional research performance.

Finally, the Jiao Tong ranking exercise was established with the support of the Chinese Government to provide an authentic measure of the relative strength of China's leading universities within the international higher education community, and to ascertain their competitiveness in relation to leading universities in other countries. Given that its value to Chinese policy makers depends on the accuracy with which it ranks the international competitors of China's emerging research universities, the Jiao Tong "World University Rankings" provides research intensive universities with an invaluable tool for tracking changes over time in their international standing.

The University of Manchester takes the Jiao Tong ranking seriously.

We could claim more spectacular "bragging rights" by using other rankings, but scrupulously avoid doing so. The much-cited Times Higher Education ranking of international universities, for example, has recently ranked Manchester in the mid-to-low 30s among the best universities in the world - more than 15 places higher than we were in the Jiao Tong ranking until 2008. The Times Higher ranking is, however, neither credible in its methodology nor plausible in the rankings it adduces.

So from the outset of the new University of Manchester in 2004, we have determined that the Jiao Tong "World University Rankings" should be the primary quantitative measure of progress towards our ambitions goal of positioning Manchester as a world "Top 25" university by 2015.

The accompanying table traces a process of gradual but continuing improvement in Manchester's Jiao Tong ranking since 2004.

## Jiao Tong Shanghai World University Rankings, 2004-08

Year	World Ranking	Europe Ranking	UK Ranking
2004	78*	24	9
2005	53	12	6
2006	50	9	5
2007	48	9	5
2008	40	6	5

\*Note: The 2004 ranking relates to the Victoria University of Manchester (VUM) only.

Last year, when improved only slightly from 50th to 48th, I noted in my annual *Stock Take* report to the

Board of Governors that, "given the time lag imposed particularly by the use of citation data", the question of "just how realistic [our] 2015 aspirations are will probably not begin to emerge from the Jiao Tong rankings until 2008 or 2009, when the competitive position of the new University begins to be reflected fully in the Index."

So we should allow ourselves modest and cautious satisfaction with the 2008 outcome.

A major investment in outstanding research staff over the 18 months after October 2004, and an accompanying massive investment in world class facilities as part of our £403 million capital programme, is beginning to be reflected in international benchmarking.

These strategic investments exacted a high price. In a post-merger context, administrative restructuring and cost controls were already inevitable (although somewhat delayed in our case by an industrial agreement), so it demanded a lot of the University community to invest heavily in this pre-RAE research build-up. The price had to be paid in 2007 through robust financial stringency measures.

But Manchester has come through both the euphoria of our ambitious post-merger expansion plans and the subsequent (and inevitable) return to the everyday realities of balancing budgets and eliminating deficits. I was able to report to the Board in July this year that our operational income and operating costs are now in balance, and that the 2008-09 University Budget that will produce a surplus.

So the new academic year begins with two key messages. The first is that the significant improvement in Manchester's "World Universities Ranking" is genuinely good news, providing timely, if limited, reassurance that we are making real progress towards the highly aspirational goals we have set ourselves. The second message is to all the staff of the University: not only academics and researchers but also the many technical, administrative and professional staff who support them.

You should all be proud of your achievements. Your willingness to accept the inevitable perturbations of a major change agenda, to exhibit grace under pressure at difficult times and to take on heavy workloads with skill, flexibility and imagination, has been the key to Manchester's success.

On that note ... have a productive and rewarding 2008-09!

Professor Alan Gilbert  
President and Vice-Chancellor



## BNFL hands Manchester £5 million nuclear boost

**Nuclear education and research has received a £5million boost from British Nuclear Fuels Ltd (BNFL).**

The University's internationally renowned Dalton Nuclear Institute will use the money from BNFL – which will be known as the BNFL Endowment for Nuclear Research - to develop its research programme and to provide education and training to the next generation of industry professionals.

It will fund a series of professorial Chair appointments. It will also be used to cover costs such as support staff, fellowships, studentships, equipment, conferences and travel.

Michael Parker, group chief executive of BNFL, said: "For over 35 years BNFL has been at the heart of nuclear education and research, particularly in the North West.

"I am therefore delighted that we can provide this endowment to the Dalton Nuclear Institute to support the nuclear scientists of the future.

"The £5million legacy that BNFL is providing will assist in ensuring that nuclear research in the North West continues to be rightly at the heart of the global nuclear renaissance."

The BNFL funding boost is just the latest success story for the University's nuclear researchers.

Plans to establish a new Centre for Nuclear Energy Technology (C-NET) in the Northwest, with support from the Northwest Science Council and key industry partners, have already been unveiled.

And the University is also establishing a major new nuclear research facility in Cumbria in conjunction with the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA).

University President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert says the latest funding boost from BNFL will help the University to build on its success in the nuclear field.

"This most generous endowment from BNFL will enhance the university's position in the nuclear field in the UK and bring significant wider benefits to the North West region as a whole," said Professor Gilbert.

"It consolidates our world leading position in nuclear research, which spans over 100 years from the work of Rutherford to the present day, and puts Manchester in an ideal position to support the global nuclear renaissance."

Meanwhile Professor John Perkins has been appointed as the new director of the Dalton Nuclear Institute. Professor Perkins will take on the role in addition to his existing duties as Vice President and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS).



## Bloxham named as Chancellor

**Property developer Tom Bloxham MBE has been elected as the University's new Chancellor.**

Tom Bloxham, who is chairman and co-founder of Urban Splash, will be installed as Chancellor at a special ceremony in December. He will hold the position for seven years.

Previously the role had been carried out jointly by broadcaster and journalist Anna Ford and Tesco chief executive Sir Terry Leahy.

Mr Bloxham was elected through a ballot of 40,000 registered members of the University's alumni and 11,000 current staff and the members of the University's General Assembly.

He was awarded an MBE in 1998 for his services to architecture and urban regeneration.

He chairs Arts Council England (North West) and sits on the Arts Council England. He has also been a trustee of the Big Issue charity, the Big Step.

An interview and profile of Tom Bloxham is available in the latest edition of Your Manchester, the University's alumni magazine. Copies of the magazine are available from the Division of Development and Alumni Relations and can be found online at the web address below.

[www.manchester.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/alumni)

## Brightest and best honoured with distinguished awards

**The achievements of some of the University's most outstanding staff and students have been recognised with prestigious awards.**

The Distinguished Achievement Awards were launched three years ago, in a bid to highlight the best and the brightest talent within the University.

They honour staff whose research has broken new ground or whose teaching has been outstanding.

They also recognise students who have made an outstanding contribution to the life of the University or post-graduates whose research has excelled.

And, in addition, there is a general award which recognises sustained or exceptional service to the University.

The winning students this year were Rashi Sharma, Tamsin Sawyer, Danielle Satterthwaite, Andrea Seedhouse and Edward Scrase.

The teaching awards were presented to Dr Warren Mansell, Dr Max Jones, Dr Liz Sheffield and Dr Alastair Martin.

Staff highlighted for their research were Professor Matthew Lambon Ralph, Professor Dora Kostakopoulou, Dr Casey Bergman, Dr Kostya Novoselov.

And post-graduate winners were Will Dixon, Dr Anne Kirkham, Dr Luke Hakes and Mladen Savov.

Two long-serving members of staff who were recognised with general awards were Professor Rodney Brazier and Martin Davey.



Distinguished Award Winners and their key supporters



## University to preserve fragile lost tapes of Dr Who composer

**A collection of recordings, correspondence and scores by the ground-breaking composer who created the original Doctor Who theme is being catalogued by University experts.**

Delia Derbyshire was based at the BBC Radiophonic Workshop between 1962 and 1973.

Now a team from the School of Arts, Histories and Cultures is cataloguing and preserving a collection of 267 of her tapes.

"Many of the tapes have no labels so it's a case of using detective work to find out what they are – we can't even be certain Delia composed all of the music," said Dr David Butler, from the School of Arts, Histories and Cultures.

"But it's already proved to be an Aladdin's Cave and we've just started to scratch the surface."

Already discovered amongst the collection of recordings is one of the earliest electronic "dance music" compositions, haunting sound effects created for a 1969 performance of Hamlet and a recording of the way she created 'Blue Veils and Golden Sands' by electronically manipulating her own voice.

"Delia Derbyshire never really received the recognition she deserved as one of our most influential composers of the past 30 or so years," said Dr Butler.

## Manchester Review launched with Banville exclusive

**Readers of the new literary journal, The Manchester Review, will be the first to enjoy the first chapter of John Banville's eagerly awaited novel, The Sinking City.**

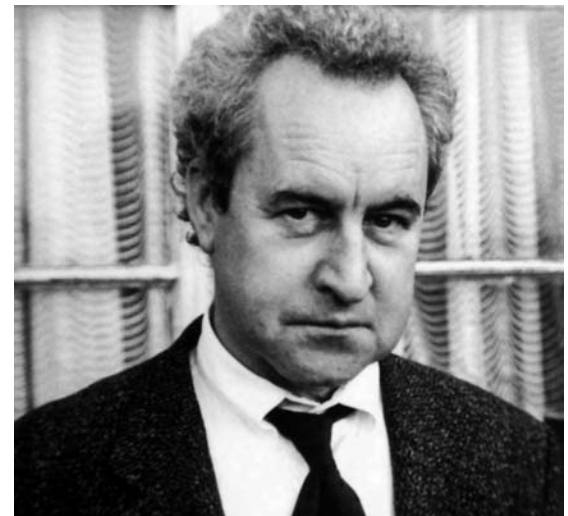
The new Manchester Review has been launched by the University's Centre for New Writing this month.

And within it is the world exclusive of the first chapter from Banville's latest novel, which is his first work of literary fiction since winning the Man Booker Prize, with *The Sea*, in 2005.

Also included in the review is new work by high profile writers Ali Smith, Paul Muldoon, M.J. Hyland and Bill Manhire.

The aim of the new online journal, which is edited by the Centre's co-directors John McAuliffe and Ian McGuire - is to nurture and promote new poetry and fiction-writers.

New issues will appear each spring and autumn



offering a mix of new music, public debate, visual art and video as well as fiction and poetry.

"Manchester and The University of Manchester were home to some of the UK's most innovative twentieth century literary journals, including Brian Cox's *Critical Quarterly* and Michael Schmidt's *PN Review*," said John McAuliffe.

"The Manchester Review takes its cue from their proactive promotion of new writing, but uses online media to show and sponsor the interplay of poetry, fiction, music, visual art and essays by new and established practitioners."

The journal can be found at the web address below.

 [www.themanchesterreview.co.uk](http://www.themanchesterreview.co.uk)

## Strung up on the Olympics



**Graduate violinist Elspeth Hanson wowed the crowds at the Olympics closing ceremony in Beijing, when she performed on top of a London bus alongside David Beckham.**

Her appearance – alongside Led Zeppelin legend Jimmy Page and X Factor singer Leona Lewis – was designed to showcase the best of British talent, ahead of London 2012.

Elspeth, who graduated from The University of Manchester in Music in July, said: "I had about five months to get ready for the performance, but nothing prepares you for when the lights go down, the noise drops and the whole world is staring at you."

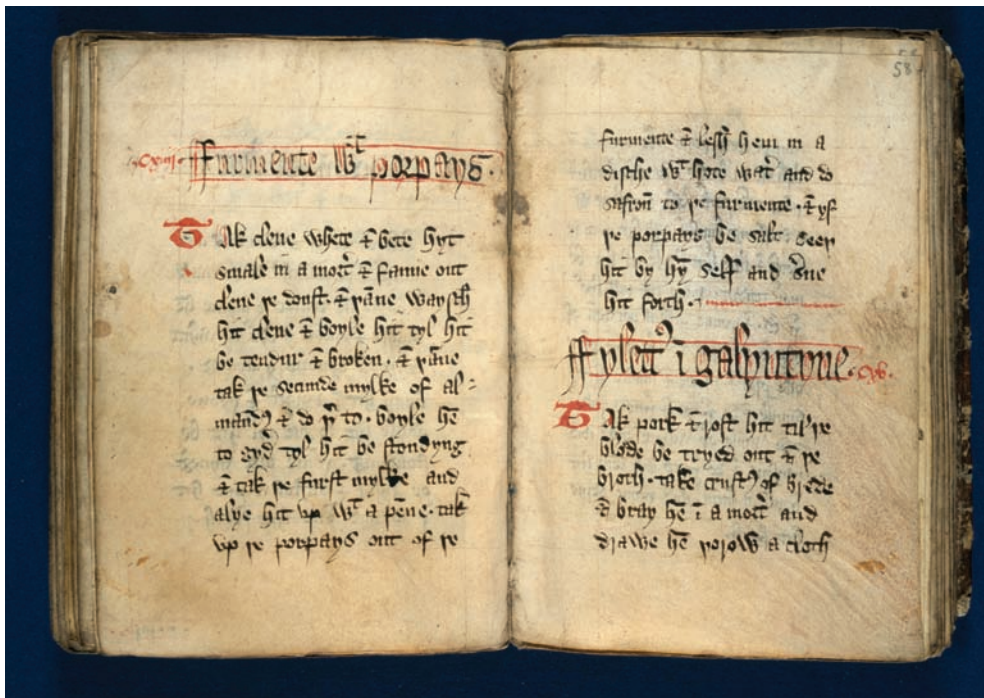
"Before it started we were all shaking with nerves – even Becks."

Meanwhile 20-year-old swimmer Mike Rock – who took a year off from his law degree to make the British squad – made it into the 100m medley relay final.

The team – which also included Christopher Cook, Liam Tancock and Simon Burnett – came sixth in their race. Their time of 3 minutes 33.69 seconds was a new British record.

In the 200m butterfly race Mike reached the semi finals, only to come in sixth behind Phelps in just one minute 55.90 seconds.





Pictures clockwise: Jan Wilkinson, University Librarian and Director of the John Rylands Library; Fragment of Chaucer's 'Canterbury Tales'; John Hodgson, Keeper of Manuscripts and Archives; Extract from The Forme of Cury

## Medieval treasures go digital

**Some of the world's greatest Medieval literary works are to be made available on the internet – offering unlimited access to them for the first time.**

The John Rylands University Library will use cutting edge technology to digitise its internationally renowned collection of more than 40 Middle English manuscripts.

Included in the collection is one of the earliest surviving manuscripts of Chaucer's complete Canterbury Tales, a 500-year-old translation of the Bible into English and one of England's oldest recipe books.

And they are to become freely available on the internet as a result of funding from the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC).

"The Library's Middle English manuscripts are a research resource of immense significance," said Jan

Wilkinson, University Librarian and Director of the John Rylands Library.

"Yet the manuscripts are inherently fragile, and until now access to them has been restricted by the lack of digital copies. Digitisation will make them available to everyone.

"For the first time it will be possible to compare our manuscripts directly with other versions of the texts in libraries located across the world, opening up opportunities for new areas of research.

"We hope that this will be the beginning of a wider digitisation programme, which will unlock the tremendous potential of our Medieval manuscripts and printed books, for the benefit of the academic community and the wider public."

The 'Forme of Cury' - a 600-year-old recipe book compiled by the master cook of Richard II - will be

among the digitized books available on the John Rylands Library website.

The fascinating book contains recipes for dishes such as 'blank mang' - a sweet dish of chopped meat, milk, rice, sugar and almonds - and 'custard', an open pie resembling a modern quiche.

The digitisation project will also reunite fragments of a fifteenth-century manuscript of Chaucer's 'The Miller's Tale' in an online collaboration with the Rosenbach Museum and Library in Philadelphia.

Other key works to be digitised and uploaded to the John Rylands Library website will be John Lydgate's two major poems, the 'Troy Book' and 'Fall of Princes'.

The work, which will be carried out using a state-of-the-art high definition camera, begins in October this year and will be completed in late 2009.



## VP Viewpoint



**So another summer draws to an end and this time I feel cheated. At the outset, my expectations seemed quite reasonable, just a few weeks of sunshine would have been enough, but the experience didn't measure-up, washed away by the seemingly interminable deluge.**

Now as even the faint hope of an 'Indian summer' recedes, the start of a new academic year is upon us and the campus is once again abuzz with students. Some new arrivals ready to embark on their studies, others returning to continue or complete theirs, but all fuelled with hopes and expectations of far greater importance than any concern for the weather.

Of course we all recognise that the climate in Higher Education has changed. There are more students going to University now than ever before, yet the funding per student has declined. Students are being asked to meet some of this shortfall, by way of top-up fees, and so are making significant financial investments in their education. This together with changing demographics and the globalisation of education will mean increased competition in the sector. Student expectations are perhaps higher now than ever before and institutions falling short of these will quickly feel the storm clouds threatening.

This University is committed to excellence in Teaching and Learning and so has instigated a thorough review of the student experience. Many of the recommendations of this review are already being implemented and so staff and students alike should begin to see the benefits as the year unfolds. The Purposes of a Manchester Education have been clearly defined and the process of mapping our curricula to these criteria has begun. We have also established a new gold-standard for personalised learning designed to promote a learning culture that will enable all students to achieve their full potential. Staff will also be aware that Blackboard is now deployed as a campus-wide virtual learning environment. Indeed, many have already produced eLearning materials in Blackboard and thousands of students will benefit from this technology from September. Numerous other changes will be implemented during the coming year including the explicit recognition of teaching in staff promotions, the introduction of a new award scheme to recognise virtuoso graduates, and the trialling of a Higher Education Achievement Report as recommended in the Burgess Report. Staff and students will be kept informed of developments via regular updates in a new teaching and learning bulletin called Connections.

Some of you might be interested to know that climate experts believe our last two summers have literally 'gone-south' as a result of a potent Pacific La Niña. The influence of this phenomenon is now waning and so the sun is expected to return next year. I'll keep my fingers crossed for the weather but it will be our sustained commitment to excellence in Teaching and Learning that will guarantee a bright future for this University and its graduates.

Colin Stirling  
Vice President Teaching and Learning



Research to Enterprise Summit: Alasdair Rawsthorne, Dr Rob Phillips, Rod Benson, Lynn Sheppard, Maggie Philbin, Ian Livingstone, Luke Johnson and Professor Rod Coombs (l to r)

## Enterprise Centre will make Manchester a world-class innovation leader

**Manchester Business School has brought together entrepreneurship and innovation expertise from across the University to launch the Manchester Enterprise Centre (MEC).**

The MEC will become the focus of enterprise activity at the University, by combining the strengths of the former Manchester Science Enterprise Centre (MSEC), MBS Incubator, its enterprise programmes and The Institute of Innovation and Research.

"It's our aim to inspire entrepreneurs and emerging business leaders to combine their talent with rigorous business understanding

- so they are able to turn their visions into commercially successful ventures," said Professor Michael Luger, Dean of the Manchester Business School.

Meanwhile hundreds of researchers and students took a step into the world of business over the summer, at an event to help them become more enterprising.

At the Research to Enterprise Summit, a number of entrepreneurs – including Games Workshop's Ian Livingstone, Channel Four chairman Luke Johnson and Imagen Biotech's Rod Benson – recounted their business successes with a 500-strong audience.

## New scheme to boost University donations

**Donations to the University will stretch further, following the launch of the government's new matched funding scheme.**

As part of the three-year scheme the University will receive an additional £1 for every £3 donation made until July 2011, subject to eligibility and an institutional cap on the amount that can be claimed.

Gifts from individuals, companies, trusts or foundations are all potentially eligible for the scheme. And the matched funding will be used in the



priority area across the campus that is preferred by the donor.

More information about the scheme can be obtained

from the Division of Development and Alumni Relations on 275 2620 or found at the web address below.



# Preserving the dignity of Egyptian mummies

**Curators at the Manchester Museum are to trial different ways of exhibiting mummies, as part of a 12-month review.**

The Museum's unwrapped mummies were covered temporarily in May, as an experiment.

The idea behind the move was to gauge public reaction to possible approaches for their display in the planned future redevelopment of the ancient Egypt galleries.

The Museum's human remains panel met in June to consider the responses received so far.

And now the Museum is continuing to gather feedback from members of the public, as it trials a number of different approaches.

"We started the consultation process with a total covering of three of the Museum's unwrapped mummies," said Museum Director Nick Merriman.

"As public feedback showed that this is not the most appropriate long-term solution, we are trying out a range of different approaches to gauge public opinion.

"Some of these will include techniques which are used in museums in Egypt."

The Museum's consultation period will run for 12 months, during which time a number of different display methods will be tested out.

All feedback received will be reviewed as part of the wider

consultation process for the re-development of the galleries.

Staff and students are being invited to contribute to the process at the weblink below.

Meanwhile, a conference held at the University over the summer was told that Ancient Egyptians were drug developers for future generations, with 70 per cent of the ingredients they used still found in medicines today.

Professor Rosalie David, from the Faculty of Life Sciences, told the Pharmacy and Medicine in Ancient Egypt Conference how she and her team had studied prescriptions written on papyrus, which treated ailments such as back ache with saffron and rheumatism with celery.

"Our work shows that the Ancient Egyptians preceded the Greeks in developing pharmacy," said Professor David. "These were not 'magic spells' but pharmaceutical products that are still in use in modern times."

The conference – attended by 100 delegates from 10 countries – also heard that two fetuses found in the tomb of Tutankhamen may have been twins and very likely to have been the children of the teenage Pharaoh.

The conference was hosted by the KNH Centre for Biomedical Egyptology, in conjunction with the National Research Centre in Cairo, Egypt, and The Leverhulme Trust.



## In brief

### Scholarships reward academic excellence

Three talented students have been awarded £6,000 bursaries, after becoming GE Foundation Scholar Leaders.

Ali Kanani, from the Faculty of Humanities, Sohaib Mustafa, from Manchester Business School, and Eunice Oluwasakin, from the Faculty of Physical Sciences and Engineering have all been selected for the awards because they have demonstrated academic excellence.

As 'scholar leaders' they will also have opportunities to develop business skills, work-shadow a leader from one of GE's UK businesses and undertake community projects.

### Students have sporting chance

The University has been ranked 10th in the UK for its success on the sports field.

More than 40 teams from the Athletic Union compete in regular fixtures as part of the British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS).

### TV challenge tests students

A team of students from the University has just begun its run in the latest series of University Challenge.

Last Monday they defeated a team from the University of Bristol in their first-round match. And their second-round match against the University of York is due to be shown on 3 November.

Captain Matthew Yeo is joined on the team by Simon Baker, Henry Pertinez and Reuben Roy.

### Hospital to become 'The Christie'

The Christie Hospital has changed its name to The Christie, in recognition of the full range of work it undertakes.

The new name aims to better represent activities such as research and education and reflect developments that are part of the 2008-2013 strategy, which focuses on improving clinical outcomes, developing networked services and world class research.



## In brief

### Graphene discovery wins prestigious prize for scientists

Professor Andre Geim and Dr Kostya Novoselov from the Centre of Mesoscience and Nanotechnology have been awarded the prestigious Europhysics Prize for discovering graphene and subsequent work to reveal its remarkable electronic properties.

The Europhysics Prize is one of the world's most prestigious awards for condensed matter physics.

### Professor joins research institute

Leading health-services researcher Professor Martin Roland OBE has joined independent research institute RAND Europe as a special adviser.

Professor Roland's part-time appointment at RAND Europe is aimed at further developing its health policy research programme.

### Beijing honours

Dr Stuart Pickering-Brown and Professor David Mann, from the School of Medicine, have been made visiting professors of neuroscience at the University of Beijing, in China.

The professorships were awarded after the pair presented talks at the 6th Beijing Dementia Forum earlier this year.

### Bubble expert wins award

Dr Grant Campbell, from The School of Chemical Engineering and Analytical Science (CEAS), has been awarded The Institution of Chemical Engineers' Frank Morton Medal for Excellence in Chemical Engineering Education.

As part of the award, Dr Campbell delivered the 4th Frank Morton Memorial lecture at the University of Birmingham recently on the topic of 'Bubbles, Bread and Biofuels'.

### Professor to head research council

Professor Douglas Kell has been appointed as the next chief executive of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC).

Professor Kell is a leading figure in the field of systems biology, the multidisciplinary approach to tackling complex biological problems using theory, computer modelling and experimentation.

The appointment to the research council will last for four years.

## DNA reveals sister power in Ancient Greece

**Researchers from the University have unearthed new evidence that girl power existed as far back as Ancient Greece.**

They have been testing ancient DNA from a high-status, male-dominated cemetery in Mycenae.

And they have discovered a brother and a sister buried together in a richly endowed grave.

Until now women were thought to have had little power in Ancient Greece, unless they married a powerful man and were able to influence him.

But this discovery points to a woman who may have had as much power as her brother, suggesting that women – as well as men – held positions of power by birth.

The team - led by Professor Terry Brown and Keri Brown, from the Faculty of Life Sciences, and Professor John Prag, from Manchester Museum - have been studying Grave Circle B, at Mycenae, for 10 years.

As part of their latest research, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, they set out to ascertain the relationships within this elite group at the burial site.

In particular they wanted to discover whether the graves were from a single family or a number of families who had established themselves as the ruling dynasty in early Mycenae.

"We were surprised to discover what appears to be a sister buried beside her brother in the high status, male-dominated grave circle," said Professor Brown.

"The implication is that she was buried in Grave Circle B not because of a marital connection but because she held a position of authority by right of birth.

"DNA analysis has therefore enabled us to glimpse the factors contributing to the organisation of the higher echelons of society at the beginning of the Mycenaean age."

And Keri said: "We will never know who our lady was but it is tempting to think that she might have been a little like the Electra of legend, who seems to have been such a powerful woman that the later stories tell how she was forced to marry a peasant to dilute her influence."

## Lost castle solves riddle of Buckton Moor

**A mysterious monument standing on a windswept Lancashire hilltop for hundreds of years has been identified as one of England's most important castles.**

University archaeologists had expected the mound, on Buckton Moor, near Stalybridge, to be an earthwork of relatively little importance, constructed for defensive purposes out of earth and timber.

But to their surprise, the excavation revealed it is a top-ranking castle built in the 12th century, making it a significant addition to Britain's 1,400 castles.

"The discovery of a high ranking castle in England is a tremendously rare event – and was definitely not what we were expecting," said Mike Nevell, Director of the University's Field Archaeology Centre.

The archaeologists realised they had made a major discovery after excavating the castle's outer wall - which they found to be made of stone and 2.8 metres wide.

"The large scale of the defences clearly indicates castle building at the top end of the social hierarchy" said Greater Manchester County Archaeologist Norman Redhead, also from the University.



"We also found that the castle was defended by a large rectangular gate tower – which helps to date it to the 12th century.

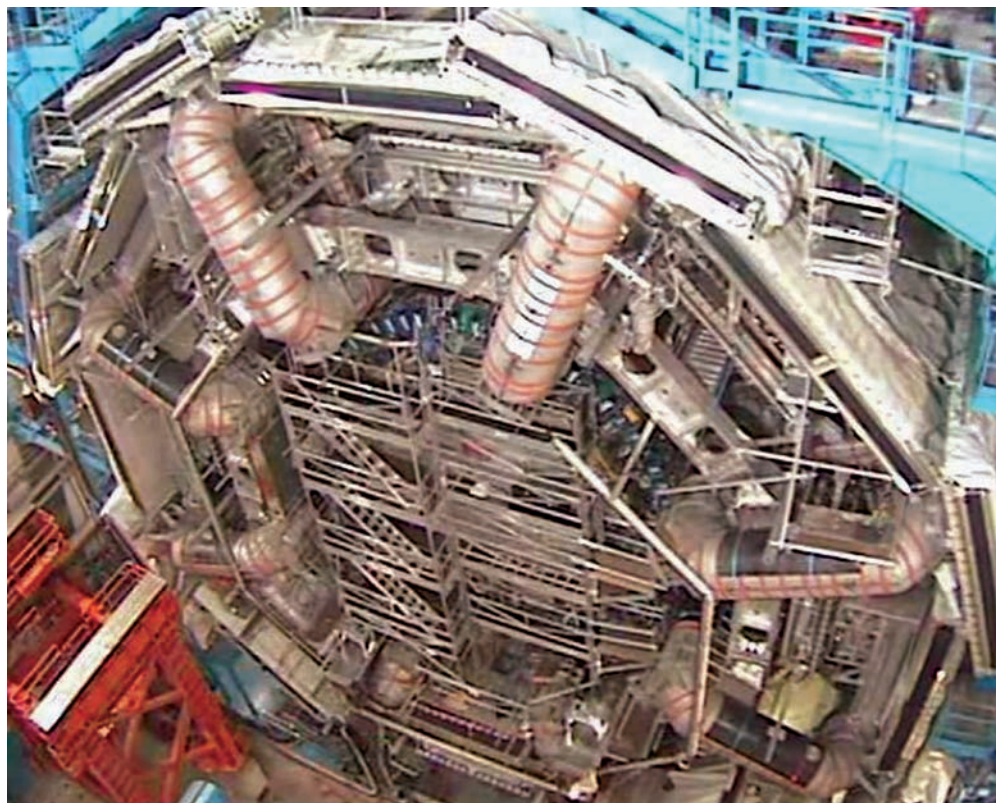
"Greater Manchester is not well known for its castles, but Buckton Castle will put the area well and

truly on the castle map as it is clearly the best preserved of the eight known castles in the county area."

The excavation was partly funded from a £300,000 grant by Tameside Council.



# Manchester scientists at heart of global bid to recreate seconds after Big Bang



## Researchers from the School of Physics and Astronomy are playing a key role in the world's biggest ever scientific experiment.

The massive LHC project involves around 10,000 researchers and is based at CERN, in Geneva, which is the world's largest particle physics centre.

The LHC represents the biggest scientific experiment of all time. Physicists hope to send two beams of particles around a 27km ring at 0.999999991 times the speed of light. Huge electromagnets will bend the beams and collide one into another.

By colliding tiny beams of protons researchers are hoping to recreate conditions in the Universe less than a billionth of a second after the Big Bang and uncover some of the Universe's unsolved mysteries.

Manchester academics have worked with an 11-nation team to build detectors to pick up particles such as the as-yet-undetected Higgs boson – the so-

called 'God particle' which could help to explain why matter has mass.

Aside from Professor Brian Cox (pictured below), who has been one of the public faces of the LHC experiment, Thorsten Wengler is in charge of the ATLAS experiment operations.

Rob Appleby is a member of the LHC accelerator team, while Fred Loebinger, Un-ki Yang, Jo Pater, Steve Snow, Paul Miyagawa, Paul Bell, Stefan Ask, Joe Foster, Ray Thompson and Julian Freestone helped build ATLAS and are involved in analysing data from it.

Meanwhile, Steve Watts, Cinzia DaVia, Federico Roncarolo, Roger Jones and Andrew Pilkington are working on another CERN project called FP420.

Professor Cox said: "It is the most exciting physics experiment for decades. It's a leap into the dark in a way that no particle accelerator has been before.

## Your Questions answered

### What is CERN?

Founded in 1954, CERN - or the European Organization for Nuclear Research - is one of the world's largest centres for scientific research. Situated in Geneva, its business is fundamental physics; finding out what the Universe is made of and how it works.

The world's largest and most complex scientific instruments are used to study the basic constituents of matter - the fundamental particles.

### What is the LHC?

Situated 100 metres underground, The Large Hadron Collider is the largest and most complex scientific instrument ever built and the highest energy particle accelerator in the world.

In the LHC two beams of subatomic particles called 'hadrons' - either protons or lead ions - travel in opposite directions, gaining energy with every lap.

Physicists will use the LHC to recreate the conditions just after the Big Bang, by colliding the two beams head-on at very high energy.

### What is ATLAS?

ATLAS is one of two detectors that form part of the LHC. It will investigate a wide range of physics, including the search for the mysterious Higgs boson. It will also look for extra dimensions and particles that could make up dark matter.

### Why is the LHC so important?

The LHC is poised to provide new insights into the mysteries of our Universe. There are many theories as to what will result from the collisions - and it is hoped a brave new world of physics will emerge from the new accelerator, as knowledge in particle physics goes on to describe the workings of the Universe.

We're at the limit of our capabilities. It's the closest thing I think we've done is gone to the moon."

Professor Cox will be delivering a lecture – 'The Origin of the Universe' – on Thursday, 9 October 2008 as part of a series of public events organised by the University.



## Time flies ... when you're building the ATLAS detector

**The world can now watch the meticulous building of a 7,000-tonne component of the world's biggest science experiment in just five minutes – thanks to a Manchester student**

Tim Head, 24, a particle physics PhD student, has created a time-lapse movie showing the

five-year construction of the huge ATLAS detector at CERN from its foundations in concrete to its final 45-by-25-metre majesty.

The video can be viewed at the web address below.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVrUR\\_SOykk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVrUR_SOykk)

## In brief

### £700,000 grant to develop tuberculosis drug

Researchers at the University have been awarded £700,000 to develop a new drug to combat tuberculosis.

TB is one of the oldest human infectious diseases, which dates back as far as the Iron Age.

Although instances of the condition had declined in the last century, following the introduction of vaccines, the emergence of new viral infections like HIV/AIDS has resulted in a resurgence of the condition.

Dr Lydia Taberero and her team, from the Faculty of Life Sciences, have been awarded £700,000 from the Medical Research Council (MRC) for their work.

And they intend to develop a drug against the disease that will be simpler to use, quicker in its action and, being new, able to combat even drug resistant strains.

### Cancer survival rates increasing for young people

Teenagers and young adults are now more likely to survive cancer than they were 20 years ago.

The research, funded by Cancer Research UK, found that survival rates in those aged between 13 and 24 had risen by 11 per cent between 1979 and 2001.

The lead author was Professor Jillian Birch, director of Cancer Research UK's paediatric and familial cancer research group, at Manchester.

### Research aims to get to the root of pain

Arthritis sufferers are to help scientists understand how the brain deals with pain, as part of a £300,000 research project.

The three-year study, funded by the Arthritis Research Campaign, will look at the placebo effect.

It will aim to find out if placebos – or dummy pills – work by releasing natural painkillers in the body.

### Study reveals cost of stabbings to NHS

Injuries caused by gun and knife crime cost the NHS more than £3million a year, according to research by the Trauma Audit Research Network (TARN).

TARN, which is based at the University, scrutinised data from hospitals between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2005.

### Funding boost in fight against leukaemia

A study into the genes identified as playing a key role in leukaemia has been awarded a £1.6million grant from Leukaemia Research.

The research – lead by professor of cancer cell biology Professor Tony Whetton – will analyse a wide range of cancer-causing genes in the hope of targeting their common mechanisms of action for patient benefit.

## Leading research centre to welcome new recruits

**Fourteen of the country's most talented young researchers and healthcare professionals are set to join the Manchester Biomedical Research Centre.**

The Centre – run jointly between the University and the Central Manchester and Manchester Children's University Hospitals NHS Trust – was set-up to discover new ways of diagnosing and treating patients.

Research in the Centre focuses on a number of conditions, including heart disease, arthritis, depression and problems that are linked to pregnancy.

Recent senior recruits to the Centre include Neil Hanley as Professor of Experimental Medicine, clinical geneticist Professor Yanick Crow and Tina Lavender as Professor of Midwifery.

Next month they will be joined by 14 talented scientists, doctors and nurses, who will be funded through the BRC's new fellowship programme.



Professor Phil Baker, Mike Deegan, Professor Alan North, Professor Sir Martin Harris (l-r) at the BRC launch.

As part of the programme £1million a year will be invested in their research, funding salaries, facilities and other support.

Since it opened the BRC has already invested £1.5 million in new staff and equipment.

Capital investment has included a £250,000 high resolution chip analyser, which is providing faster and improved diagnosis for children with a

range of genetic conditions including learning disabilities.

At the launch of the Centre Trust chief executive Mike Deegan said: "Gaining BRC status was a wonderful step forward, and support for the bid underlined the real passion and appetite for research at the Trust.

"Manchester is now positioned as a pre-eminent research centre, and this offers hugely exciting opportunities for the future."

## Brain study could lead to new understanding of depression

**Brain scientists have moved a step closer to understanding why some people may be more prone to depression than others.**

Clinical neuroscientist Dr Roland Zahn, from the School of Psychological Sciences, has identified how the brain links knowledge about social behaviour with moral sentiments, such as pride and guilt.

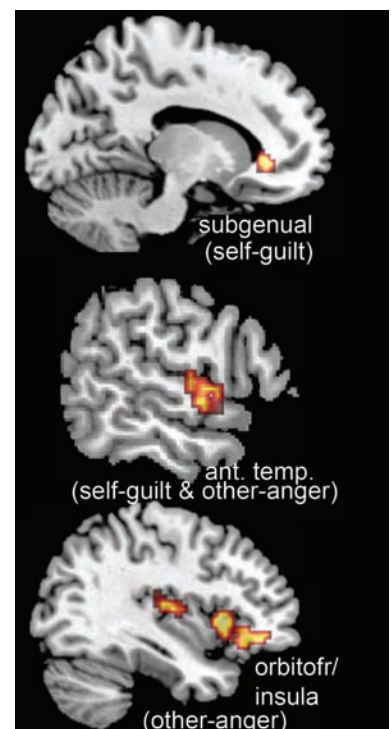
The study – carried out at the National Institutes of Neurological Disorders and Stroke in the US – used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to scan the brains of 29 healthy individuals, while they considered certain social behaviours.

It identified parts of the brain that were activated for the different types of feeling being expressed.

Now Dr Zahn and his team hope to use the findings to further their work into depression.

"The most distinctive feature of depressive disorders is an exaggerated negative attitude to oneself, which is typically accompanied by feelings of guilt," said Dr Zahn.

"Now that we understand how the brains of healthy individuals respond to feelings of guilt, we hope to be able to better understand why and where there are differences in brain activity in people suffering from, or prone to, depression."







## Zoologist makes rare frog find

**A rare tree frog has been spotted in the wild for the first time in 20 years - by a Manchester scientist.**

The tiny *isthmohyla rivularis* was thought to have become extinct until University of Manchester zoologist Andrew Gray (pictured above) found and photographed a male in Central America last year.

Now, on a return visit to the remote forests of Costa Rica, he has found a pregnant female and several more males.

The landmark discovery suggests the nocturnal species is breeding and has survived at a time when many other species are being killed by a deadly fungal skin disease.

"This has been the highlight of my career," said Andrew, who is based at Manchester Museum.

"Now that we know that both sexes exist in the wild, we should intensify efforts to understand their ecology and further their conservation."

To find the distinctive golden brown and metallic-green frog,

Andrew and his team trekked deep into the forests of the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve - close to the spot where they spotted a male last year.

After discovering another male, Monteverde's Tropical Science Centre head of park maintenance Luis Obando then found the tiny female, sitting on a leaf.

"It is hard to describe just how unlikely it was to have discovered a female of this particular species," said Andrew.

"The only time you ever come across a female is by chance - and it is only once in a blue moon that they come down to lay their eggs.

"You could come out here every night for a year and not see a thing."

The researchers believe that the ability to sit out in the sun may allow the frogs' skin to heat up just enough to kill off the deadly chytrid fungus, preventing the disease from taking hold.



## Developing countries benefit from online gold rush

**Impatient online computer gamers have sparked a new industry in developing countries - by paying fellow gamers real cash in return for financial help in the virtual world.**

The practice - known as 'gold-farming' has been ongoing for a number of years.

But ground-breaking research by Professor Richard Heeks, from the University's Institute for Development Policy and Management, has highlighted the scale of the practice for the first time.

'Gold-farming' is concentrated on online computer games - such as World of Warcraft and Runescape - that are set in complex virtual worlds.

These game worlds are so comprehensive, they include their own cities, populations, economies and even their own virtual currencies, known as 'gold'.

Although most gamers earn their 'gold' by playing the game for many hours each week, some are taking a short-cut - by paying real money outside the game to buy their gold.

In doing so they seek the help of so-called 'gold-farmers', who work within the games' virtual worlds to build up a supply of the online currency and then sell this to players all over the world through the Paypal payment system.

Professor Heeks' research suggests 'gold-farming' is now a 'cyber-industry' employing more than 400,000 people in Asia and generating trade in excess of \$1 billion (US).

"The workers in Asia undertake long shifts and earn about US\$145 per month," said Professor Heeks, who is based in the School of Environment and Development.

"However, the image of 'virtual sweatshop' seems inappropriate: most workers are young men who would otherwise be unemployed, and they report enjoying their work."

## New research alliance formed

**Pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline and the University have formed a research alliance in a bid to speed up medical research from 'lab bench to bedside'.**

As part of the alliance, scientists and physicians work together to identify new research avenues, collaborate in efforts to better understand a variety of disease areas and support drug discovery within the UK.

Their work will focus on research methodologies such as systems biology and biomedical imaging, and treatment areas such as respiratory disease and inflammation processes.

The alliance is also expected to provide shared opportunities in the exchange of ideas and methodologies and staff secondment, and result in a combined approach to research funding bids.

University Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences, Professor Alan North, said: "Forming an alliance with a world-class company such as GSK will undoubtedly benefit the already outstanding biomedical research base within Manchester."



# Charismatic Carolyn

"The beauty of tissues and their intricacy never fails to amaze me. The aesthetics of tissue structure always gives me a tremendous buzz. I really love my work – it is a true marriage of art and science."

Carolyn Jones's enthusiasm for her work, which is also her hobby, is truly infectious. You couldn't wish to meet a person happier or more fulfilled than she is. Or more productive – she is just about to submit her 200th peer-reviewed paper for publication. And she has a truly international reputation as a comparative placentologist.

Her interest in the placenta, vital to nourishing the foetus, became her major focus many years ago. She is concerned not only with the placenta of pregnant women, but also of a remarkably wide range of animals.

"There is an amazing interspecies variation in placental structure," she says. "It is so exciting to examine specimens from exotic animals, such as armadillo, elephant and golden mole."

So renowned is she for her microscopic studies and expertise that specimens are sent to her from all over the world for investigation.

"I never know what I'm going to get through the post," she says. "It's brilliant."

Heaven, for her, is a tiny, cluttered "den" just off her lab on the research floor of St Mary's Hospital. She just about has room to swing a cat or, more correctly, to swivel between her desk computer and her microscope. And she is in her element.

She is that rare animal - the independent scientist, but with a passion for sharing her expertise and a great enthusiasm for collaboration with research groups throughout the University and far beyond. She offers a service in electron microscopy, as well as her placentology investigations. And it is the income generated from these services, together with donations from collaborators, which has enabled her to work as an independent researcher "unfettered by the necessity of obtaining grants".

But she is very far from being some sort of latter-day, ivory-tower boffin.

Her clinically-based work focuses on endometriosis – the presence of endometrial glands outside the uterine cavity, within the pelvis. This is one of the commonest causes of infertility and chronic pelvic pain, affecting one in ten women in the

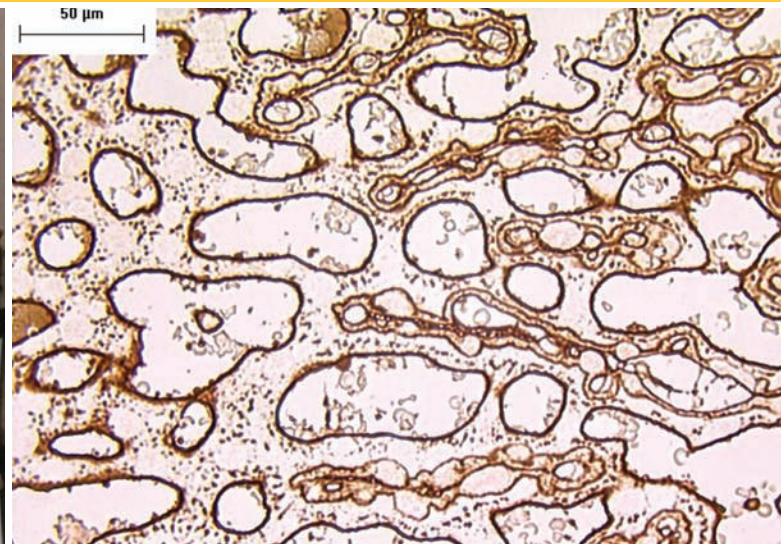
reproductive age group. Looking at the ultrastructure of endometriotic lesions, she has discovered important changes in the glycan expression and tissue architecture of the glands of women affected.

At St Mary's, she collaborates with the Maternal and Foetal Health Research Group, looking at the ultrastructure of small vessels, as well as monitoring the effects of different conditions of culture on small pieces of placental tissue, mimicking the conditions of pre-eclampsia and other pathological conditions of pregnancy.

However, the speciality which has earned her international renown is "the glycosylation of the foeto-maternal interface of diverse animal species," which means the study of the role and composition of the sugar sequences on the "wall" between foetal and maternal tissues.

This work has created a whole new science, which she calls Reproductive Glycogenetics. She has discovered that closely related, interbreeding animals such as horse and donkey have similar glycosylation patterns on their placentae, which sheds light not only on being able to judge the compatibility of different animals for implantation





and cross-fertilisation, but also on the evolutionary process of animal development.

"It is very exciting," she says. "It should be of great interest to evolutionary biologists."

"I feel so privileged and so happy," she says. "Everything has just fallen into place all along the way and I've discovered that nothing you do is ever wasted."

Yet her route to this happy state has not been straightforward at all, even though you get the sense of her being positive all the time. From childhood, she wanted to be a medical illustrator. Her mother encouraged Carolyn's early talent for drawing, and her dad was a GP, so you can see the medical-art influences. And her fascination for biology started early with drawing and identifying protozoa from pond water viewed down a microscope at home.

"It was wonderful," she says. "I wanted to do art, but I also loved science."

At Edgbaston High School, she enjoyed biology, but she turned her back on the sixth form when they wouldn't let her mix art and science as she

wanted. So, aged 16, she went to Birmingham College of Art, but discovered that her interest in anatomy was discouraged. So, she turned in another direction. She got a job in a laboratory at Birmingham Children's Hospital.

"I discovered histology and I was hooked," she recalls.

She also discovered the electron microscope when her dad took her to talk to a pathologist at the Midland Centre for Neurosurgery and Neurology, and remembers seeing a mitochondrion for the time. She was hooked again – still is. Histology and ultrastructure became "the love of my life".

She got the opportunity to set up an electron microscope at Birmingham Dental Hospital, learning the techniques at the London Hospital. A colleague, Dr William Miller, suggested that she should go to university. She was 23 years old and had just one A-level in biology, obtained at evening classes. So, she spent a year getting more A-levels – "it was a joy – the best year of my life".

In 1967, she came to read zoology at this university, getting a First and going on to do an

MSc and a PhD (in ultrastructure of the human placenta). She was encouraged in this by Professor Harold Fox. And she repaid his faith handsomely – she produced 12 papers, which have been cited ever since.

That was more than 30 years ago. She spent seven years in rheumatology at Hope, returning to the pathology department here to set up a lectin histochemistry lab. After a chance introduction to porcine placental glycosylation at Manchester, her interest in animal placentation was further encouraged by a Danish collaborator, Vibeke Dantzer, a veterinary anatomist she met at a European Placenta Group gathering in 1991.

Then, 10 years ago, she got the chance to come to St Mary's – and her idea of heaven. Now, aged 65, she is about to retire. But she certainly hopes to continue her work in an honorary capacity and enthuse over all those beautiful images she produces.

Happily, she is simply irreplaceable - and incomparable, not only in her expertise, but in her positive outlook and zest for living (and working).



## University staff speak at international conference

Staff from the University have highlighted measures designed to ensure students get the most out of studying overseas at an international conference.

In their presentation, 'Integrating Leadership and Service in Education Abroad Through Campus Cooperation', they focussed on innovative ways universities can develop students' global leadership skills.

At the NAFSA International Educators conference, held in Washington DC, they discussed what global leadership skills are; how and why leadership and service should be integrated with study abroad; and the impact of study abroad on employability.

The presentation was delivered by Colette Cooke, Head of Skills Development; Stephanie Nixon, Junior Year Abroad Officer; Jane Ratchford, Director of MLP, Careers and Employability Division; and Dr Caroline Whitehead, manager of the Study Abroad Unit.

## Virtual first for graduates

**The University of Manchester has celebrated a virtual first, when a group of students graduated online.**

Eighteen students, based around the globe, completed the four-year long-distance course on ancient Egypt.

And when it came time to graduate, they all got the chance to experience the ceremony – in person or online.

Eight of the students attended the ceremony, while the remainder had the chance to follow a podcast later. And that meant that distance couldn't prevent the students from hearing their names read out, and the burst of applause that followed.

Course director Joyce Tyldesley said: "It was an amazing experience and very apt considering the history of this course.

"It started as an evening class 30 years ago and, due to public demand, became a certificated course.

"Requests from outside Manchester led to it becoming a distance learning course 12 years ago and, as demand increased still further, we went online.

"I am very proud of the students who were very committed to their work and gave much more than they needed to."

## First steps into the world of work



**The University is helping its new graduates to take their first steps into the workplace, with the launch of the Manchester Graduate Internship Programme.**

Although one in three graduates are keen to remain in the city following graduation, many find it difficult to secure graduate-level jobs.

But now they can apply for paid work experience opportunities in a range of businesses, not-for-profit and public organisations, including the University.

The programme has been designed both to make students more employable, in line with the aims of the University's 2015 strategy, and to help local employers retain and develop graduate talent.

And since the launch of the scheme, in May, more than 50 opportunities have been advertised and more than 20 graduates have been appointed.

Hannah Brookfield (pictured left), who graduated in history in 2008 is involved in the digital cataloguing of images at the Whitworth Art Gallery as a graduate intern.

She says that without the scheme she would have found it impossible of getting any work in a museum.

Hannah, aged 21, from the Wirral, said: "The scheme is really brilliant; without it I would have found it really hard to get a foot in the door.

"I'm hoping to come out of this with the relevant experience to impress other art galleries in the future."

The scheme also gives the graduates the chance to attend masterclasses delivered by leading corporate sponsors of the scheme, including a session on leadership from Tesco, on commercial awareness by the Co-operative Group and on presentation skills by the Alliance and Leicester.

The internships last between four months and a year and the programme is being managed by the University's MLP, Careers and Employability division.

Its Director Jane Ratchford said: "MGIP has the potential to boost the employability of our graduates, improve our position in key league tables and demonstrate the University's commitment to the economic development of the city region."

Internships can be used to address a range of staffing needs, including administrative, technical and research support. For more information, contact Tammy Goldfeld on 275 2828 or [tammy.goldfeld@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:tammy.goldfeld@manchester.ac.uk)

[www.careers.manchester.ac.uk/recruit/target/mgip/](http://www.careers.manchester.ac.uk/recruit/target/mgip/)

## Summer learning builds links with Korea

**A group of seven students travelled to Korea over the summer to take part in Seoul National University's International Summer Institute.**

As part of the intensive programme of study during the six week course the students learned about the history, law, culture, economics and politics of Korea and East Asia.

There were also cultural events, including an introduction to typical Korean food and Korean teahouses. And there were trips as part of the programme that included a visit to a demilitarised zone, a farm and a palace.

Five students – Paul Hudson, Luke Kelly, Gladys Li, Chinatsu Sakayori and Julia Ylanen – received scholarships for the programme funded by Seoul National University. A further two students – Ariel Ma and



Jessica Tjendana – applied for the programme independently.

This is the first year that the Study Abroad Unit has offered out-of-term programmes, developed in response to a growing interest in Asia and in shorter term study abroad opportunities.

Caroline Whitehead, Study Abroad Unit Manager, said: "Study abroad challenges

students to examine their cultural stereotypes and the accepted 'norms' by which they live, and consider new ways of thinking.

"Building inter-cultural competence is a key objective of all the programmes offered by the study abroad unit and contributes to the University's agenda to enhance the employability of our students."





## Youngsters enjoy an early taste of university life

**Hundreds of youngsters from schools and colleges across the region moved in to the University over the summer, as part of a drive to encourage the students of the future.**

More than 350 young people – aged between 12 and 17 – took part in five different summer schools, which all offered an early insight into university life and some of the subjects available.

The five-day 'Manchester Academic Enrichment Programme', funded by Goldman Sachs and the Sutton Trust, aimed to help high-achieving students who are on the verge of applying to competitive universities.

The two-day 'Choosing Humanities at Manchester' course highlighted the disciplines on offer within humanities to students, as well as offering advice about university applications.

There was also plenty on offer over the summer for younger students, inspiring them to consider higher education at a much earlier age.

The 'Tomb Team' summer school, funded by Greater Manchester Aim Higher and run by

Manchester Museum, offered 12-year-old students the chance to develop ideas for redisplaying the Museum's Egyptology Gallery, as well as activities such as mummifying an orange.

And the Humanities Y9 Summer School offered 14-year-old pupils the chance to try a variety of humanities disciplines, including: 'Introduction to Art History', 'ASBO-mania', 'Journey through Ancient Rome' and 'The Money Programme'.

Julian Skyrme, Head of Undergraduate Recruitment and Widening Participation, hopes the events will encourage youngsters to consider higher education.

"In my view there is no better way to convince young people about the merits of higher education than giving them the opportunity to experience it first hand themselves," he said.

"The summer schools offer young people the chance to spend time on the campus, working alongside students and academic staff.

"The experience provides them with an early taste of university life and we hope that it will inspire many of them to apply to study here in the future."

## Egypt enthusiasts get a handle on the past

**Thirty enthusiasts seized a rare chance to handle Egyptian artefacts at the Faculty of Life Sciences' first Egyptology summer school.**

As well as lectures and a tour of the Egyptology labs, participants had the opportunity to handle wooden utensils found in the homes of pyramid builders and to view mummy portraits from coffins.

They also handled skulls collected by Professor G Elliot Smith in the early 20th century, which are used in the research of age, ethnicity and dentistry.

The event was organised by the KNH Centre for Egyptology, Manchester Museum and Courses for the Public.



## Forum gives young people chance to have their say

A University forum that seeks the views of young people from local schools and colleges is to expand.

The Young People's Forum was set up by the student recruitment, admissions and international development department last October.

Its regular meetings have allowed 13 young people to learn about the University, as well as offering opinions on the development of widening participation and recruitment initiatives.

And in the past year the focus of the forum has included 'an ideal open day' and 'a typical scientist'.

To attend a meeting of the Young Persons' Forum or to suggest a topic for it to discuss, contact Rachel Cook on 275 7546 or [rachel.cook@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:rachel.cook@manchester.ac.uk)

## Survivor teaches Holocaust lesson

Holocaust survivor Norbert Herz has told of his extraordinary life at a seminar to train secondary school teachers.

Retired teacher Mr Herz, aged 77, joined internationally acclaimed experts in Holocaust studies at the event, which was organised by Dr Jean-Marc Dreyfus from the University's School of Arts, Histories and Cultures.

He talked to a group of 80 teachers, educators and social workers at the Imperial War Museum North, where the event was held.

And he hopes his efforts will help the schools as they teach Holocaust studies as part of the national curriculum.

In addition to the event Mr Herz has recorded his unique testimony, in an interview recorded for the University website.

In the interview he talks about his escape from Nazi Germany to France, where he was interned in the camp of Rivesaltes.

Dr Dreyfus said: "Thanks to the National Curriculum and Holocaust Memorial Day the demand for knowledge and interpretation has never been so high.

"The fascinating input of Norbert Herz as well as the other contributors will give teachers the materials to effectively bring this information to their pupils."

Footage of the interview with Norbert Herz can be found at the web address below.



# What's On

## Centre for New Writing

Mon 13 Oct, 6pm, Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall, (£5/£3)

**Literature Live with Andrew O'Hagan and Colm Toibin**  
Toibin won the Whitbread First Novel prize for The South, while O'Hagan's Our Fathers and Be Near Me were shortlisted for the Man Booker

Thurs 18 Oct, 3.30pm, Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall (£3)

**Liu Hong and Xinran**

Manchester Literature Festival is delighted to be co-hosting this special event with the Confucius Institute which promotes Chinese language and culture in the North West

Mon 20 Oct, 6.30pm, John Thaw Studio Theatre, (£5/£3)

**Literature Live with Ciaran Carson (Manchester Literature Festival)**

Carson's poetry collections include First Language, which won the T. S. Eliot prize, and Breaking News, winner of the Forward Poetry Prize and a Cholmondeley Award.

Thurs 23 Oct, 6.30pm, John Thaw Studio Theatre, (£5/£3)

**Literature Live with Jorie Graham (Manchester Literature Festival)**

Graham has written eleven acclaimed poetry collections, including The Dream of the Unified Field which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1996.

Weds 29 Oct, 7pm, Whitworth Hall, (£5/£3)

**Literature Live with Neil Gaiman**

The science fiction and fantasy writer, who created the Sandman comic series, will read from and discuss his new novel, The Graveyard Book.

**The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama**  
Bridgeford Street, Manchester M13 9PL  
0161 275 8951/8950

email [boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk)  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre)

## Burlington Society

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

**Welcome Party** Thursday 2 Oct

**Badminton (Sugden Centre)** Thursday 9 Oct

**Pub Quiz** Thursday 9 Oct

**Ceilidh** Thursday 16 Oct

**Casino** Thursday 23 Oct

**Halloween** Thursday 30 Oct

**Burlington Rooms, Schunck Building**

**Burlington Street** (next to JRUL)

0161 275 2392

[www.burlington.man.ac.uk](http://www.burlington.man.ac.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](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/continuingeducation)

## The Manchester Museum

### SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

**Lindow Man: A Bog Body Mystery**

**Birth Rites**

### FAMILY ACTIVITIES

**Big Draw Big Saturday: Big and Small**  
Saturday 18 October 11am-4pm

Get creative as part of the Big Draw and join in some very big and very small drawing. Find out more at: [www.manchester.ac.uk/museum](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/museum)

**October Half-term: Manchester Science Festival**

Monday 27-Friday 31 October

Be enthused and inspired by science, technology and engineering. Join in daily activities and discover the wonders of science. Find out more at [www.manchester.ac.uk/museum](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/museum)

### TALKS AND TOURS

**The Museum Sessions**

Friday 10 October 7-10pm

A unique evening of acoustic music in our Animal Life 1 Gallery with Mark Morriss (The Bluetones), Nomad Jones and Becca Williams. Book in person, (£7.50)

**Showcase: Museums and public engagement with science and engineering**

Wednesday 15 October 3-5pm

Talk with Robin Holgate, Museum of Science and Industry. Book on 0161 275 2648, Free

**Lindow Man: Tour of Lindow Man exhibition**

Friday 17 October 1-2pm

Book on 0161 275 2648, Free

**Ideas Café Is there a Black British archaeology?**

Monday 20 October 6.30-8pm

Lively debate with Dr Richard Benjamin, International Slavery Museum about the relevance of archaeology to Black History. Book on 0161 275 2648, Free

**The Behaviour of Moths**

Saturday 25 October 6.30-8.30pm

Poppy Adams talks about her hit debut novel, The Behaviour of Moths. Book on 0870 428 0785 or [www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk](http://www.manchesterliteraturefestival.co.uk), (£5/£3) concessions.

**Manchester Science & Industry Walk**

Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 October 11am-1pm

Historians walk will reveal Manchester's global role in the history of science, engineering and healthcare. Book on 0161 275 2648, Free

### Opening hours

Open: Tues-Sat 10am - 5pm

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

FREE Admission

**The Manchester Museum**

**Oxford Road, Manchester**

0161 275 2634

[www.manchester.ac.uk/museum](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/museum)

## Contact Theatre

Fri 3 & Sat 4 Oct, 7pm. FREE  
Stumble Dance Circus present

**An Evening of Instability**

Bringing Circus into the 21st century with extreme props, ludicrous tasks and unbridled live music.

Tues 7 & Wed 8 Oct, 8pm. Matinee Wed 8, 1.30pm. (£10/£6)

Big Creative Ideas in association with Birmingham Repertory Theatre present

**At the Gates of Gaza**

A battalion of West Indian volunteers fight for the Empire, Queen and the Mother Land, against a backdrop of burning fires as Liverpool riots during the Great War.

Thurs 9 Oct, 8pm, (£10/£6)

Srishti present

**Play Ball**

A triple bill of short South Asian Dance pieces from a male-dominated cast.

Tues 14 & Wed 15 Oct, 8pm, (£10/£6)

FKUK and Contact present

**Boombap- Showtime!**

From New York, Vancouver and Sydney prepare for a night of street inspired spoken word and dance.

Fri 17 & Sat 18 Oct, 7.30pm, (£8/£5)

A York Theatre Royal and Back and Forth production

**Beyond Measure**

Beginning where Shakespeare's Measure for Measure finishes, Beyond Measure is a provocative multi-media production.

Fri 24 Oct, 7.30pm, (£5)

**Subterfuge Presents Headz**

Nottingham based, Rachael Parry explores the corporal body and mind with Butoh firmly twisted to its core, while London based artist Richard Dedomenici wings his way up to share 99 Red Balloons.

**Oxford Road, Manchester**

**Tickets/Info 0161 274 0600**

[www.contact-theatre.org](http://www.contact-theatre.org)

## Chaplaincies

**St Peter's House Chaplaincy**

SUNDAY WORSHIP

11am Holy Communion

12.15pm 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](mailto: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: 12.15pm in the Chaplaincy Chapel

**Oxford Road (opposite the Students' Union)**

0161 273 1456

email [info@rc-chaplaincy-um.org.uk](mailto:info@rc-chaplaincy-um.org.uk)

[www.rc-chaplaincy-um.org.uk](http://www.rc-chaplaincy-um.org.uk)

**The Jewish Student Centre and Synagogue**

**Hillel House, Greenheys Lane**

0161 226 1139

email [rabbiiy@hotmail.com](mailto:rabbiiy@hotmail.com)

[www.rabbiiy.com](http://www.rabbiiy.com)





## Music and Drama at Manchester

Thurs 2 Oct, 1.10pm

**Danny Driver, piano**

Sat 4 Oct, 7.30pm, (£12 at the door)

**Music's Introductory Concert**

To begin the University year all music students assemble to sing Bach's great motet and members of the Sinfonietta perform two German masterpieces of the mid-19th century.

Thurs 9 Oct, 1.10pm

**Quatuor Danel**

Thurs 16 Oct, 1.10pm

**Jennifer Galloway, oboe and Paul Janes, piano**

Thurs 23 Oct, 1.10pm

**Northern Harmony**

Sat 25 Oct, 7.30pm

Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

**The University of Manchester Sinfonietta**

Thurs 30 Oct, 1.10pm

**Psappha**

Fri 31 Oct, 7.30pm

Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

**MANTIS Festival: Concert I**

Concert of new electroacoustic works by MANTIS composers

Sat 1 Nov, 6pm

Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

**MANTIS FESTIVAL: Concert II**

Concert of works curated by guest composer Annette Vande

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

0161 275 8951/8950

email [boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk)

[www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre)

## Gig Guide

**MANCHESTER ACADEMY 1, 2 and 3**

Foals

Spiritualized

Mogwai

CSS

Jenny Lewis

Funeral for a Friend

Mystery Jets

Mercury Rev

Weds 8 Oct

Sat 11 Oct

Thurs 23 Oct

Fri 10 Oct

Mon 20 Oct

Fri 24 Oct

Sun 26 Oct

Weds 5 Nov

**Tickets from:**

Students' Union, Oxford Road

Piccadilly Box Office @ easy Internet Café (c/c)

0871 2200260

Royal Court (Liverpool) 0151 709 4321 (c/c)

**Students' Union**

Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL

0161 275 2930

[www.manchesteracademy.net](http://www.manchesteracademy.net)



## Jodrell Bank

**EVENTS**

**Trees in Autumn**

Weds 15 Oct, 10am

Join the Arboretum Curator for a talk on Trees in Autumn followed by a guided walk of the Arboretum to see the wonderful autumn colour. Booking is essential and prices includes lunch. Tickets £19.50.

**Children's Guided Walk of the Arboretum**

Weds 29 Oct, 11.30am

Join the Arboretum Curator on a guided walk of the Arboretum and discover what products trees make- you may be surprised. Space is limited, so please book in advance. No extra charge.

**Ask an Astronomer**

Mon 27 Oct to Fri 31 Oct, 2pm

Ask a Jodrell Bank Astronomer all those burning questions about stars, planets or the telescope. No extra charge.

**Summer opening hours**

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

**Jodrell Bank Observatory Visitor Centre**

Macclesfield, Cheshire

01477 571339

[www.manchester.ac.uk/jodrellbank/viscen](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/jodrellbank/viscen)

## International Society

**AUTUMN TRIPS**

Sat 4 Oct

**North Wales visiting Caernarfon and Penrhyn Castle**

Sun 5 Oct

York

Sat 11 Oct

**Oxford (with guided tour)**

Sun 12 Oct

**Blackpool and the famous Blackpool illuminations**

**Overnight trip to Edinburgh**

Sat 18 and

Sun 19 Oct

Sat 18 Oct

**North Wales visiting Llangollen and Erddig**

Sun 19 Oct

**Fountain's Abbey and Skipton Castle**

Sat 25 Oct

**Alton Towers Theme Park**

Sat 25 Oct

**Liverpool- European Capital of Culture (with guided coach tour)**

Sun 26 Oct

**Peak District visiting Poole's Cavern and Hardwick Hall**

Sat 1 to

**Overnight trip to Bath and Stonehenge**

Sun 2 Nov

**Lake District visiting Keswick**

Sat 1 Nov

**Tatton Park's Christmas Shopping Fair**

Sun 2 Nov

**Opening hours**

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

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

**Small World Café opening hours**

Mon-Fri 11am – 3pm

**327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)**

0161 275 4959

email [int.soc@anchester.ac.uk](mailto:int.soc@anchester.ac.uk)

[www.internationalsociety.org.uk](http://www.internationalsociety.org.uk)



## The Whitworth Art Gallery

**DISPLAYS/COLLECTIONS**

**Cloth and Culture NOW until Dec 2008**

This exhibition aims to examine textile as both a global language and as a medium that can express a sense of local and regional identity.

**Drawing Stonehenge until 23 Dec 2008**

Work by six artists whose challenge was to respond artistically to the biggest ever archaeological dig at Stonehenge in August 2007.

**Flights of Fancy -**

**Select decorative schemes of the 1920s and 1930s until 26 Oct**

The exhibition features some of the most colourful and elaborate decorations from the Gallery's collections, many of them hand-produced from the top end of the market.

**Some Smaller Things until Summer 2009**

Inspired by, and acting as a counterpoint to, the iconic status of Stonehenge, a new selection has been drawn from the Whitworth's collection of drawings and prints.

**FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS**

**Tuesday Talks**

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

**And Sew On...Textile Workshop 10 Oct and 31 Oct 10.30am to 4.30pm.**

Artist led practical textile workshops for adults and young people. Free, booking required. To book email: [leanne.lightfoot@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:leanne.lightfoot@manchester.ac.uk) or telephone 0161 275 7463

**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](http://www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk)

**The Whitworth Art Gallery**

**Oxford Road, Manchester**

0161 275 7450

email [whitworth@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:whitworth@manchester.ac.uk)

## John Rylands Library (Deansgate)

Visit the historic John Rylands Library on Deansgate, central Manchester, home to one the country's greatest collection of printed books, manuscripts and archives. Regarded as one of the city's most beautiful buildings, the Library has been voted Manchester's Best Iconic Building in the MCR Awards 2007. Permanent exhibitions tell the story of the Library, display treasures from the collections and include interactive exhibits to engage visitors.

**Close-up Session: every Thursday 12.15pm**

Enjoy a closer look at selected items from the Library's outstanding collections and find out more about the building every Thursday lunchtime.

**Public opening hours**

Mon and Wed-Sat 10am-5pm

Tues and Sun 12pm-5pm

**Reader opening hours**

Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

FREE ADMISSION

**The John Rylands Library**

**150 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 3EH**

0161 306 0555

email [jrl.visitors@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:jrl.visitors@manchester.ac.uk)

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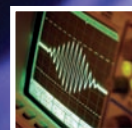
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# Discover the Whitworth

## Art and Labour's Cause is One

**The Whitworth Art Gallery continues to reveal treasures from the Walter Crane Archive which was acquired by the University in 2002.**

This new exhibition of his beautiful illustrations - 'Art and Labour's Cause is One' Walter Crane and Manchester 1880 - 1915' reveals Crane's many links to Manchester and his influence as a political activist.

Walter Crane (1845-1915) was one of the most versatile and radical artists of the 19th century.

The city of Manchester at that time was a major centre of industrial production and heavily reliant upon cheap factory labour.

Along with other leaders of the Arts and Crafts movement, Crane championed workers' rights. His designs soon became iconic symbols of the socialist movement, with echoes that can still be seen in socialist art around the world.

The exhibition gives a rich and detailed view of a fascinating artistic and political climate. It's hard to imagine today just how

radical and subversive some of these designs were at that time, and how they outraged the political 'establishment'. Even innocent illustrations had subtle references hidden within them.

In this illustration from "Baby's Own Aesop" the design is rounded off with the single line **STRENGTH IS IN UNITY**. This phrase was commonly used by trades unions and socialist societies, and it charges the whole Bundle of Sticks fable with an alternative socialist meaning that would not have been lost on contemporary readers.

The links with Manchester are both real and symbolic. Crane taught here at the Manchester School of Art, one of the oldest art schools in the country. He also understood the power of Manchester at that time, both as a symbol of what was wrong in society, and also in pointing the way forward to a more enlightened future. Crane felt that a better world would be achieved through education and inspiration, ideals that are still relevant today.



[www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth)

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### News Contact

#### News and story ideas

Internal Communications Office

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online [www.manchester.ac.uk/staffnet/news](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/staffnet/news)

Deadline 12 noon 16 October

### Events Contact

#### Events and listings information

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tel 0161 275 2922

email [unievents@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:unievents@manchester.ac.uk)

Deadline 12 noon 16 October

### Adverts Contact

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email [uniads@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:uniads@manchester.ac.uk)

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