

UniLife

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Letter from the President



Truths embraced in a single sentence sometimes justify an entire novel. Giuseppe Tomasi's classic, *The Leopard*, is commonly remembered for one particularly pivotal sentence: "If we want things to stay as they are, things will have to change." It is irrelevant that the issue in the novel is the possible eclipse of the 19th century Sicilian aristocracy. Openness to change, Tomasi is telling us, can, ironically, be the most conservative of strategies.

That is my theme for this month's *UniLife*. In the enduring conversation between change and continuity, protecting what we hold most dear often requires a willingness to embrace far-reaching changes in values, attitudes, ideas and patterns of behaviour previously taken for granted.

Five years ago the Manchester "merger" gave us a singular opportunity to re-think and re-create what it is about universities that make them precious institutions. Today we are in the midst of further consultations about the up-dating of the *Manchester 2015 Agenda* that we adopted then as the dynamic blueprint for the new University.

We are asking ourselves whether, in retrospect, we got our vision, goals and priorities right when we decided five years ago what kind of university we wanted Manchester to be.

I find it immensely reassuring that virtually everyone wishing to express a view believes that we did.

We all want Manchester to be one of the finest universities in the world, but not in the sense of being merely a sublimely revered ivory tower; we want our University to be in the forefront of fundamental research, but we also want to give the highest possible priority to translating the knowledge we create into technologies and solutions benefiting humankind; we are determined to offer superb educational programmes producing graduates of the highest intellectual and professional quality, but we will not be satisfied unless our Alumni have also been readied by their experiences here in Manchester to be the informed, responsible, socially aware humans that the 21st century world so urgently needs as leaders.

Virtuosity serving humanity: that is what we want for our University.

But we are going to have to tolerate – and indeed initiate – profound changes in the years ahead if we

are to preserve and protect these most precious priorities. If we want to preserve what is non-negotiable, "things will have to change."

One thing that is probably going to have to change to keep us at the forefront of international research is the range and breadth of Manchester's research profile. In an increasingly competitive international research environment success is likely to depend more and more on selectivity driven by supreme excellence and on an accompanying concentration of research excellence into key strategic clusters.

Another thing that will probably have to change if we are going to mobilise virtuosity for the service of humanity is our engagement with industry, the professions, policy-makers and the voluntary sector, for it is only through values-driven engagement with the movers and shakers of wider economic and social life that we will be able to contribute to transformational change in the 21st century.

We will certainly need to go on changing our approach to teaching and learning if we are to keep offering world class undergraduate education, for human consciousness is being shaped in new ways by fast-changing learning technologies and modalities that are transforming the ways knowledge is accessed, analysed, synthesised, transmitted and assimilated.

Even the 20th century idea of a university as an institution fundamentally dependent on public funds may have to be modified if we are to stay true to our core mission. Public funds will almost certainly be in short supply for years to come, and mediocrity is likely to be the price for staying as dependent as we are now on public outlays.

As always, valuing continuity is going to mean managing change as we push ahead towards 2015.

Alan Gilbert

Professor Alan Gilbert
President and Vice-Chancellor



Scientists 'virtually restore' 16th century tapestry at Hampton Court Palace

Scientists from The University of Manchester have turned back the clock 500 years - to reveal the original splendour of a faded 16th century tapestry.

Professor Chris Carr, Dr Huw Owens and Ruth Perkins, from the University's School of Materials, have spent the past three years scrutinising every thread of 'The Oath and Departure of Eliezer', which was commissioned by King Henry VIII and now hangs at Hampton Court Palace.

And now they have completed a ground-breaking 'virtual restoration' of the work, which uses tiny beams of specially-calibrated light to show the fine wool and silk threads in their original colours.

"For the first time in 500 years people will be able to see what the tapestries would have originally looked like," said Professor Carr. "And I think they will be blown away."

"These tapestries, because they have used natural dyes, tend to fade in sunlight relatively quickly. But originally many of these colours would have been bright and vibrant."

"They also had a significant amount of gold and silver. Metal threads would have been wrapped around a silk core yarn to give it a shiny rich appearance. This would have had a massive visual impact, conveying the wealth linked to these tapestries, but unfortunately these metal threads have tarnished and corroded with time."

The 'virtual restoration' is the result of years of painstaking work that began with the recreation of the original 16th century dyeing methods at the University.

After recreating the dyed wool the scientists artificially aged the dyed fabrics to determine how individual dyes were affected by light over time.

In the next stage of the research, PhD student Ruth Perkins spent three months at Hampton Court Palace carefully measuring the colour of yarns on the back of the tapestry, where the thick fabric and lining had slowed the fading process.

This data - linked with the research about the impact of ageing on 16th century dyes - was used to determine what the original colours of the tapestry would have been.

Then project lecturer Dr Huw Owens worked out how tiny specially calibrated beams of light could be used to shine on to two million separate sections of the tapestry to temporarily 'return' each of the yarns to their original colour.

Ruth said: "We are used to seeing these tapestries in browns, greys and blues - but originally many of these colours would have been bright reds, yellows and pinks. They were incredibly vibrant."

"The light does really bring out the detail. It even makes some of the tarnished gold threads sparkle. It makes a big difference. "People will find it difficult to believe that that is how it used to look because it is so different."

'The Oath and Departure of Eliezer' is one of a series of 10 tapestries in the History of Abraham series that were owned by Henry VIII and displayed at Hampton Court Palace.

The 'virtual restoration' is part of the Palace's plans to mark the 500th anniversary of the King's accession to the throne.

Professor's pledge boost for lymphoma research

Research at the University's School of Cancer and Imaging Sciences has been boosted following a generous gift from one of its former Professors.

The donation was made by the Kanka-Gajendra Foundation and will be used to establish a new fund, the Kanka & Gajendra Verma Endowment Fund, in perpetuity, to advance understanding in the diagnosis and management of lymphoma.

The Kanka-Gajendra Foundation was set up by Emeritus Professor Gajendra Verma (a former Dean of the Research and Graduate School, and Sarah Fielden Professor in the Faculty of Education); in honour of his beloved late wife Dr Kanka Mallick. Kanka was treated for lymphatic cancer by Professor John Radford at The Christie NHS Foundation Trust in 2007.

During Kanka's last weeks, she and Gajendra resolved to provide a substantial bequest to develop this foundation devoted to 'Giving Back'. The Kanka & Gajendra Verma Endowment Fund will



provide genuine long-term support for this valuable research as a celebration of Kanka's life and as a means to enhance the lives of others in the future.

Professor Radford, who also heads the Division of Cancer Studies' Lymphoma Research Group, said: "On behalf of the team here at Manchester I'm honoured to accept this very generous gift which will provide significant support for our research

aims - to improve the diagnostic process, to optimise long-term survival of lymphatic cancer patients, and to minimise the unwanted long-term impacts of treatment."

Professor Verma formally presented the gift of £125,000 to Professor Radford during an event held at the Education Centre, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust (pictured above).

www.kanka-gajendra.org

Nuclear lab management

The UK's National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) has gained a new management team, with plans to place the lab at the centre of the research and development agenda that underpins the renaissance in the nuclear sector.

Formal agreement was reached for the NNL to be led by a high calibre team put together following a competitive process to appoint a new managing contractor. The team, selected from the successful Serco, Battelle and The University of Manchester (SBM) consortium, will be led by Mike Lawrence.

Key objectives for the new team include maintaining and improving NNL's best in class safety record, significantly growing revenues over the initial three year contract period and creating 180 new technical jobs in the North West.

Mike Lawrence who joins the NNL from Battelle, said: "It's an honour and privilege to be the new Managing Director of the National Nuclear Laboratory. I feel a mixture of great pride and excitement as we look forward to securing an exciting future for the NNL by taking it on to the next level."

The great history party

On 21 March more than 4,000 people flooded into The Manchester Histories Festival at Manchester Town Hall to enjoy a huge array of displays, performance, lectures and guided walks. This was the first ever Manchester Histories Festival, initiated by staff at The University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) and supported by the Wellcome Trust, Manchester Primary Care Trust and Manchester City Council.

In the run up to the Festival, a series of local history projects were developed with Manchester schools, involving more than 1,000 local children and many student helpers. Forty schools displayed their work on 20 March, ten performed, and five entered bands in a Manchester-pop contest judged by Dave Haslam, the internationally acclaimed DJ.

The schools' displays were open on 21 March, together with historical displays from 60 organisations - from the Hallé



and the football clubs, to Levenshulme local history group, the Black Arts Alliance and the British Muslim Heritage Centre - and included exhibits from many university departments. In the Great Hall, beneath the Ford Madox Brown murals, were a series of thematic displays, featuring archaeology, industry, migration, leisure, buildings and science. Some components came from the universities, some from the major cultural institutions and some from local groups or individual researchers.

Twenty guided walks were offered and 18 lecturers packed

the three halls including Sheila Rowbotham, Jonathan Schofield and Dave Haslam, and TV historians Michael Wood and Tristram Hunt. The town hall buzzed all day, as thousands discovered the richness of the city and the public appetite for learning about Manchester.

The organisers would like to thank all those who took part and who volunteered to help before, during and after the event. If anyone would like to comment, suggest new developments, or volunteer to help in future events, please visit the website below.

www.manchesterhistoriesfestival.org.uk



Graphene pioneer wins major international prize

A pioneering physicist from The University of Manchester has been awarded a highly prestigious European science prize for his discovery of an exciting new material.

Professor Andre Geim FRS (pictured above left) has received the 2009 Körber European Science Award for his discovery of two-dimensional crystals made of carbon atoms – and particularly graphene.

The discovery made headlines across the globe and has the potential to revolutionise the world of microelectronics.

The Körber European Science Award supports European scientists who are pursuing particularly innovative research projects. The Euro 750,000 prize was presented to Professor Geim by the Körber Foundation at a plush ceremony at Hamburg's city hall on 17 April.

Graphene not only promises to revolutionise semiconductor, sensor, and display technology, but could also lead to breakthroughs in fundamental quantum physics research.

The super-thin two-dimensional material, which has become one of the hottest topics in physics in recent years, consists of a single layer of individual, densely packed carbon atoms that are woven into one stable layer like a wire mesh.

Professor Geim has succeeded in using graphene to develop prototypes of tiny transistors – and he believes that in the not all too distant future, graphene transistors could replace those made of silicon.

Since discovering graphene in 2004 with fellow Manchester researcher Dr Kostya Novoselov, Professor Geim has published many high-profile research

papers on his graphene discoveries in prestigious journals such as *Nature* and *Science*.

In 2008 Professor Geim and Dr Novoselov received the prestigious Europhysics Prize, while Geim also received the 2007 Mott Prize for his work on graphene.

The Körber European Science Award is presented annually to scientists working in Europe for their outstanding scientific achievements and in particular for their future-looking research projects. An international trustee committee under the chairmanship of the president of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, Professor Peter Gruss, decides on the awarding of the prize. Among its winners are the Nobel laureates for medicine Luc Montagnier and Françoise Barré-Sinoussi.

Wartime graduate returns to campus

One of the University's longest-standing alumni was welcomed back to the campus recently.

Geoffrey Stone, now nearly 90, who graduated with Double Honours in French and German in 1940, met with a group of final-year students to compare notes before undertaking a nostalgic tour through the bookshelves of the John Rylands University Library.

Over lunch at Christie's Bistro with the current Head of French Studies, Dr Ursula Tidd, and with the Heads of German Studies, Professor Margaret Littler and Dr Matthew Philpotts, Mr Stone shared his experiences as a student in Manchester more than 70 years ago. Rather different from the present student experience, these included the provision of individual tutorials in his rooms at Dalton Hall and shared lodgings during his residence abroad with such intellectual luminaries as André Gide.

Denied an official graduation ceremony because of wartime restrictions on public meetings, Mr Stone's destination after graduation was the Military Intelligence Corps and service in Britain, Europe and the Far East.

After a long career in education as a headteacher and schools inspector, Mr Stone retains a keen interest in education and, in particular, in the teaching of foreign languages.

Mr Stone was impressed by the current strength of the disciplines at Manchester. "I was heartened to see that both Departments are flourishing," commented Mr Stone after his visit. "I was also grateful to the lively and charming students for their interesting comments. You all did me proud!"



www.koerber-award.org

Inspiration from a leading light

One of Biology's leading lights proved an inspiration when he spoke to students at the inaugural Faculty of Life Sciences (FLS) Postgraduate Society lecture.

Professor Bruce Alberts – the world renowned biochemist noted particularly for his extensive study of the protein complexes which enable chromosome replication when living cells divide and a strong commitment to the improvement of science and mathematics education – was invited to speak by the Society.

Organiser Hayley Campbell says: "When he agreed we were really excited; he's a very important figure. And he didn't disappoint – his speech was truly inspiring and when we took him for lunch, a tour

of the Faculty and a poster session, he was really interested in what we wanted to do in the future."

Professor Alberts, now editor in chief at *Science*, is one of the original authors of *The Molecular Biology of the Cell*, a pre-eminent textbook in the field now in its fourth edition.

His speech 'Biology past and biology future: where have we been and where are we going?' drew 500 people to University Place.

Committed in his international work to the promotion of the "creativity, openness and tolerance that are inherent to science," Alberts believes that "scientists all around the world must now band together to help create more rational, scientifically-based societies that find dogmatism intolerable."

PhD studentships

The Neuroscience Research Institute (NRI) recently announced its two latest PhD studentships. The NRI is coordinated from the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences (FMHS), but its work crosses the Faculty of Life Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences as well.

The Institute brings together researchers from science, engineering and medicine backgrounds to produce high quality research in the area of neuroscience. Cross-faculty work is a core target for the NRI and this is facilitated, in part, by the NRI studentship scheme.

The two new PhD students, which begin in October this year, are Josie Austin and Greg Toulson.

Director of the NRI, Professor Matt Lambon-Ralph said: "The selected candidates and projects are excellent additions to the neuroscience activity in the NRI".

A true whiff of ancient times

A group of historians visiting the North West were faced with evidence of the most domestic kind at Manchester's KNH Centre for Biomedical Egyptology - ancient but still recognisably smelly coprolites (fossilised faeces).

The revelation that the Egyptians suffered from serious constipation problems was greeted with some surprise!

The 25-strong Sussex Egyptology Society was visiting Manchester, Bolton and Liverpool as the North West is renowned as a centre of excellence in Egyptology.

The group was also instructed in the arts of preparing DNA samples and examining ancient skulls and taken on a tour of the labs.

The Centre, the first specifically designated research centre for the investigation of Egyptian mummies in the world, hosts a multidisciplinary team of researchers and students experienced in many different areas of science, medicine and Egyptology, and focuses on the application of scientific techniques to ancient remains.

They spent the afternoon examining the extensive collections at the Manchester Museum, where Karen Exell, Curator of Egypt and the Sudan, led a tour of the galleries and stores followed by a handling session examining pottery and beads.



New theory on evolution of flight

A Manchester scientist has put forward a controversial new theory on the evolution of flight.

Dr Robert Nudds (pictured) at the Faculty of Life Sciences points to the obvious but hitherto overlooked fact that modern birds don't offer many clues about how they arrived at their current state of aerial prowess. The key to understanding how flapping flight arose is not how dinosaurs moved their limbs in a bird-like way, but how they came to move both forelimbs together in the first place.

"Birds are poor models of their flightless ancestors, the theropod dinosaurs," he explains. "They are at an advanced morphological stage in the development of flapping flight and possess uniquely avian musculature." So instead of trying to unravel the puzzle from the top down, he took the alternative bottom up approach by winding the clock back 140 million years.

Dr Nudds and Dr Gareth Dyke of University College Dublin, whose findings are published in the journal *Evolution*, studied three feathered Jurassic dinosaurs, *Caudipteryx* and *Protoarchaeopteryx*, and the famous *Archaeopteryx* (pictured below).

They reasoned that the body forms of these animals must have overlapped that of the first

dinosaur to evolve flapping flight, and used physical laws to calculate how much downward thrust each could have generated with its forelimbs, allowing them to estimate the type of morphology required for lift off.

"If they were tree dwellers they would naturally hold their forelimbs out symmetrically, as they jumped from branch to branch or from ground to branch," Dr Nudds says. "However, if they were ground dwellers, which fossil studies suggest is more likely, holding the forelimbs out symmetrically would impede progress while running or moving along the ground. So there must have been another reason for this posture to appear."

He went on: "Our calculations indicate that even moderate wing movements are enough to provide the thrust to propel an animal into the air."

This implies that flapping flight could have been the consequence of a series of gradual changes in wing shape and movement, and did not require a harder to explain large-scale shift.

Similarly, feathers need not have evolved for the purpose of flight. As modified scales, they might have provided insulation - or even been used in a sexual display ritual.





10 Million Euro boost for radio astronomy in Europe

Scientists from the University of Manchester are to benefit from a Euro 10 million grant, designed to support radio astronomy across Europe.

RadioNet is a network of the major radio astronomy observatories across Europe, which is designed to encourage closer working and collaboration. For the past five years RadioNet has been co-ordinated by the University's Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics. And now it has been awarded the funding by the European Commission, as part of the Seventh European Framework Programme (FP7).

"Over the past five years, RadioNet has transformed radio astronomy in Europe", explained Professor Phil Diamond, Director of Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics.

RadioNet is designed to optimise the use of European radio astronomy telescopes and to ensure researchers have access to the radio astronomical facilities they need for their work.

It also aims to ensure technical developments in radio astronomy are supported on a European-wide basis, pooling skills, resources and expertise across Europe; ensuring progress is made quickly and efficiently.

At Jodrell Bank several areas of research and development will be funded as part of the RadioNet project.

They include APRICOT, which is designing the next generation of multi-pixel radio cameras working at radio frequencies of 30-50 GHz; ALBIUS, which focuses on software development for the radio telescopes e-MERLIN, EVN &

IRAM; and UNIBOARD which is designing and building highly complex digital electronics to be used in the analysis of signals received by radio telescopes.

RadioNet funding will also support operations of the e-MERLIN telescope array, enabling others across Europe to make best use of this major new facility.

Over the next three years RadioNet will be co-ordinated by the Netherlands institute for radio astronomy, ASTRON.

Jodrell Bank will also lead a group which will organise RadioNet workshops and schools for students. Co-ordinator Dr Anita Richards, said: "RadioNet funding will help us to inspire and train the next generation of European radio astronomers and engineers."

RadioNet involves 26 partners from 13 different countries.

University launches drive to research technology in developing world

The University of Manchester is launching a new research centre which investigates the contribution information and communication technologies can make to the developing world.

The Centre for Development Informatics officially opens this month with an inaugural talk on 14 May by Professor Subhash Bhatnagar from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

Its internationally acclaimed researchers are working on projects in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Past funders of Development Informatics research at the University include the UK Government and the United Nations.

Co-Directors of the Centre are Professor Richard Heeks from the School of Environment and Development and Dr Brian Nicholson from Manchester Business School.

Professor Heeks said: "The topics we study range from the impact of telecentres in Peru's mountain communities to the use of mobile phones in delivery of micro-finance in Uganda to the democratic implications of blogging in Iran and Indonesia."

"With 20 researchers, the Centre is the world's leading academic location for research on ICTs and development."

"It's a hugely important area of research which can yield significant results for people living in the developing world."

To find out more, visit the CDI Web site at the web address below.

Newspapers gives thumbs down to Government claims on ID cards

National newspapers have portrayed Government policy on ID cards as illiberal, unsafe and being introduced by stealth according to a study published last month.

The four-month snapshot of 280 newspaper articles and letters was carried out by Elisa Pieri, a researcher at The University of Manchester.

The study examined the coverage in four broadsheets and three tabloids, and all their Sunday editions.

It found that newspapers used a range of arguments to condemn the policy on ID cards. Humour

and sarcasm were among the strategies used to undermine the arguments made by the Government.

Some of the arguments promoted by the newspapers were:

- Scheme is unsafe.
- Scheme lacks accountability.
- It is compulsory rather than based on choice.
- Scheme creates an imbalance between security and liberty.
- Scheme is another failed IT project.

Ms Pieri, who is based at the University's ESRC National

Centre for E Social Science, said: "The aim of the study was to see which arguments were used in the media coverage of the ID debate, and the extent to which Government arguments used in rolling out policy might feature in the printed media over that same period."

"The report offers a snapshot of general trends, rather than contrast the coverage of individual newspapers."

"My conclusion is that in the media coverage analysed the newspapers promote and support alternative arguments to those offered in the ID policy discourse".



www.manchester.ac.uk/cdi

In brief

Protein 'magnet' uncovers clue to cancer cell spread

The destruction of a protein 'magnet' could lead to cancer cells breaking away from a tumour and spreading around the body, according to a study by researchers at the University's Paterson Institute.

The team of scientists from the University has discovered that a partnership between two proteins, called Tiam1 and Src, causes a whole group of other proteins to be attracted to Tiam1 - like metal to a magnet.

They found that these proteins are programmed to destroy Tiam1, leading the scientists to uncover an important mechanism that contributes to the spread of cancer.

Tiam1 is normally crucial for preserving the links between cells which cause them to stick to each other. Its destruction breaks the bonds between cancer cells allowing them to break free and spread around the body.

The Cancer Research UK-funded study could help scientists develop drugs that stop the destruction of Tiam1 and potentially stop the spread of cancer.

NY Fellowship

Peter Knight, a senior lecturer in American Studies at the University has been awarded a research fellowship by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. Dr. Knight will conduct research at the library of the New-York Historical Society in New York City for his project "Reading the Market: Trust, Confidence and the Personal Touch in American Finance and Business, 1850-1915."

The Gilder Lehrman Institute awards short-term fellowships to doctoral candidates, postdoctoral scholars, and independent scholars to conduct work in archives in New York City. Dr. Knight is one of twenty-nine Gilder Lehrman Fellows for the first half of 2009.

www.gilderlehrman.org

Confucius Institute talk

The author of a Chinese bestseller was welcomed to the University by the Confucius Institute last month where she spoke about her forthcoming book *From the Heart: The Secrets of Confucius* which is being published in English.

In the autumn of 2006, Professor Yu Dan, a professor of media studies at Beijing Normal University, gave a series of lectures on Confucius which was broadcast on China Central Television. Her highly personal interpretation of Confucian thought was rapturously received.

The transcripts were edited into a book and by September the following year the book had sold over four million legal copies in China and an estimated six million pirated ones, remaining at the top of the Chinese bestseller lists today. Also known as 'The Beauty Professor', Yu Dan is now a household name in China.

Fireflies and jellyfish illuminate causes of infertility



Genes taken from fireflies and jellyfish are literally shedding light on possible causes of infertility and autoimmune diseases in humans.

Scientists are using the luminescent and fluorescent genes to illuminate cells that produce a hormone linked to conditions, which include rheumatoid arthritis and lupus.

The technique will help scientists track the production of the hormone prolactin, which is crucial in ensuring supplies of breast milk in nursing mothers but can be over-produced by some pituitary tumours, causing infertility.

Prolactin has been linked to more than 300 biological functions. It is believed to play a role in autoimmune diseases, such as lupus and rheumatoid arthritis, as well as in the inflammation of cells and tissues.

Scientists from the universities of Manchester, Edinburgh and Liverpool harnessed firefly and jellyfish genes, which enable these creatures to emit light, and used them to create a chemical reaction to light up cells expressing prolactin in rats.

The technique means that scientists can identify when and where prolactin is expressed to look at how the hormone works in real time.

Co-author Professor Julian Davis, from Manchester's School of Clinical and Laboratory Sciences, said: "These findings tell us much more about how a fertility hormone, prolactin, can function in different ways around the body. This is important for understanding its role within the body and could help research looking for treatments for conditions in which prolactin is involved.

"We hope that this better understanding of how and where the hormone is produced will help lead us towards new approaches to tackling inflammatory diseases."

The research – funded by the Wellcome Trust and published in the journal *Molecular Endocrinology* – identified cells producing prolactin throughout the body. This included the pituitary gland, the thymus – an organ in the chest which helps protect against autoimmunity – the spleen and inflammatory cells in the abdominal cavity.

Edinburgh's Sabrina Semprini, who led the study, added: "The lighting up of cells expressing this hormone will help us to understand its role within the body and could help research looking for treatments for conditions in which prolactin is involved."

Scientists make quantum leap in developing faster computers

Scientists have created a molecular device which could act as a building block for future generations of superfast computers.

The ground-breaking research, funded by the European Commission, has been conducted by Dr Richard Winpenny, from the University's School of Chemistry, and Professor David Leigh, from the University of Edinburgh.

Together they have created components that could, one day, be used to develop superfast quantum computers, which would be based on molecular scale technology instead of silicon chips.

They made the breakthrough by combining tiny magnets with molecular machines that can shuttle between two locations without the use of external force. And these manoeuvrable magnets could one day be used as the basic component in quantum computers.

Conventional computers work by storing information in the form of bits, which can represent information in binary code - either as zero or one.

But quantum computers will use quantum binary digits, or qubits, which are far more sophisticated; capable of representing not only zero and one, but a range of values simultaneously.

Their complexity will enable quantum computers to perform intricate calculations much more quickly than conventional computers.

"To perform computation we have to have states where the qubits speak to each other and others where they don't - rather like having light switches on and off," said Professor Winpenny.

"Here we have shown we can bring the qubits together, control how far apart they are, and potentially switch the device between two or more states.

"The remaining challenge is to learn how to do the switching, and that's what we're trying to do now."

Professor David Leigh said: "This development brings super-fast, non-silicon based computing a step closer."

Early cinema “ransacked” theatre repertoire

A University of Manchester historian has charted the little known but enormous contribution of theatre to the film industry in the culmination of a 32-year project.

Professor David Mayer, from the University's School of Arts Histories and Cultures says when the industry was in its infancy, movie makers ransacked the theatre repertoire for the subject matter of their films.

In a new book Professor Mayer, describes how one the most influential early filmmakers – DW Griffith – used theatre to inspire his most famous work - the first ever feature film “Birth of a Nation”.

Among the hundreds of examples he found is the first ever special effects film by J. Searle Dawley called *Rescued from an Eagles Nest*. The subject matter was identical to a play by Con T Murphy called the *Ivy Leaf* (see image).

Professor Mayer said: “Early filmmakers often came from immigrant communities looking for work or were inventors who used the genre of film to showcase their new technology.

“They weren’t particularly interested in original content so it’s not that surprising they would pilfer ideas from the theatre – a much more respectable genre.

“Indeed, when film making began, theatre looked down on the industry as inferior and there was a lot of snobbery. But I feel it’s high time that the roots of film are duly acknowledged: there is no such thing as pre-cinema.”

Griffith appeared in, directed or wrote the screen plays for 570 silent films and talkies from 1908 to the 1930s. He is acknowledged by film buffs as one of the most important film makers of all time.

Professor Mayer added: “Griffith’s contribution to film is remarkable: he invented the close up and different types of camera technology and filming techniques.



Young ex-servicemen at increased risk of suicide

Young men who have served in the British Armed Forces are up to three times more likely to take their own lives than their civilian counterparts, a Manchester team has found.

Researchers at the University's Centre for Suicide Prevention linked UK military discharge data between 1996 and 2005 with details of suicides collected by the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicides and Homicides.

The study, published in the journal *Public Library of Science (PLOS) Medicine*, revealed that ex-servicemen under 24 years old were at greatest risk of suicide, with those in lower ranks and shorter military careers proving most vulnerable.

The report's authors were unable to prove why younger ex-military personnel had higher rates of suicide than men of the same age in the general population but suggest three possibilities.

“One explanation for the higher suicide risk among young ex-military personnel is that those entering military service at a young age are already vulnerable to suicide,” said Professor Nav Kapur, lead author and Professor of Psychiatry and Population Health.

“A second explanation is the difficulty a minority of individuals experience making the transition to civilian life.

“However, a third possibility that we could not explore in this study is that exposure to adverse experiences during military service or active deployment played a role in the two- to three-fold increase in suicide among young veterans, although many of those most at risk had not completed basic training and therefore had not deployed overseas.”

The study, funded by the Ministry of Defence, also found that the suicide risk was highest among young men leaving the Armed Forces within the first two years of discharge.

ESRC Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change given £4.5 million boost

The University of Manchester's Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change (CRESC) is to receive £4.5 million from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

The boost ensures the Centre's core funding will be renewed for a further period of five years from 2009-2014.

CRESC, based at the University and managed with the Open University, is the only major British social science investment to explore issues of culture and social change.

It has developed close links with the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, the BBC, the Office of

National Statistics, and with private sector partners such as KPMG.

CRESC has carried out internationally acclaimed academic work including 'Culture, Class, Distinction' published by Routledge earlier this year.

Carried out by Tony Bennett, Mike Savage, Elizabeth Silva, Alan Warde, Modesto Gayo-Cal and David Wright, the study is the most systematic account of people's cultural tastes and practices in the areas of music, television and film viewing, reading, the visual arts, sport, and eating out ever conducted in the UK.

CRESC's work on financialization

and financial innovation, led by Karel Williams has been prescient in the current financial crisis

Professor Karel Williams, of Manchester Business School, taking over as Convening Director said: "Having established ourselves in our first five years, we now have a series of great new themes interrogating the nature of social and cultural participation, the cultural dimensions of the current crisis of capitalism, and the role of expertise in shaping social change.

"We are pursuing these with international partners from across the globe and with leading public and private sector user groups. It is going to be an exciting time."

msp launches website and corporate network

Manchester Science Park (msp) has launched its new website and corporate network, two separate websites which will work in tandem to support the development of the Science Park's high tech tenant companies.

The new msp website aims to provide Manchester's science and technology communities with a gateway to Manchester's innovation ecosystem.

New features on the website include interactive site maps showing msp's available accommodation in real-time, blogs by industry experts, information and links to both public and private sector business support organisations as well as up to date news from msp and its tenant companies.

The msp corporate network, branded as mspCircuit, aims to provide msp's tenant companies with an online business resource where they can network, share knowledge and become actively involved in msp's community of science and technology companies.

Aizaz Sheikh, msp's Marketing Manager, explained that both websites are aimed at encouraging the Science Park's tenant companies to network, share knowledge and make the most of the City and region's business support resources.

Find out more at www.manchesterscienceparks.co.uk or visit msp's new corporate network at www.mspcircuit.co.uk



Funding to take research from lab to industry

The University of Manchester has been awarded £8.3million by a leading research council, as part of a national drive to transfer research findings from the laboratory to industry.

The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) has awarded Knowledge Transfer Accounts (KTA) - totalling £44 million - to 12 universities across the UK.

These awards will enable universities to enhance relationships with industrial partners, to fund research exploitation and, ultimately, to strengthen business and economic growth in the UK.

The £8.3 million grant to The University of Manchester is the biggest grant made to an institution as part of the KTA programme 2009.

It will be used to fund a number of schemes designed to make 'knowledge transfer' easier, including the secondment of staff between the University and industry.

Miranda McCormick, the University's Knowledge Transfer Manager, says it reflects the University's research quality in engineering and physical sciences and success in building relationships with industry.

"Manchester has a large portfolio of world-class research and it has a tradition of high quality research across the whole breadth of engineering and physical sciences. We also have a solid experience of exploiting that research."

"This grant from the EPSRC reflects our track record in working with industry and other partners and the quality of our plans to build on that success and move forward."

"We want to overcome any remaining barriers that exist. And by the end of the KTA in 2012 we want the relationships between the University and our partners - whether in business, the NHS, or other public sectors - to be even stronger," she added.

Rod Coombs, the University's Vice President for Innovation and Economic Development says the award will enable researchers from the full range of engineering and physical sciences disciplines to maximise their involvement in knowledge transfer.

"At the University, the grant will be focused on enabling all our researchers to respond to major global challenges such as healthcare, energy and security, as well as exploiting research in major areas including advanced materials, advanced engineering, and the digital economy, to the benefit of many sectors of the UK economy," said Professor Coombs.

"Knowledge transfer and the exploitation of research in Manchester are seen as integral to the development of our world-class research base, and the University welcomes the opportunity provided by the EPSRC to enhance our activities in this area."

In addition to the two-way secondments between the University and research users, horizon-scanning events will bring together researchers and potential users from across a range of sectors to explore exploitation possibilities.

Small funds will be made available for market research and prototype development. And a group of staff will be funded to work on shorter-term industrial problems that may be solved by the application of research.



Science park and academic search engines

UMIP has launched two simple new search engines, as powerful tools aimed at helping university researchers and industry connect more easily. They are as simple as Google to use, but just focus on searching specific groups of web sites:

Academia Search - www.academiasearch.info. This searches the research web pages of all UK universities, and is a light touch tool for researchers to find expertise or knowledge holders amongst the peer group.

Innovation Park Search - www.innovationparksearch.info. This searches the web sites of 1,000 companies located in UK Science Parks and Incubators, as a way of finding research partners, technical capabilities or expertise.

Online Intellectual Property (IP) resource

Last year, UMIP launched its IP Awareness Resource at www.manchester.ac.uk/IPresource, co-developed with Eversheds LLP.

The resource features a series of video clips by professionals and academic colleagues on various aspects of IP (including Copyright) and its commercialisation. It gives a valuable insight into the types of IP which can be used to protect your work and how, for example, IP can be commercialised via spin-out or licence with the help of UMIP.

Also featured is information on IP and Academic Materials and within a research contract and consulting environment.

Students create a buzz in Salford school

Biology students have taken their 'Save our Bees' campaign to children at St Philip's Church of England Primary School in Salford.

Eight undergraduates from the Faculty of Life Sciences are on a mission to raise awareness of the declining honey bees in the UK. Honey bees are important for the successful growth of many crops that we rely on for food, such as fruits, vegetables and nuts.

It is estimated that one third of everything we eat has been pollinated by bees. However honey bees are currently facing a crisis, the British bee population has declined at an alarming rate over the last few years, over 30% since 2007. The cause for this is still unclear, although it is likely that the increase in wet weather and the spread of disease-causing parasites are partly to blame.

"It is vital that we protect our honey bees," explained student Keith McDowell. "The bees are dying out and we don't know why. We must all do our bit to help protect the bees as they are incredibly important to our agricultural economy"

During the school visit, the students gave a short presentation to 25 Year 1 and 2 children about the importance of protecting honey bees and taught them about their life cycle. They also planted seeds in the



school gardens to encourage bees to visit. Finally, the children enjoyed a snack of bread and honey - which was a new taste for some of them!

"Environmental protection is a subject that's close to our hearts at St Philips," said head teacher Hazel

Brady. "The children really enjoyed the students' visit and I would welcome the team to the school again."

The students' local crusade is part of the national Save Our Bees campaign (see www.saveourbees.org.uk/index.asp). They have set up a

Facebook group called 'Save the Honey Bees' for anyone to join www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=60201901490 and have produced posters that will be displayed around Manchester.

Medical and Human Sciences Awareness Day

Local Year 10 pupils visited The University of Manchester last month for an action-packed day, in which they explored the array of careers available to them in healthcare and related sciences.

The 'Medical and Human Sciences (MHS) Awareness Day' was attended by nearly 50 pupils aged 14-15 from across the cities of Manchester and Salford, and was organised by widening participation staff at the University.

The event, which has successfully run for five years, is part of the Gateways Plus Mentoring Scheme. Attending pupils are participants in this University of Manchester programme, which offers mentoring support to young people who are interested in pursuing a career in healthcare. Pupils are selected based on their motivation and ability, and also their family background (from a family with little or no history of higher education), and from the lower socio-economic groups.

The MHS Awareness Day gave pupils the chance to find out more about the range of healthcare careers available to them, and what these careers involve in practice. Pupils spent structured time talking to a wide range of healthcare professionals, and also took part in a range of practical taster activities - from simulated key-hole surgery to CPR. Staff from across the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences took part in the day, alongside external clinical practitioners including psychiatrists and ambulance service staff.

A keynote talk was given by Professor Aneez Esmail (Assistant Vice Chancellor for Equality and Diversity and Professor of General Practice at the University). Pupils (and some staff) were surprised to learn from Professor Esmail that of the one million employees in the NHS, only 55,000 are doctors.

For further information contact Dr Myfanwy Williams
Myfanwy.williams@manchester.ac.uk.



What's On

Music and Drama at Manchester

Thurs 7 May, 1.10pm, FREE
Cosmo Rosewald Concert Hall

Quatuor Danel Lunchtime Concert

Only the two outer movements survive of the teenage Schubert's B flat Quartet, but they are gems. Now in his thirties, Bruno Mantovani (no relation!) is one of the foremost French composers of his generation. Ahmed Adnan Saygun was the most prominent 20th-century Turkish composer; composed in 1958 the second of his four quartets is highly Bartokian in its energy and drive.

Thurs 7 May, 2.30pm, FREE
Cosmo Rosewald Concert Hall

Postgraduate student compositions

The University of Manchester's aspiring composers submit their compositions for scrutiny.

Thurs 7 May, 7pm, £5/£3/£2.50
Cosmo Rosewald Concert Hall

Chamber Concert Series

The BBC Philharmonic continues its series of Chamber Concerts at The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama. Principal players from the BBC Philharmonic will perform a programme of chamber music which includes a premiere by the University's own PhD Student, Steven Calver.

Fri 8 May, 7.30pm, £12/£8/£5
Cosmo Rosewald Concert Hall

Quatuor Danel Evening Concert

A welcome return for Robin Ireland of the Lindsays, in a sunny, uplifting postscript to this season's Medelssohn quartets. The Danels complete their Beethoven cycle with his final quartet masterpiece, including the famous *Muss es sein? Es muss sein!* Episode (Must it be? It must be!) And to round off the concert year, Brahms at his grandest and most thrilling.

Sat 16 & Sun 17 May, 7pm, £7/£5
John Thaw Studio Theatre

Queer up North presents.....

Steven Cohen Three Solos Steven Cohen is South Africa's leading performance artist and has recently shown his work at the Pompidou, Paris and Vienna's Kunsthalle. Now he makes his UK debut with a programme of provocative and highly visual pieces, each combining his trademark extraordinary costumes with and innovative use of live video and documentary film.

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

International Society

WINTER TRIPS

Sat 9 May **Lightwater Valley Theme Park**
Sat 9 May **Liverpool (with guided coach tour)**
Sun 10 May **Lake District visiting Aira Force Waterfall and Ambleside**

Sat 16 May **Hadrian's Wall (with tour guide)**
Sun 17 May **Snowdon Mountain Railway and Caernarfon**

Sat 23 May **Warwick Castle's Whitsun Joust**
Sun 24 May **Lake District visiting Muncaster Castle's Festival Of Fools**

Sat 30 May **Lake District visiting Haverthwaite Railway, Lake Windermere and the Visitor Centre**

Sun 31 May **North Wales visiting Penrhyn Castle and Bodnant Gardens**

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@manchester.ac.uk

www.internationalsociety.org.uk

Chaplaincies

St Peter's House Chaplaincy

SUNDAY WORSHIP

11am Holy Communion

12.15am Bible Study

12.45pm 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: 12.15pm 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

Muslim Chaplaincy

South Campus Mosque, McDougall Centre

Jammat (Group Prayer) Daily

Juma Prayer Friday 1.15pm

Honorary Imam:

Imam Habeeb, h_chatti@hotmail.com

North Campus Mosque, Basement of Joule Library, Sackville Street Building

Jammat (Group Prayer) Daily

Juma Prayer Friday 12.30pm

The role of Volunteer Muslim Chaplain is to provide pastoral support, guidance and a listening ear to Muslim staff and students

Chaplains' email: a.sami99@yahoo.co.uk,

mbm1411@hotmail.com,

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



The Manchester Museum

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

Lindow Moss: A Place of Finding until 12 July
This photographic exhibition documents the landscape at Lindow Moss; the mysterious place where the preserved body of Lindow Man was found.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Big Saturday: Manchester Gallery

Sat 9 May, 11am–4pm

Join in this fun-filled family activity day linked to our new Manchester Gallery.

Half-term holidays: Manchester Gallery

Tues 26 until Fri 29 May, 11am–4pm

Join in a variety of craft activities throughout the week linked to our new Manchester Gallery. Find out more at: www.manchester.ac.uk/museum

TALKS AND TOURS

Ideas Café: Lindow Moss: A Place of Finding

Mon 11 May, 6–8pm

Curator talk with exhibition photographer Stephen Vaughan. Book, Free

Showcase: The Global Museum in the Postcolonial World

Wed 20 May, 3–5pm

With Dr Nick Merriman, Director, The Manchester Museum. Drop-in, Free

MANCHESTER CAFÉ SOCIETY

Manchester's Café Society is a place where, for the price of a glass of wine or a cup of coffee, anyone can explore the latest ideas in science, culture and the arts. Talks are either in the café or the Museum's Discovery Centre.

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

Gig Guide

MANCHESTER ACADEMY 1, 2 and 3

Fightstar

Thurs 7 May - £12.50 Adv

Dreadzone

Fri 8 May - £14 Adv

Incassum

Fri 8 May - £6 Adv

The Maccabees

Sat 9 May - £10 Adv

Spear of Destiny

Sat 9 May - £12.50 Adv

Sonic Boom Six

Sat 9 May - £7.50 Adv

Ghostface Killah

Sun 10 May - £19.50 Adv

Metric

Mon 11 May - £9 Adv

Cage The Elephant

Tues 12 May - £10 Adv

Dan Auerbach

Tues 12 May - £13.50 Adv

Andrew Bird

Wed 13 May - £13.50 Adv

Electric Wizard

Fri 15 May - £13 Adv

Street Dogs

Sat 16 May - £8 Adv

Ladyhawke

Sun 17 May - £10 Adv

Cursive

Mon 18 May - £8.50 Adv

Bell X1

Wed 20 May - £8.50 Adv

The Blackout

Weds 20 May - £12.50 Adv

Future Of The Left

Thurs 21 May - £8 Adv

The Smiths Indeed

Fri 22 May - £10 Adv

Cobra Starship

Fri 22 May - £10 Adv

Metronomy

Sun 31 May - £10 Adv

Tickets from:

Students' Union, Oxford Road

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

0871 2200260

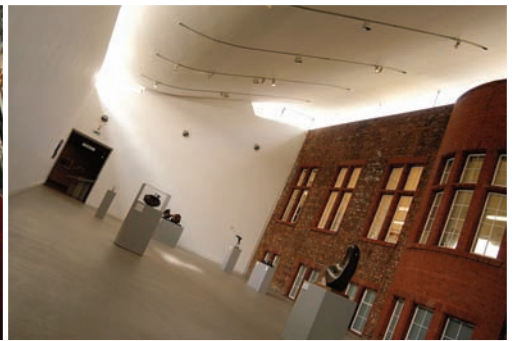
Royal Court (Liverpool) 0151 709 4321 (c/c)

Students' Union

Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL

0161 275 2930

www.manchesteracademy.net



Contact Theatre

Verbally Challenged

Wed 6 May - 7.30pm £5 (Limited FREE tickets for FreeAct members)

Contact sets a new group of writers a different creative challenge each month.

Social Technologies Summit

Thurs 14 May to Sat 16 May - All day Various

Technology & digital sectors connect with the creative vision of the digital arts community.

Adventures of Wound Man & Shirley

by Chris Goode

Mon 18 May to Sat 23 May - 7.30pm (Tue-Fri), 2pm & 5pm (Sat) £10/8

An unconventional tale of a superhero & his sidekick by "British theatre's greatest maverick talent".

Contact Young Actors Company Auditions

Wed 20, Thurs 21 & Wed 27 May - 6pm to 9pm FREE
Want to be a part of CYAC? Come down and audition!

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

Courses for the Public

SUMMER LECTURES

Sat 9 May, 11- 12.30pm and 2-3.30pm, £7

Morning session

British Heroes: From Horatio Nelson to James Bond, Dr Max Jones

Is English Going to the Dogs? What is 'proper English' and should we hold onto it? Jackie Wilkin

Afternoon session

European Elections in Context, Dr Claire Sutherland
An Introduction to Wind Power, Dr Ian Cotton

Sat 16 May, 10am- 4pm, £45 (10% staff discount)

Day School

The Geology of Iceland, Dr John Stevenson

The Anglo-American "Special Relationship" since 1945, Dr Jonathon Coleman

Renaissance Drama, Dr Jerome de Groot

Transcending the Ego, Steve Taylor

Verdi's Don Carlos - An Introduction, Dr Gareth Curtis

A Beginner's Guide to How the Brain Works, Dr Rochelle Ackersley

Mon 11 May, 10am- 4pm, £45 (10% staff discount)

Day School

Samuel Johnson at 300 - A Voyage around Rasselas, Dr Bill Hutchins

Understanding the Evolution of the Universe, Professor Ian Morison

Mon 18 May, 10am- 4pm, £45 (10% staff discount)

Day School

Terror on the Streets of Victorian Britain, Phillip Gooderson

A Beginner's Guide to the Philosophy of Immanuel Kant, Paula Satne Jones

Fri 22 May, 10am- 4pm, £45 (10% staff discount)

Day School

An Introduction to Taoism, Dr Elliot Cohen

Wed 27 May, 10am- 4pm, £45 (10% staff discount)

Day School

Mission Possible - Investigating the Solar System, Dr Jamie Gilmour, Dr Sarah Crowther and Dr Grant Allen

For a full list of all our courses and an application form please visit our website or call in at our Reception, 10am - 4pm Monday to Friday. Pre-enrolment is required. We do not accept telephone bookings.

CCE

1st Floor, Ellen Wilkinson Building

0161 275 3275

www.manchester.ac.uk/coursespublic

John Rylands Library (Deansgate)

eCollection Close-Up with Library Tour every third Thursday in the month, 12.15pm

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

A Small Eternity: The Shape of the Sonnet Through Time until 27 June

Using sumptuously illuminated books, early printed editions, unique literary manuscripts and writers' letters, this exhibition traces the stories told by the sonnet.

Histories of Healing: Celebrating 175 years of the Manchester Medical Society until 1 June

Including a selection of work by Daksha Patel and L S Lowry's, 'Ancoats Hospital Outpatients' Hall', courtesy of the Whitworth Art Gallery.

Conservation in Action Tues 5 May, 10am

The Conservation team will be out and about in the galleries and Historic Reading Room. Take the opportunity to meet them and to talk about their work.

The Works of John Gould Wed 6 May 12pm

Enjoy the opportunity to take a closer look at some of the most beautiful bird books ever produced before they go on display later this year in our forthcoming exhibition, A Natural Selection: The Life and Literature of Charles Darwin.

Open Studio - Conservation Close-Up Wed 13 May 12pm

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

Unusual Views: Library Tours for Photographers Tues 19 May 12pm

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

Rubbing Away at the Past: Textural Tours of the Library Sat 23 May 12pm

On this tour you will be encouraged to take rubbings of the textured and decorated surfaces found throughout the Library. Stone walls, carved wood and decorative metalwork all lend themselves to the traditional art of taking a rubbing.

Histories of Healing - Collection Close-Up Sat 30 May 12pm

With the curator of Histories of Healing, explore the history of medicine through a closer look at the fascinating collections held in the Library. This is a rare opportunity to view early printed books and manuscripts which document the development of medical science and our understanding of how the human body works.

A Small Eternity: The Bigger Picture - Exhibition tour and collection close-up Mon 1 June 12pm

Take this opportunity to hear more about the objects on display and discuss the themes of the exhibition with the curator. You will also be invited to take a closer look at some related material from our collections.

Public opening hours

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

Reader opening hours

Mon-Wed 10am-5pm, Thurs 10am-7pm, Fri-Sat 10am-5pm
FREE ADMISSION

The John Rylands Library

150 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 3EH

0161 306 0555

email jrl.visitors@manchester.ac.uk

www.manchester.ac.uk/library

The Whitworth Art Gallery

DISPLAYS/COLLECTIONS

Putting on the Glitz, wallpapers and wall coverings with that extra something until Oct 2009

Traditionally, wall coverings incorporating precious metals could only be afforded by the wealthy. For those aspiring to wealth, such luxury was highly desirable. Putting on the Glitz explores how this desire has been (and can still be) satisfied, both by the real thing and extremely effective imitations.

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.

Art and Labour's Cause is One, Walter Crane and Manchester 1880-1915 until Sept 2009

The exhibition features items such as book illustrations, political cartoons, socialist emblems and works of art.

Agents of Change until Summer 2009

The Whitworth has recently purchased the final edition of Lynn Hershman Leeson's most significant work of art, the 172 item Roberta Breitmore. A small collection of this work will be shown alongside five newly acquired monographs by Tracey Emin.

EVENTS

Colourful Sundays

Every Sunday 1.30pm - 3.30pm, Family Friendly, Free
Drop into the gallery any Sunday afternoon for free and fun creative activities at Colourful Sundays. Suitable for all ages, no need to book.

Tuesday Talks

Every Tuesday 11am -12.30pm, Free
Each week an artist, thinker or critic talks about their work, influences and inspirations,

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

The Whitworth Art Gallery

Oxford Road, Manchester

0161 275 7450

email whitworth@manchester.ac.uk

Jodrell Bank

Astro Party

Sat 9 May, 8.30pm - 11.30pm

An opportunity to look at the night sky through an optical telescope, weather permitting, and listen to a Jodrell Bank Astronomer talk the wonders of the night sky. Soup, roll and a hot drink are included in the ticket price. Tickets Limited, Adults £10, Children £9

Children's Guided Walk of the Aboretum

Wed 27 May, 11.30am

A family walk of the Arboretum to see the blossom and discover some of the legends about trees and plants. Normal admission charge applies, no extra charge for this event.

Ask and Engineer/Astronomer

Tues 26 to Fri 29 May, 2pm

Ask a Jodrell Bank Astronomer or Engineer all those burning questions you have about the telescope or Jodrell Bank. No extra charge.

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01477 571339

www.manchester.ac.uk/jodrellbank/viscen



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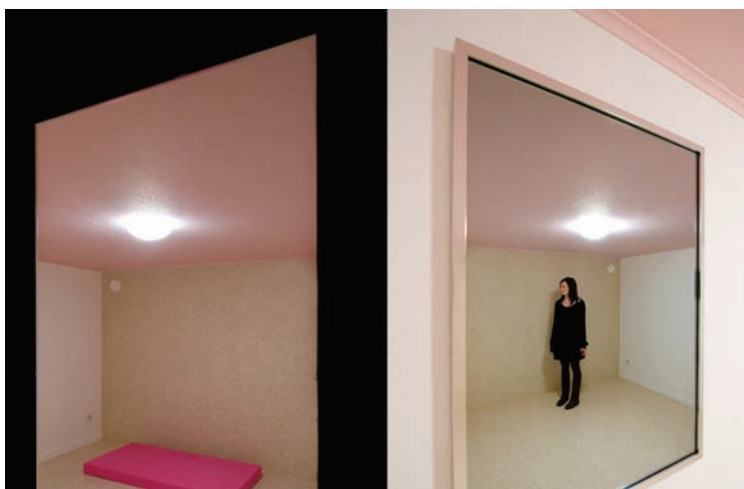
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Discover the Whitworth



Museums at Night

Tours by candlelight, battleship boogies, after-dark fire-spinning and lots, lots more. 'Museums at Night 2009', organised by Culture24, takes place on May 15, 16 and 17 and is part of the European-wide *Nuits des Musées* celebrations.

At the Whitworth, 'Museums at Night' really does mean pitch darkness as the unmissable *Kinderzimmer* opens from 6pm until midnight on Friday 15 May. In an utterly blacked-out gallery space the uneasy visitor enters alone. There they encounter Gregor Schneider's installation of a ghostly children's nursery room, replicated from Garzweiler, a village

since demolished to make way for opencast mining in the artist's Rhineland home.

Garzweiler was destroyed as part of a massive opencast mining operation that has swept across parts of North Rhine-Westphalia. This type of mining gouges huge canyons through the countryside destroying whole towns and displacing communities. It is set to continue to the middle of this century when the reserves of coal will be exhausted.

As a double of a space that no longer exists, *Kinderzimmer* has an eerie status. It also recalls Manchester's standing as a city shaped by the losses

and gains of its own post-industrial revolution. Haunting and unsettling, "if you can stand it, it is the most exciting and compelling single space created anywhere in Britain this month" (Esquire).

And if all this creates the need to banish nightmares, there's music and socialising in the gallery too until late. This sell-out installation has put Manchester and the Whitworth firmly on the map for great cultural destinations. This is the only UK showing of this international new commission, and Museums at Night is a unique opportunity to experience *Kinderzimmer* before it closes on 31 May.

 www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth

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News Contact

News and story ideas

Internal Communications Office

tel 0161 275 2112

email uninews@manchester.ac.uk

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

Deadline 12 noon 14 May 2009

Events Contact

Events and listings information

Philippa Adshead

tel 0161 275 2922

email unievents@manchester.ac.uk

Deadline 12 noon 14 May 2009

Adverts Contact

Ads

Janice Brown

tel 0161 275 2113

email uniads@manchester.ac.uk

Deadline 12 noon 14 May 2009

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