

your manchester

The Magazine for Alumni and Friends
April 2010

Mark Kermode back on campus

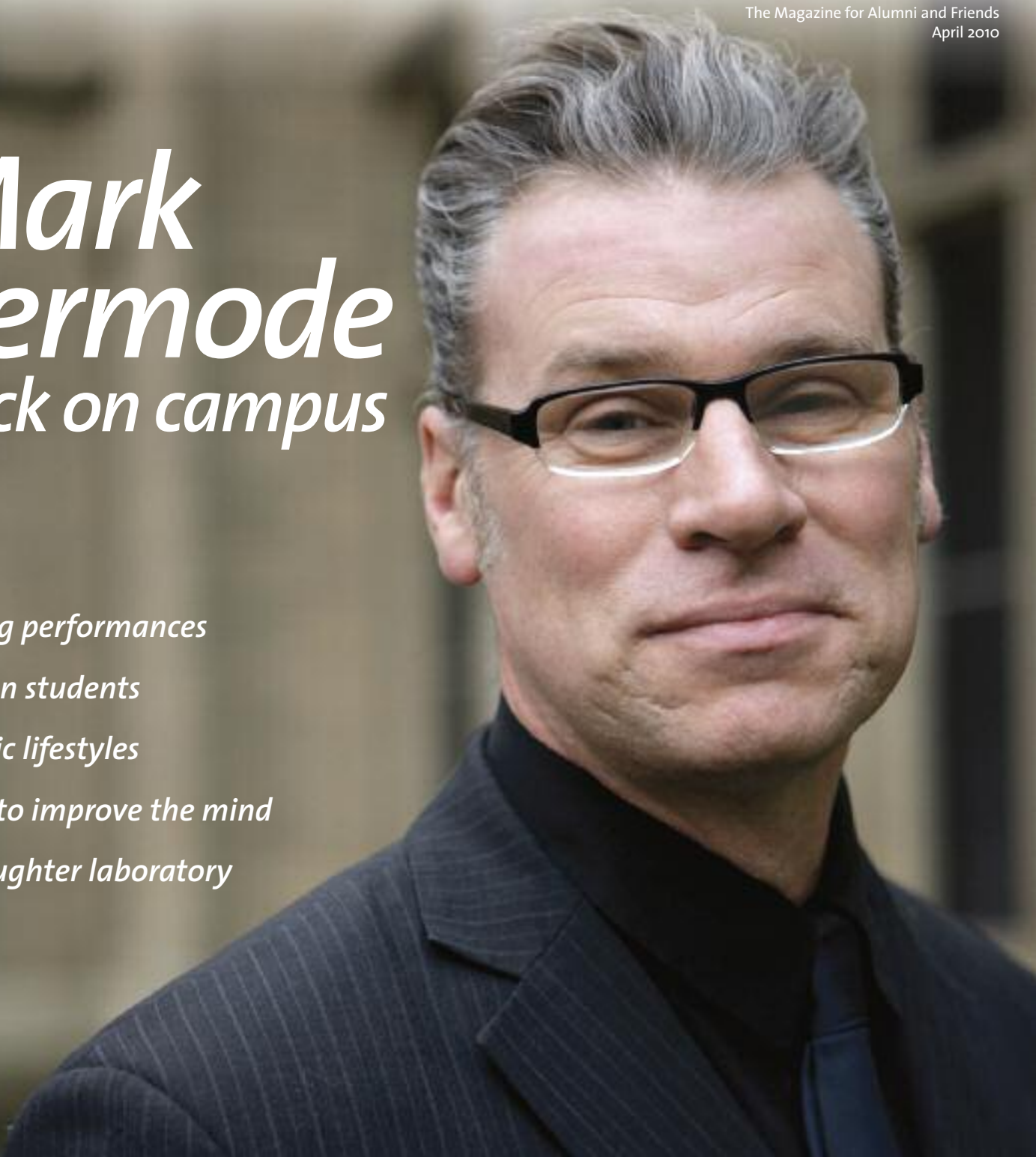
Healing performances

Amis on students

Frenetic lifestyles

Drugs to improve the mind

The laughter laboratory





President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert

features...



welcome to *your* Manchester

Welcome to this latest edition of *Your Manchester*, the magazine for alumni of The University of Manchester.

This will be the last time that I will be writing in the magazine as President and Vice-Chancellor as I have decided to retire at the end of the current academic year. I will have been in post for almost six and a half years by then, although for the first seven months prior to 1 October 2004 my role was that of President-elect working alongside the Vice-Chancellors of the two merging institutions.

Two things have determined the timing of my departure. First, as some of you may know, I have had nagging health problems over the past couple of years, culminating in heart bypass surgery last September. I am feeling well enough and energetic enough to be confident about the next few months, but it would have been irresponsible for me to give the same assurances to the University community and its Board of Governors about a further extended period in office.

Which leads to the second timing consideration. We have reached an important watershed in the development of the University, making 2010 a sensible time for a change of leadership, irrespective of personal factors.

The Manchester 'merger' is effectively over, and has been an unambiguous success - a reality reflected in our outstanding performance in the Research Assessment Exercise 2008, in our impressive climb up respected international university rankings since 2004, and in the physical transformation of the Manchester campus through a massive capital investment of over £400 million.

We have also begun to make progress on our major teaching and learning reform agenda and address the unsatisfactory performance by this University in the National Student Survey (NSS). *Blackboard*, a state-of-the art online learning environment, is now available to all our students and we have begun construction

of a major new student learning facility at the heart of the campus. We are also making other changes in order to offer students more purposeful curricula and to re-personalise the student learning experience.

A new, powerful institutional culture has developed around our ambitious *Manchester 2015 Agenda*, bringing with it a genuine sense of institutional momentum around the pursuit of scholarly excellence in all its forms. Over the past few months, we have been revising our *Manchester 2015 Strategic Plan* to take account of the progress that we have made so far and to clarify our Goals and Objectives. The new document can be seen on the University website at www.manchester.ac.uk/2015

It has been a matter of immense good fortune that the Manchester merger took place in a relatively benign financial climate in UK higher education. We took prudent, but significant, financial risks to empower the new institution to take full advantage of

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Your Manchester is published by the Communications, Media and Public Relations Division in conjunction with the Division of Development and Alumni Relations, The University of Manchester.

For further information concerning any of the articles in this issue please contact: alumni@manchester.ac.uk

The articles printed here, to the best of our knowledge, were correct at the time of going to press. We cannot guarantee that all articles submitted will be printed and we reserve the right to edit material where necessary. Furthermore, the views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of The University of Manchester, The University of Manchester Alumni Association, or the Editor.



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the opportunities afforded by the merger, but we then took decisive action to balance our books and ensure that the University budget is now back in surplus.

Thank goodness that we did, because the external funding climate for all UK universities is now taking a dramatic turn for the worse. The kinds of bold strategies that represented prudent risk six years ago - and that in Manchester's case were vindicated by the results achieved - could not have been pursued responsibly during a period of public funding stringency of the kind that UK higher education now faces.

While I will be leaving The University of Manchester in a healthy financial position, even the very strongest institutions will find it extremely challenging to manage the sheer scale of the public funding cuts likely to be compounded year-on-year over the next five years or so. At the same time, I am aware that 'hard times' create major opportunities for strong,

strategically-focused institutions like ours that do not exist to the same extent in easier circumstances.

One of the secret ingredients of the success of the University over the past six years has been the active and passionate support that we have received from our 230,000 graduates around the world. I have had the privilege of meeting many of you here on the campus and on my travels overseas over the past six years and I have seen for myself the high esteem in which you hold your University and the wide variety of ways that you continue to offer it your support.

Thank you for that support.

Alan Gilbert

Professor Alan Gilbert
President and Vice-Chancellor

Hidden star bursts into sight

Astronomers at the Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics have discovered one of the hottest stars in the Galaxy with a surface temperature of around 200,000 degrees - 35 times hotter than the Sun.

Despite numerous attempts by astronomers across the world, the mysterious dying star at the heart of the Bug nebula, one of the brightest and most beautiful of the planetary nebulae, has never been seen before.

"This star was so hard to find because it is hidden behind a cloud of dust and ice in the middle of the nebula", said Professor Albert Zijlstra.

"Planetary nebulae like the Bug form when a dying star ejects much of its gas back into space and they are among the most beautiful objects in the night sky.

"Our own Sun will do this in about five billion years time. The Bug nebula, which is about 3,500 light years away in the constellation Scorpius, is one of the most spectacular of all planetary nebulae."

Using the recently refurbished Hubble Space Telescope, a team of astronomers, led by Professor Zijlstra, has shed new light on the nebula with a set of spectacular images.

The images were taken to show off the new improved Hubble after it began work again in September.

Professor Zijlstra added: "It's extremely important to understand planetary nebulae such as the Bug Nebula, as they are crucial to understanding our own existence on Earth. The elements necessary for life, especially carbon, are created inside stars, and ejected into space as part of these planetary nebulae."



New National Clinical Director for Dementia

Professor Alistair Burns will promote better care of people with dementia within the NHS and social care communities and provide leadership for the implementation of the National Dementia Strategy.

Formerly the University's Professor of Old Age Psychiatry, Professor Burns developed the South Manchester Memory Clinic which provides specialist assessment and diagnosis for people with memory problems. He is also an instrumental part of the Old Age Psychiatry General Hospital liaison service and helped establish a Dementia Drug Treatment clinic.

Professor Burns said: "I am delighted to have been appointed to the post of National Clinical Director for Dementia. In the past few years, there has been a great deal of public interest in dementia and several influential initiatives, in particular the National Dementia Strategy. The challenge now is to build on this to make a real positive difference to people with dementia, their families and carers. I very much look forward to working with colleagues to realise this ambition."



Providing support to Haitians following earthquake devastation

Professor Tony Redmond, the Deputy Director of the new Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute, has recently returned from Haiti where he devised health needs assessments for a number of agencies including the British Department for International Development. He also led a team of surgeons providing emergency medicine alongside the charity Merlin.

The Institute was established in September 2009 under Director Rony Brauman, a former president of the internationally-renowned relief organisation, Médecins Sans Frontières. Its unique, multi-disciplinary approach draws on the skills of medics and social scientists to shape relief efforts in global emergencies.

Professor Redmond is also involved in ongoing medical development work with Chinese doctors after leading the UK's emergency response team in Wenchuan which was devastated by an earthquake in 2008.

"My original appointment by the Foreign Office in May 2008 involved a lot of spinal cord injury management and working with people who had limbs amputated as a result of crush injuries," said Professor Redmond.

"Following on from this, we have worked with the Chinese to develop a Major Incident Medical Management Support training programme and six Chinese doctors recently came to Manchester to complete this. In 2010, we will be rolling out the course in China, where it will be adapted by the Chinese."

In addition, a medical student exchange programme is being set up between the University and Chinese medical schools, following similar principles to existing exchange initiatives with Kosovo, Uganda, Malawi and Egypt.

Professor Redmond was the first Clinical Director of the University Clinical Centre in Pristina following the NATO invasion of Kosovo in 1999.

"I was asked recently by the hospital and medical school to go back and help them with further development and the outcome was extremely positive," said Professor Redmond. "We agreed to develop formal links between the Kosovo and Manchester medical schools and will be looking to set up an exchange programme involving medical students from both schools."

Accompanying him to Kosovo were Dr Jenny Peterson, a social scientist, and MA student Natalie Wood, who formed a multi-disciplinary team there. This approach sets the HCRI apart from other UK-based relief organisations.

"We are writing a research paper on my work in Kosovo in which we look at the situation now, ten years on, from a medical as well as a political point of view," explained Professor Redmond. "Healthcare and politics are very closely connected in every country and the HCRI is unique in that it has medical and humanities people working very closely together."

Commenting on the formation of the HCRI, its executive director Professor Bertrand Taithe said: "The project is driven by a desire to inform and support policy and decision makers, to optimise joint working between partner organisations, and to foster increased understanding and debate in the field of humanitarianism."

"We hope to become the leading centre for the renewal of thinking about humanitarian intervention, and the best place where medical practitioners and academics from the humanities side can meet and inform one another," added Professor Taithe.

Grant success for foetal medicine

University researchers working towards treatments for the pregnancy complications pre-eclampsia and fetal growth restriction have been awarded £2.4 million.

Pre-eclampsia – a group of conditions that result in high blood pressure in expectant mothers – can be fatal, while fetal growth restriction, where the baby does not grow properly in the womb, results in a greater risk of death or handicap.

The five-year programme grant from the Medical Research Council has been awarded to Professor Colin Sibley, Dr Sue Greenwood and Dr Mark Wareing in Manchester's Maternal and Fetal Health Research Centre based at St Mary's Hospital, together with collaborations in Cambridge, Harwell and Alberta.

Professor Sibley said: "Pre-eclampsia and fetal growth

restriction are diseases with many different causes and are the most dangerous pregnancy complications. There are currently no treatments available other than Caesarean section or inducing labour.

"Some of the causes are similar to those in other conditions, such as cardiovascular disease and cancer, and our search will determine whether the same drugs that are useful in those diseases can be used in treating pregnancy complications."

A further £220,000 has been awarded by the MRC to fellow Maternal and Fetal Health Research Centre scientists, Professor John Aplin and Dr Lynda Harris. Their research will examine an enzyme called MMP-12 and whether blocking its actions may be a therapeutic intervention in complicated pregnancies.

Meanwhile, Dr Stuart Pickering-Brown and Professor David



Mann, in the School of Translational Medicine, have been awarded £1 million of a £4.5 million programme grant by the Wellcome Trust and Medical Research Council to identify genetic risk factors in motor neurone disease.

Working with colleagues at King's College, London, the Manchester researchers will investigate a gene called FUS – known to play a role in motor neurone disease – in dementia patients with frontotemporal labour degeneration (FTLD).



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 the 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 room 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!"

US honour for Manchester physicist

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has honoured University physicist for his exceptional scientific achievements.

Professor André Geim FRS Langworthy and Royal Society 2010 Anniversary Research Professor of Physics at the University, is the recipient of the prestigious John J Carty Award for the Advancement of Science

The award is bestowed for noteworthy and distinguished accomplishments in any field of science within the charter of the NAS.

Professor Geim, who is the only non-US recipient of this award, has been honoured for his experimental realisation and investigation of graphene, the two-dimensional form of carbon, which he discovered in 2004 with Dr Kostya Novoselov.

Professor Geim has been based at the University since 2001. His other notable achievement includes the development of a biomimetic adhesive that later became known as 'gecko tape,' which mimics the creature's ability to cling on to surfaces. He is also known for his experiments on diamagnetic levitation, including levitating a frog in a magnetised cylinder!

Since discovering graphene, Professor Geim has published many high-profile research papers on his graphene discoveries in prestigious journals such as *Nature* and *Science*. He has already won a string of awards for his work including the prestigious Europhysics Prize in 2008 and the The Körber European Science Award in 2009. He is tipped for a Nobel prize.



Established by the American Telephone and Telegraph Co, the Carty Award – a medal and \$25,000 prize recognising noteworthy and distinguished accomplishment in any field of science – is being presented in the area of physics in 2010.

Previous winners of the award include Nobel Prize Winner Sir William Lawrence Bragg, who was appointed Langworthy Professor of Physics at the University in 1919 and held this post till 1937.

Overcoming adversity to graduate

Karen Buckle has graduated from Manchester with first class honours, despite being autistic and a single mother.

Karen achieved the highest mark on the Cognitive Neuroscience and Psychology course, winning one of only five Wellcome Trust Studentships to study for a Masters in Health Care, Ethics and Law.

But she had a long and difficult journey to graduation. Born in Canada and unable to speak properly until the age of six, Karen was believed to be severely autistic and mentally retarded. She was 're-diagnosed' as gifted at eight but was bullied throughout her school career until the age of 16 when she won a scholarship to attend a girls' boarding school.

However, with family problems and no proper diagnosis for her condition, Karen failed to apply for university. Several tough years followed in which she was hospitalised with depression and gave birth to her first daughter Kendra who was taken into care.

At 23, Karen was finally diagnosed with a high functioning form of autism. She also met her British husband Ian online, moved to Britain to be with him and had two more daughters, Antonia and Erin. She won a two year court case for custody of her first daughter.

Karen and her husband separated amicably, but this did not stop Karen from setting out to achieve her lifelong ambition of going to university. When the girls were old enough, she completed an access course at her local college and applied for a place on a Neuroscience and Psychology degree course at Manchester.

Karen has recently begun her masters degree in Health Care Ethics and Law. She succeeded, in part, thanks to the support of staff at the University and from her friends, family and classmates. "I have found my home in academia" she says. "So much of my life has been focused on what I can't do, and now I am in a place where I am good at something. I feel proud and terrified and amazed. I made it."



Photo by Nick Ogden ©



New clues in Easter Island hat mystery

A team of archaeologists has come one step closer to unravelling the mystery of how the famous statues dotting the landscape of Easter Island in the Pacific acquired their distinctive red 'hats'.

Dr Colin Richards, from The University of Manchester and Dr Sue Hamilton, from University College London, are the first archaeologists ever to have excavated Easter Island's statue hat quarry, known to the locals as 'Puna Pau'.

The team examined the way the hats, weighing several tons, were moved by Polynesians between 500 and 750 years ago.

The discovery of a road and a ceremonial axe by the team, who are the first British archaeologists to work on the island since 1914, has thrown new light on the mystery.

"We now know that the hats were rolled along a road made from a cement of compressed red scoria (volcanic rock-like

pumice) dust with a raised pavement along one side," said Dr Richards.

"It is likely that they were moved by hand but three logs could also have been used," he added. "The mint condition of the ceremonial axe-like tool used for squaring up logs or hollowing out timber, perhaps in canoe construction – suggests that it was not a quarry tool but an offering left by a worker."

Dr Hamilton said: "The hat quarry is inside the crater of an ancient volcano and on its outer lip. A third of the crater has been quarried away by hat production. So far we have located more than 70 hats at the ceremonial platforms and in transit. Many more may have been broken up and incorporated into the platforms."

The axe and the way the road is lined with hats along one side, suggests, say the team, that the road was a ceremonial avenue leading to the quarry itself.

Gorillas are new source of HIV, scientists reveal

Scientists have discovered that gorillas are a source of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1), having diagnosed a Cameroonian woman living in Paris with a strain that is different to those previously found to cause HIV-1 infections. This is the first human infection of HIV that is clearly linked to gorillas and not chimpanzees.

HIV-1 is responsible for the AIDS pandemic that currently affects 33 million people worldwide. HIV-1 originated as the result of cross-species transmissions of Simian Immunodeficiency Virus (SIV) found in chimpanzees, which is presumed to be a result of people coming in to contact with infected bush meat. HIV/AIDS was first recognised by the scientist community in the 1980s, while the first introduction of the virus into the human population is estimated to have been near the beginning of the twentieth century, in the region of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Now a French team, in collaboration with David Robertson and Jonathan Dickerson in the Faculty of Life Sciences, has found the first definitive transfer of HIV-1 from a non-chimpanzee source, a gorilla. The unusual HIV-1 infection was found in a 62-year-old Cameroonian woman living in Paris. It probably represents a new human lineage that is distinct from those previously identified.

Dr Robertson, whose study was published in *Nature*, said "The discovery of this novel HIV-1 lineage highlights the continuing need to monitor closely the emergence of new HIV variants. This demonstrates that HIV evolution is an ongoing process. The virus



can jump from species to species, from primate to primate, and that includes us; pathogens have been with us for millions of years and routinely switch host species."

Obituaries

During 2009, UMIST lost two of its leading lights; here we remember Professor Bob Boucher and Professor Harold Hankins

Professor Bob Boucher 1940-2009

Professor Bob Boucher, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of UMIST between 1995 and 2001, died on 25 March 2009.

During his tenure he expanded the biosciences to stand alongside UMIST's traditional strengths in the physical sciences and engineering, and created the University's first ever clinical chairs. He was also a pivotal figure in securing a new building for the School of Management and strengthening its alliance with the Manchester Business School, so that together they became one of Europe's premier academic centres for business and management.

In 2001, Professor Boucher was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sheffield, the continuation of a long association with Sheffield where he had previously been Pro-Vice-Chancellor and had led the mechanical engineering department.

Professor Boucher was appointed a CBE in 2000 for his services to higher education and the engineering profession.

After retiring as Vice-Chancellor at Sheffield in 2007, he held many prominent positions including Chairman of the City's Museums Trust and a Deputy Lieutenant of South Yorkshire.

He made a significant contribution to the maintenance and improvement of quality in higher education through his involvement with the Quality Assurance Agency and the Higher Education Funding Council for England. He was also an influential figure on the international stage, working on behalf of Universities UK, the British Council and the Association of Commonwealth Universities to maximise the recruitment of overseas students to British universities.



Professor Bob Boucher

Above all else, Bob Boucher was a family man, devoted to Rosemary, his wife of 43 years, and their three children – Jeremy, Tim and Justine.

Professor Harold Hankins 1930-2009

Professor Harold Hankins, who died in May 2009 aged 78, was Principal and Vice-Chancellor of UMIST from 1984 to 1995. During his time at the helm of the University he stabilised its finances, substantially increasing its annual research income from £2.5 million to nearly £18 million. He also oversaw an ambitious programme of structural expansion.

Born on 18 October 1930, Harold attended Crewe Grammar School and became an apprentice with The London Midland and Scottish Railway in 1947. He studied electrical engineering on a part-time basis at Manchester College of Technology (later to become UMIST). After graduating in 1955, he married Kathleen and took up a post at the Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co Ltd. Following a successful spell as Assistant Chief Engineer, Harold returned to academia as a Lecturer at UMIST and embarked on a PhD. After completing his doctorate, he was appointed a Senior Lecturer and then Professor of Electrical Engineering in 1974.

From 1979 to 1981, Harold was Vice-Principal of UMIST. Under his watchful eye UMIST grew in both international



Professor Harold Hankins

prominence and physical size - Harold commissioned the Joule Library and the Weston Centre, and invested in several new state-of-the-art student accommodation blocks. Over a short period of time UMIST was awarded a Queen's Award for Export Achievement, The Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher Education, and two Prince of Wales Awards for Innovation.

Throughout his tenure, Harold maintained his research interests, collecting ten separate patents over the years for his work with computer visual display systems. He was appointed a CBE for services to higher education in 1996 and received Honorary Doctorates from UMIST, The University of Manchester and the Open University. He was also awarded the prestigious Reginald Mitchell Gold Medal by the Association of Engineers in 1990 and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 1993.

As Principal of UMIST, Harold entertained many university groups at his house in Glossop, and found the time to sit on the board of governors of both South Cheshire College and Cheadle Hulme School. He also cultivated a keen interest in military history.

His name lives on at the University within the Harold Hankins Building in the Manchester Business School. He is survived by his wife Kathleen and three sons Anthony, Matthew and Nicholas.

**Your
Manchester
News**

Do you want to hear more news from your University? If so, sign up to Your Manchester Online (www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester) and click on Your Manchester News. You will also receive our e-newsletter six times per year. See page 41 for details.



University Place

“Students still use note books and pens!”

How much has the student experience altered over the last 50 years? Peter Readle, a maths graduate who studied here in the 1960s, had a good look around campus recently to see for himself

“On one level the place has changed radically but on another it is essentially the same,” said Mr Readle who is the alumni representative on the University’s Board of Governors.

“In the 1960s there were no PCs or cell phones. The physical facilities for students are so much better than in my day. Lecture theatres are brighter and more spacious, slides have been replaced by white boards and power points and interactive learning centres. But despite all this, from what I have seen and been told today, students still use note books and pens most of the time. They prefer it!

Mr Readle said he thought the investments made in the whole of the infrastructure of the campus had changed the way students work. “We had never

heard of ‘break out’ areas for students to work in small groups, unless it was in the bar or hall of residence. In fact, apart from formal lectures and tutorials, my friends and I rarely worked in the University’s maths department but tended to do our own study in the library or back in our halls of residence or flats.”

He also gained the impression, from talking to current students, that the Students’ Union is a lot more effective than it used to be. “The liaison with the University management means that everyone is working together to make sure student learning is as good as it can be,” he said.

Away from the academic side of things, Mr Readle noticed other changes: “I’m not sure exactly how the entertainment side works for undergraduates these days,

but in my day a typical Saturday night out for my friends and I would be at Belle Vue for stock car racing followed by a take away and beers, usually at Hulme Hall.

“Looking round the accommodation, the kitchens are so much better now! However, I don’t see anywhere to park today. Forty years ago I had no difficulty finding a spot for my old mini van...”

Parking aside, much has altered at Manchester since the 1960s of course, and over recent months great strides have been made to ensure that student learning is as effective as possible. Colin Stirling, Vice-President for Teaching and Learning, said that both the undergraduate and postgraduate provision had recently undergone a thorough review process.



The Alan Turing Building

Photo by Professor Nick Higham ©



The Students' Union



Peter Readle

"All recommendations to improve the quality of the student experience are being implemented," he said. "Changes will ensure an emphasis on personal contact and support for individuals, coupled with important curricular and skills developments."

Much of the focus has been on making sure that all schools are able to provide timely, high quality student feedback. "We've listened to our students and they have been telling us that our feedback process could be improved," said Professor Stirling. "We've listened to the suggestions and comments from the students and, after months of consultations with students and staff, a new feedback policy has been drawn up so that students get feedback they can react to within a reasonable time frame."

In addition, work has now begun on the development of the University's iconic £30 million 'Learning Commons' building which aims to provide a world-class 21st century learning environment for students.

Demolition work has just started on the former Refectory and Moberly Tower buildings which are flanked by Oxford Road, Lime Grove and Burlington Street.

The Learning Commons, which is due to open its doors in the summer of 2012, will accommodate more than one thousand students in stimulating and comfortable surroundings. There will be high quality IT facilities and a campus hub for student-centered activities, plus a variety of learning support services.

Professor Stirling said the Learning Commons would be a beacon for student learning, demonstrating the University's "genuine commitment to students and the provision of high quality learning spaces fit for contemporary learning practices."

Jan Wilkinson, University Librarian, described the idea as "a perfect example of the Library reaching beyond its boundaries to work collaboratively with its partners to create a learning environment suited to the needs of future generations of students."

Sustainability will be a major feature of the new building, which will include energy efficiency and CO₂ monitoring to minimise energy wastage - something that would have really blown the minds of our students back in the 1960s!

Making a drama out of a crisis

Drama can be a powerful tool in times of conflict as two projects examining the relationship between performance and healing have discovered





Arts performances in war ravaged countries such as Sri Lanka, Gaza and Rwanda - as well as in prisons in Britain - have been uncovering the extent to which drama can enable the healing process to take place.

According to James Thompson, Professor of Applied and Social Theatre, many people in times of distress turn to the performing arts to help deal with their problems.

Professor Thompson has been instrumental in setting up two unique organisations based at the University, to explore the relationship between performance and healing in times of conflict.

The Theatre in Prisons project began in 1992. Over the years, it has established a strong reputation for creative work with prisoners. Staff have worked in prisons across this country and in the US, South Africa and throughout Europe.

The project has now become a charity, funded by Arts Council England NW, although it retains strong links with the Drama Department and has created one of the longest established undergraduate training courses in Theatre in the Criminal Justice System.

Director Simon Ruding said the idea started from the belief that theatre and related arts have the power to transform people's lives.

"That vision continues," he said. "Although theatre will always be our

primary art form, we draw upon a range of art form approaches in the development of our work."

Projects include delivering creative drama-based workshops at the youth offenders institute at Hindley; providing a drama and creative arts co-ordinator for HM's Prison at Styal; and a collaboration with the National Children's Bureau. There is also a database on a wide range of artists and creative organisations working with young people at risk of offending in the North West.

Professor Thompson is also behind '*In Place of War*', a research project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council. He said: "Millions of people continue to endure the chaos of war and humanitarian crises. And while these events are not without historical precedent, they have never before had such evident global reach and impact. This presents many challenges for artists and cultural workers in sites of crisis and armed conflict."

In Place of War is concerned with theatre and performance practice that exists because of - and in spite of - wars, crises and disasters.

In one notable example, Professor Thompson and his colleagues have worked in Sri Lanka for UNICEF's Children Affected by Armed Conflict Unit to help some fifty young actors perform in schools and displaced people's camps every week.

Their original aim was to create a touring landmine education awareness programme for villagers who had recently returned to their homes after the 2002 ceasefire there.

But since then, the project has grown and hundreds of children's plays have been performed to professional standards in schools throughout the Jaffna district.

Other examples include Rwanda's Mutabaruka company, which uses traditional song and dance to perform African morality tales.

Another project, called SPACE, offers young people from a Protestant area of North Belfast a way of understanding the effects of the conflict in Northern Ireland on their community. There are hundreds of other examples across the world.

Professor Thompson's colleague Ruth Daniel oversees the *In Place of War* network and database. She said: "The project team continue to meet, learn from and engage with practitioners and scholars involved in theatre and performance from conflict and war zones around the world. Using our research, we have created a searchable, online resource that houses over 2,000 documents, images, videos and interviews related to performance and conflict."

Anyone can see it for themselves at www.inplaceofwar.net/ipowdb/

Professor Thompson is the HCRI Director of Research, see page 5.

Once deemed literature's 'enfant terrible', world-renowned writer Martin Amis is now Professor of Creative Writing at The University of Manchester. As his third year at the Faculty of Arts' Centre for New Writing draws to a close he describes his experience so far...

What your children don't tell you

Martin Amis has been many things; novelist, memoir-writer, commentator and journalist among them, so it's perhaps not surprising that he turned to a new challenge three years before his 60th birthday. A key attraction of becoming chair of the University's new writing hub, he said at the time, was the opportunity "to find out more about the young. At a certain age you feel like they're creatures... not from another planet, but definitely another country."

Having now taught Manchester's MA in Creative Writing for three years, he is unequivocally enthusiastic about his findings. "I'm impressed with the whole generation," he says. "They're unideological, more independent of mind than the one between me and them - they're relaxed."

Despite having children of a similar age, he already feels that the experience is helping him to understand the next generation better. "It's nice to have another milieu that I can describe," he says. "Your own children don't tell you exactly what it's like."

The writer, who is widely considered to be one of the best at work today, teaches master classes on everything from the novella to the comic novel to aspiring novelists and poets.

"As Nabokov said, there's only one school of writing and that's talent - and you can't teach that," he admits.

"But you can teach craft, and I encourage the students to become expert in words - the tools of their trade - to use the dictionary, to use the thesaurus; to build up their vocabulary and feel at ease with it.

"I try and instil confidence. I'm very mild - I wouldn't dream of being fierce with

them! I tell them that no-one's looking for perfection in a first novel, they're looking for energy and freshness of voice.

"It's an awful lot to do with confidence."

In taking up this, his first teaching role, Martin achieved a mirror image of his father Kingsley Amis's career, which began with teaching English in Swansea and Cambridge. By the time Martin was 12, however, his father was concentrating exclusively on his writing, and his teaching work was not often discussed.

"I've read several accounts of his teaching, and I think he was very good," Martin says. "I hope I've inherited some of that, although of course he was going through the big texts.

"When I teach *Pride and Prejudice* I don't want the students to identify with Elizabeth Bennett or Mr Darcy, I want them to identify with Jane Austen. With every paragraph the writer should be thinking, 'now how's he going to get through this, how's he going to get this scene done?'

"Every page should present the writer with problems that they might come across themselves. It's emphasising the importance of reading; one of the most enjoyable aspects of the role is bringing what I felt while reading into the class."

Asked whether his experiences at the University have started to influence his own work, he admits that writers become fairly set in their own patterns. "But in a few years something might emerge," he says. "It's never an immediate response."

In addition to his MA teaching Martin is involved in the Centre for New Writing's annual summer school for undergraduates, as well as its acclaimed public event series. He hosts four public debates each year on literature and such

social forces as terrorism, science, sex and ageing, and has welcomed high-profile guests including Clive James, John Banville, John Gray and Howard Jacobson.

Favourite among the events so far have been last summer's discussion of literature and suicide, with Al Alvarez and Melvyn Bragg, and two events involving Will Self. "He always livens things up," Martin laughs.

An event on the life and work of Philip Larkin also offered a very personal insight into the poet's writing, personality and home-life, gleaned from Martin's own relationship with him as his father's contemporary and friend.

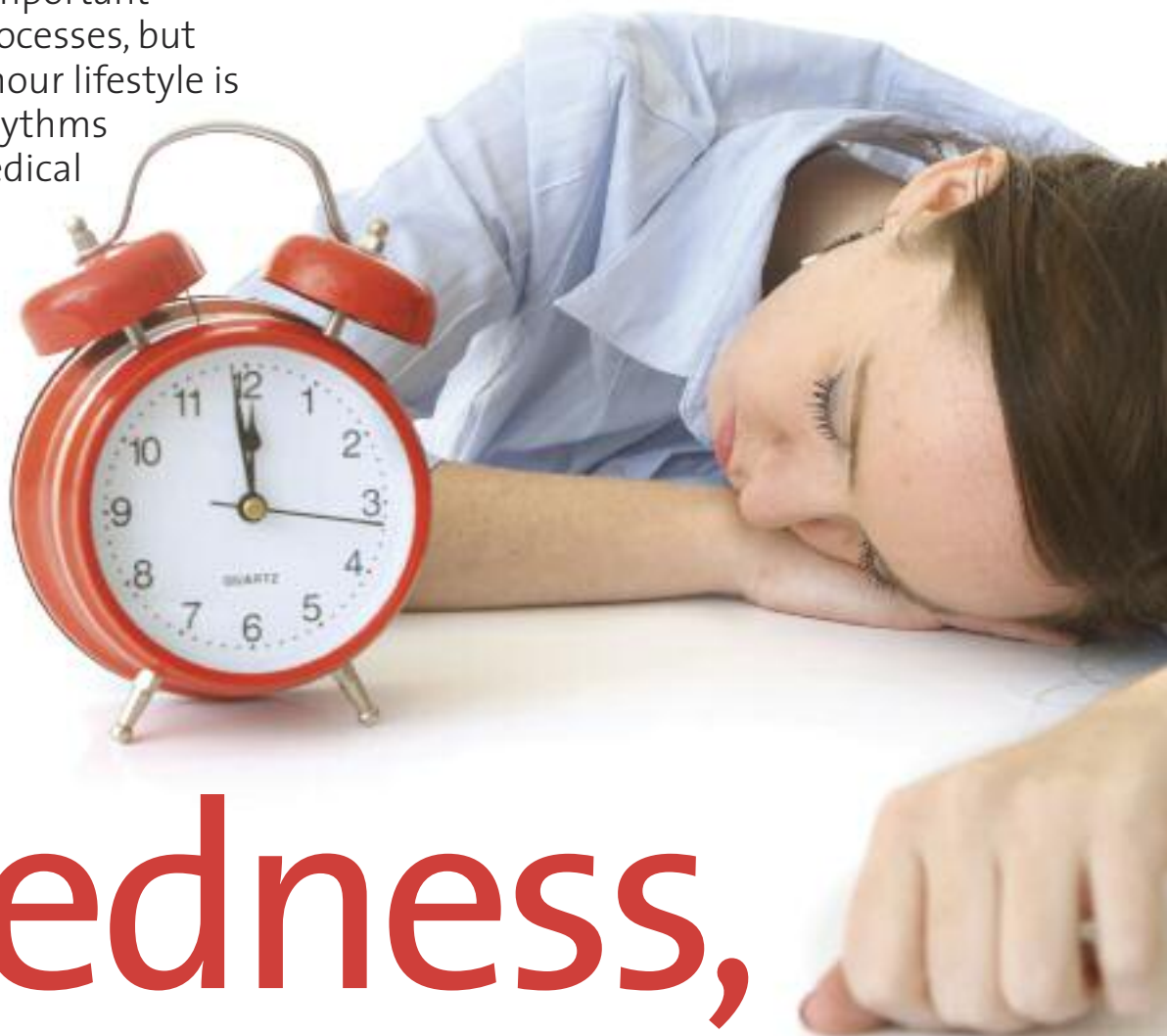
Clearly proud to be hosting his own event series, he seems most impressed by the interest and dedication of Manchester's literary audiences. So impressed, in fact, that he decided to launch his highly-anticipated new novel, *The Pregnant Widow*, in Manchester in February.

"We have a loyal and very intelligent audience which comes out in all weathers," he says. "I never know whether I should praise them more when they come in the rain or in sunshine!

"It's a counterweight to what feels like a storm of frivolity and superficiality that England seems to be submitting to - *The X Factor* and all that."

Having done his bit to combat the forces of Simon Cowell, Professor Amis heads off to nurture the next generation of writers in his final master class of the year. And with four of his recent graduates already prize-winning or published, and public event attendances averaging over 400, there seems little doubt of the impact being made by Manchester's latest adopted son.

The body's circadian clock governs many important physiological processes, but our frenetic 24 hour lifestyle is disrupting its rhythms according to medical researchers



Tiredness, the ticking time-bomb

Tiredness is a very modern malaise. It is to the 21st century what scurvy was to the 18th, at least in the developed world. We have access to warm homes, good food and effective medicines, but we are also beset by the unnatural rhythm of modern life thanks to advanced technology and competitive working practices.

If we work, rest or play at the wrong time, because we work shifts or want to stay on Facebook for a bit longer or watch the late night movie - or even have a lie in - our body suffers. In short, modern life is wrecking our circadian clock - the part of the brain that drives our daily behaviour, physiology and the neuroendocrine system.

Systems as diverse as hibernation, seasonal reproduction, fattening cycles, feeding cycles and sleep-wake rhythms are all driven via enzyme output from the circadian clock - also known as the suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) in the hypothalamus - which is triggered by light via specialised neural pathways.

Professor Andrew Loudon, at Manchester's Faculty of Life Sciences, has been researching the circadian clock for ten years and is now seeing major breakthroughs in clinical medicine as a result of his work.

"It is important not to subject ourselves to prolonged sleep deprivation," he warns. "We have a natural pattern of sleep and it

changes with age. So when teenagers go to bed late and sleep in, it's biology not bad behaviour.

"We should not force people to work shifts around the clock. It takes a long time to overcome disruption and changing shifts is a real contra-indicator of type II diabetes. With 15 million sufferers across Europe, this is a big problem."

Professor Loudon adds that the Chernobyl and Windscale disasters were classic cases of a disturbing link between night shifts and industrial accidents. "Most occur in the early hours of the morning - when we are meant to be asleep."



Professor Andrew Loudon

"We now have detailed insight into how the molecular cogs of the clock work. We have been looking at it organ by organ, cell by cell, unravelling how the clock drives the biology of the organism. Many diseases are rhythmic, so it's no surprise that when the circadian rhythm is disrupted it is associated with altered physiology.

"We have discovered genes that are important in regulating the system and thus we can reset the circadian clock. As a result of that work, drugs are being developed to deal with clock dysfunction by regulating the activity of particular enzymes in the clock, something we are working on with Pfizer."

In addition the team has found that many diseases, such as asthma, have a rhythmic regulation. Similarly, the way our bodies metabolise drugs is highly rhythmic. So work is ongoing with Glaxo Smith Kline (GSK) to develop new drugs to alleviate symptoms with optimal timing of therapy, known as chronotherapy.

Two team members, Professor Hugh Piggins and Dr Mino Belle, recently published a study that turned circadian rhythm theory on its head. The cells in the clock had been thought to be most active during the middle of the day but their study, published in *Science*, found that many cells appeared to be active at dawn and at dusk only. During the rest of the day, these particular cells became silent while another group of cells were activated.

Their research, with colleagues at the University of Michigan, will enable a new approach to tuning our daily clock.

Professor Piggins explains: "What we've found is that there are at least two types of cells in this part of the brain. The dawn and dusk active brain cells behave unlike any other cell seen so far, and contain a key clock gene which allows them to sustain unusually high levels of 'excitability'. The cells become so 'excited' that they seem quiet or even dead during the afternoon – but then they recover and become normally active again. It is this activity which tells the human body when to be awake."

There is particular interest in the pharmaceutical industry in trying to develop chemical treatments which reset the body clock to help counteract jetlag and, perhaps more importantly, to treat different kinds of sleep disorders in which dysfunctions in this clock are often involved. The researchers are collaborating with Servier in France to examine how melatonin affects cell activity throughout the brain.

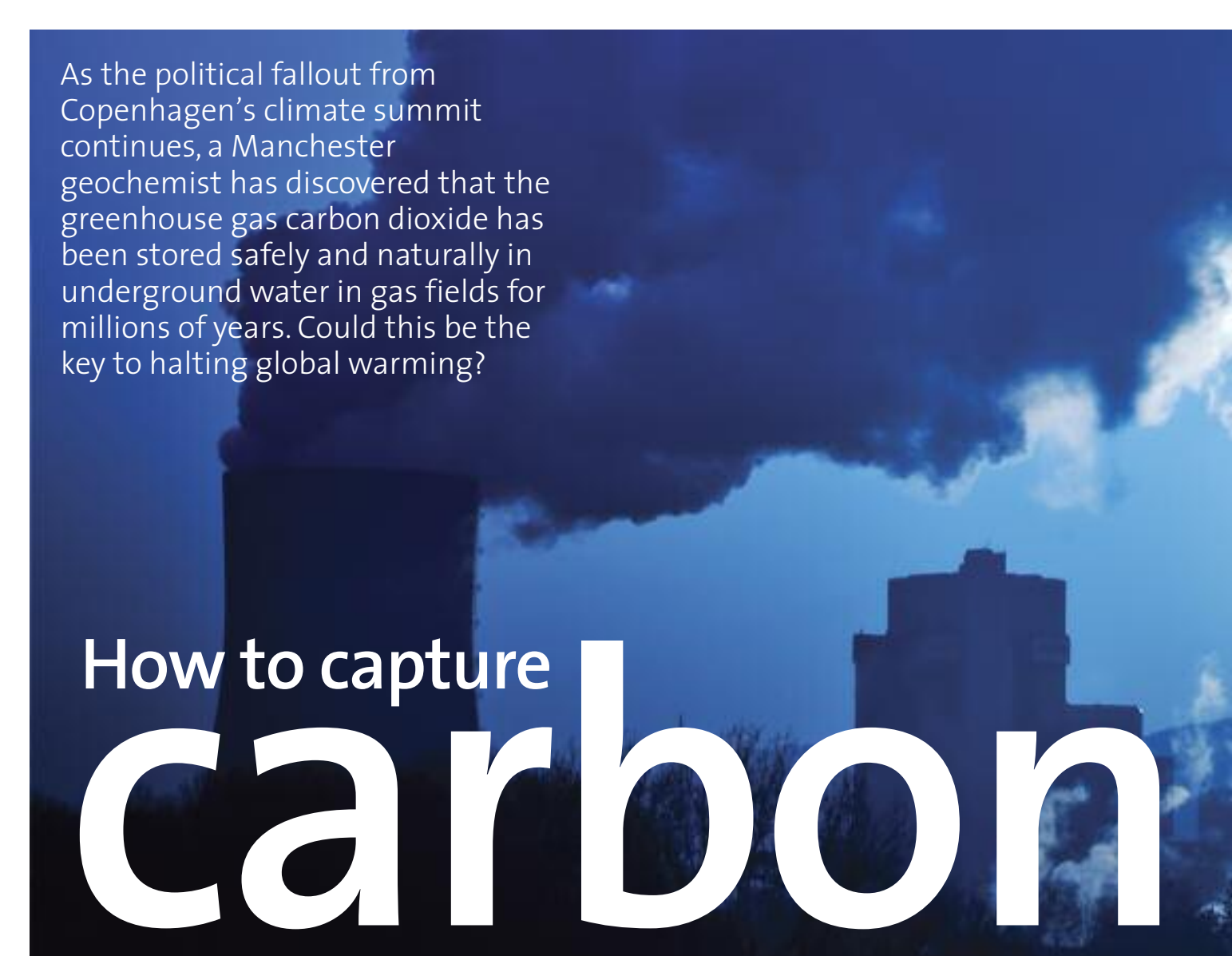
Professor Loudon says the relationship between the researchers and the pharmaceutical industry is essential to this work, producing products that can help us with this very modern – and serious – malaise.

He says: "Manchester has exceptionally good links between basic and medical science. I share the AV Hill Building with many good colleagues across the spectrum. I am also a great fan of teaming up with pharmaceutical companies. We aren't able to design drugs: we need them to do that, having discovered how the system works."

www.ls.manchester.ac.uk/research/researchgroups/neurosciences

However it is not all bad news. Manchester's researchers have now understood how important it is to take care of our circadian rhythm and in the past three years they have been identifying the genetic basis of the mechanism. This has assisted in the development of drugs to combat disease.

Professor Loudon explains: "After a decade of research into the area you don't have to explain to anyone what the circadian clock is these days, which is a very good thing. But in the last three years we have gone further, developing very strong links between the basic science and its clinical application.



As the political fallout from Copenhagen's climate summit continues, a Manchester geochemist has discovered that the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide has been stored safely and naturally in underground water in gas fields for millions of years. Could this be the key to halting global warming?

How to capture carbon

Geochemist Professor Chris Ballentine travels to some of the world's most beautiful places in the course of his work – although the anonymous décor of the conference centre is often the limit of the vistas to be enjoyed.

Recently, he was given the honour of chairing the organising and scientific committees of a major conference of geochemists in Switzerland; a task that added plenty of extra work to his already busy working life.

As a conference highlighting the future of geochemistry in the fight to safeguard the Earth's future, it seemed appropriate that the setting was the breathtaking mountain landscape of the Swiss Alps – a stark reminder, perhaps, that this natural beauty is at risk if global warming continues unchecked.

The United National Climate Change conference in Copenhagen last year thrust

the issue to the top of the international news agenda. But after two weeks of frantic negotiations, the 193-nation climate summit ended without a legally binding deal to curb carbon emissions, which many had hoped – and perhaps prayed – for.

Instead, there was an accord that calls on countries to state what they will do to curb greenhouse gas emissions without setting global targets for emission reductions by 2050.

Carbon is emitted into the atmosphere whenever we burn any fossil fuel, with the main sources being cars, lorries and power stations.

While scientists and engineers have developed ways of capturing carbon dioxide there are still problems with the long-term storage of millions of cubic metres of the gas.

It has been suggested that the gas could be stored in depleted gas and oil fields, but

there have been doubts about whether carbon dioxide can be securely trapped underground.

But new research by Professor Ballentine and his Manchester team, working with colleagues in Edinburgh and Toronto, has found that carbon dioxide has been stored safely and naturally in underground water in gas fields for millions of years.

The research, funded by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) in the UK and published in the scientific journal *Nature*, could now have a significant impact in the battle to slow climate change – and brings large-scale carbon capture one step closer.

In the aftermath of Copenhagen, with a binding international agreement to keep emissions down seemingly well out of reach, Prof Ballentine's work is looking more relevant than ever.



"We cannot change our society overnight to a low carbon economy," he says. "While we are in this transition we have to bury our excess CO₂ emissions.

"Developing a clear understanding of how natural systems behave means that when we inject CO₂ into similar systems we know exactly where it will go. This verification is essential to provide public confidence in the safety of this disposal technology."

Previous research in this area used computer models to simulate the injection of carbon dioxide into underground reservoirs in gas or oil fields to work out where the gas is likely to be stored.

Some models predict that the carbon dioxide would react with rock minerals to form new carbonate minerals, while others suggest that the gas dissolves into the water. Real studies to support either of these predictions have, until now, been missing.

In order to find out exactly how the carbon dioxide is stored in natural gas fields, an international team of researchers, led by Manchester, scrutinised nine gas fields in North America, China and Europe.

They measured the ratios of the stable isotopes of carbon dioxide and noble gases like helium and neon in the gas fields, which were naturally filled with carbon dioxide thousands or millions of years ago.

They found that underground water is the major carbon dioxide sink and has been for millions of years.

"The universities of Manchester and Toronto are international leaders in different aspects of gas tracing," adds Professor Ballentine. "By combining our expertise we have been able to invent a new way of looking at carbon dioxide fields.

"This new approach will also be essential for monitoring and tracing where carbon

dioxide captured from coal-fired power stations goes when injected underground – this is critical for future safety."

In the future, it is hoped the new data can be fed into future computer models to make modelling underground carbon capture and storage more accurate.

www.seaes.manchester.ac.uk/research/groups/isotope/

Sustainable Consumption Institute

The University is taking forward several initiatives in its quest to help tackle climate change. One flagship development, the Sustainable Consumption Institute (SCI) at the University was officially launched in October 2009.

www.sci.manchester.ac.uk



Winning the war against world poverty

With the appointment of Professor Joseph Stiglitz, a leading figure in poverty research, the ambitions of the University's Brooks World Poverty Institute were clear. Now the vision is bearing fruit

Despite the presence of extraordinary affluence, well over one billion people live in absolute poverty in both the developing and developed world.

As far back as 1958, the University was aware of the problem when it established the country's largest International Development Studies department. The Institute for Development Policy and Management is still going strong today.

Then in 2005, with the first of two pledges now totalling £3 million from The Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Foundation, a new multidisciplinary approach to poverty research was born, attracting some of the world's leading experts in the field.

"Our aim, from the start, was to unleash the power of rigorous world leading academic research in the fight against poverty by working with organisations which represent the poor," said Professor David Hulme, Executive Director of the Institute.

"We've been working across the developing world - and also here in the UK - on areas as diverse as fair trade, the living wage, reconstruction and climate change."

Last year, the Institute published a reconstruction plan for Zimbabwe, launched in Manchester by the country's Minister of Finance, Tendai Biti. It had been put together by some of the world's leading academics and policy experts on the country.

Lead researcher Dr Admos Chimhowu believes the catastrophic collapse of the Zimbabwean economy could be reversed if its Government adopts the controversial recommendations of the Institute's independent report.

The February 2000 programme which redistributed land to the majority black Zimbabweans, is recognised as a major factor which triggered an unprecedented socio-economic and political crisis, slashing

the country's life expectancy to 35 -among the world's lowest. Hyperinflation topped 500 million per cent in July 2008.

The report urges the Government to give tax credits to compensate the mainly white farmers who lost their land.

Such an approach, says Dr Chimhowu, could bring closure to a difficult chapter in the country's history and, if done fairly, could kick start investment in different areas of the economy.

The report also proposes \$1.6 billion of investment to small scale farmers who were given land as part of the country's controversial redistribution programme. A Truth and Reconciliation Commission, it adds, could be well placed to deal with bitter differences which still remain between Zimbabweans.

Dr Chimhowu said: "Following the formation of a Government of National



Unity in March 2009, Zimbabwe is emerging from a decade of socio-economic decline - but there is still a long way to go.

"An important way to help that process is to compensate many of the farmers who lost their land.

"It may be possible for the inclusive government to consider a pool of funds, probably partly supported by donors but mostly funded from local resources, to compensate the farmers for the land.

"This is a controversial idea and donors might be unwilling to pay compensation to the mainly white commercial farmers rather than support poor smallholder farmers.

"However, we know from the cases of Japan, Taiwan and South Korea that it was the investment of compensation payments to dispossessed landowners which helped these economies grow after the Second World War."

In another example of the Institute's policy-focused reach, Research Director Professor Armando Barrientos delivered a stark message to President Lula of Brazil in 2009.

"We presented more detail and context on the ravages of the financial crisis to President Lula," said Professor Barrientos. "The human development programme, linking income to education and health, reaches over 12 million households in Brazil.

"But despite that, financial crisis, hikes in food prices and effects of climate change will be responsible for a slowdown in growth and trade, leading to higher poverty and vulnerability in developing countries."

The Institute urges developing countries to further strengthen their social assistance programmes which have been effective in addressing poverty and vulnerability, and to link these to labour market policy, Professor Barrientos adds.

Work is ongoing with BRAC, an international NGO based in Bangladesh, on issues affecting impoverished communities in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The BWPI-BRAC programme began in Bangladesh at Rajendrapur during the same month as the World Economic Forum meeting of world leaders at Davos.

The Rajendrapur Conversation brought together BRAC activists researchers with Manchester's anthropologists, architects, engineers, economists, environmentalists, hydrologists, urban planners and political scientists.

BWPI and IPPM have recently received £1.7 million to examine how best to promote policies and interventions for fair trade and employment in developing countries.

Dr Stephanie Barrientos has high hopes for the project which will be a collaboration with Professor Gary Gereffi from Duke University in the United States.

The programme brings together a network of researchers from 14 institutions in the developed and developing world with expertise in trade, private sector and employment.

The work of BWPI has been supported through the unprecedented generosity of alumnus, Rory Brooks, and his wife Elizabeth, via the Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Foundation. Rory graduated from the University in management science in 1975 and is co-founder of MML Capital Partners. Their commitment to fund the establishment of the Brooks Institute is believed to be the largest gift supporting poverty research in the world. Rory has maintained close links with the University and in 2008 accepted an invitation to chair its Global Leadership Board – a new volunteer body to raise high-level funding for issue-focused research and scholarship programmes at the University.



NAFUM World Poverty Scholarships

Thanks to the generosity of Robin Mills (BA Econ 1967) and his wife Jan, John Burnell (BSc Engineering 1955) and his wife Madeline, and Harindra de Silva (BSc Mechanical Engineering 1982) along with those who give to its annual fund, the North American Foundation for The University of Manchester (NAFUM) has provided generous support for the following awards for PhD students at the BWPI:

The Mills NAFUM PhD Fellowship – held by Farzana Ramzan

The Mills NAFUM PhD Scholarship (for a student from Zimbabwe) – held by Admire Nyamwanza

The Burnell NAFUM PhD Scholarship (for a student from a developing country) – held by Jing You

The de Silva PhD Scholarship (for a student from Sri Lanka) – held by Ganga Tilakaratna

For further information on supporting the work of the BWPI please contact Lesley Dowdall, on tel: +44 (0) 161 275 2373, email lesley.dowdall@manchester.ac.uk

Growing numbers of students are risking a prison sentence by taking intellect-enhancing drugs. Let them get on with it says Manchester ethicist Professor John Harris

All in

A drug routinely prescribed to treat hyperactive children can also enhance brain function in healthy adults, but possession of methylphenidate (Ritalin) without prescription could land individuals with a five-year prison sentence.

Not that the prospect of incarceration appears to be deterring a growing number of university students, who, tempted by the promise of increased cognitive performance and no doubt better grades, are using the class-B drug to improve academic ability.

But is this fair? Certainly, universities don't think so and many, including Manchester, have policies forbidding the use of brain-enhancing drugs by students, especially ones that are illegal. In practice, of course, there is little universities can do to prevent students taking such drugs, short of random dope tests, like those carried out in professional sports.

So is the law and the stance of universities justified? John Harris, world-renowned professor of bioethics and Director of The University of Manchester's Institute for Science, Ethics and Innovation, doesn't think so. Last year, he wrote a commentary in the *British Medical Journal* advocating the use of Ritalin and other enhancing drugs by any adults who wanted to use them. His comments drew widespread media attention.

Harris says: "Suppose a university were to set out deliberately to improve the mental capacities of its students; suppose its stated aims were to ensure that students left the University more intelligent and learned than when they arrived. Suppose they further claimed that not only could they achieve this, but that their students would be more intelligent and mentally alert than any students in history. What should our reaction be?"

Harris argues that if the gains in cognitive functioning were significant and the costs commensurate, then we should probably want this for our children. It is, after all, what education is about.



the mind

He continues: "Now suppose, as indeed has already happened, several drugs had been shown to improve cognitive performance and had been proved to be safe for use in children. What should our reaction be? Would it be unethical to use these drugs in healthy people to enhance performance? Would it be ethical not to do so?"

Methylphenidate has been judged safe enough to use in children and young people with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) over a long period of time. The condition is not usually life threatening and the properties of the drug that make it effective in ADHD are the same ones that give it its enhancing qualities. This, says Harris, justifies its use from a safety perspective in healthy adults - but what about from an ethical perspective?

"Clear thinking on the issue of human enhancement has been bedevilled by the issue of doping in sport," says Harris.

"Sport, however, is not a matter of life and death. The wrong of performance enhancers in sport, if there is one, is that such substances are almost universally banned by the rules of competition; using them is therefore cheating. But absent the ban, absent the cheating."

Harris suggests that it is not rational to be against human enhancement. We are after all, he says, creatures that result from an enhancement process - evolution - and are inveterate self-improvers in every conceivable way. Reading spectacles or hearing aids are forms of enhancement, yet we would never consider banning these.

"Synthetic sunshine - firelight, lamplight and electric light - is another accepted example of a valuable enhancement technology which, like such others as written language, education, physical exercise and diet, creates problems of justice as well as the side effects of use and overuse," he says. "Beneficial neural changes have been reported for reading, education, physical exercise and diet, so how then are drugs ethically distinct?"



Professor John Harris

"Before synthetic sunshine people slept when it was dark and worked in the light of day. With the advent of synthetic sunshine, work and social life could continue into and through the night, creating competitive pressures and incentives for those able or willing to use it to their advantage. The solution, however, was not to outlaw synthetic sunshine but to regulate working hours and improve access to the new technology. The same is, or will be, true of chemical cognitive enhancers."

Professor Harris's comments in the *British Medical Journal* formed part of a debate and were opposed by Professor Anjan Chatterjee from the University of Pennsylvania. Chatterjee argues that the risks of giving Ritalin and other cognitive enhancers to healthy people were too great.

"The most obvious reason to object to using methylphenidate for healthy enhancements is that the cognitive benefits are minimal and the medical risks are not; non-physicians calling for responsible use of

methylphenidate by healthy people under-appreciate this risk."

Apart from the health risks, Chatterjee also argues that the use of such drugs can create risks of expanding social inequities and coercion.

"Drug enhancements will be available disproportionately to those with financial means," he says. "Clearly, many inequities in education, material goods, and social class, not to mention more fundamental inequities in health care, nutrition, shelter and safety, already give the socioeconomically lucky disproportionate advantages. However, acknowledging the existence of disturbing inequities does not justify blithely adding more."

He adds: "Matters of choice can evolve into forces of coercion. Implicit pressures to better one's position in some perceived social order would find a natural conduit in cognitive enhancements. Such pressures increase in 'winner-take-all' environments, in which more people compete for fewer and bigger prizes."



Our Outstanding Alumnus,
BBC film critic Dr Mark
Kermode, remembers his
student days fondly and says
his professional life was
forged during his years at the
University

*“Whatever you wanted to
do you could make it
happen in Manchester...”*

In the Woody Allen film *Deconstructing Harry*, Allen plays Harry Block, a successful writer invited back to his alma mater to receive an honorary award. The parallel is vivid enough to raise with film critic Dr Mark Kermode, himself returning to The University of Manchester to accept an award, as Outstanding Alumnus (see page 41 for further details about this Award).

Like Harry Block, Mark has enjoyed a hugely successful writing career, while also working as the in-house film critic for Simon Mayo's

show on 5Live, and presenter of the BBC's *Culture Show*. However unlike Harry – expelled from his college and confused about his feelings for his student days – Dr Kermode is singularly complimentary about the city of Manchester, the University, and the time he spent here as both undergraduate and postgraduate.

Growing up in Barnet, North London, Mark felt drawn towards Manchester's nascent music scene: “I had a sense – entirely gleaned from the pages of the NME – that there was

so much stuff happening in Manchester,” he said as he robed up for his award. “Art was happening in Manchester... music was happening in Manchester”.

Having duly applied to this University, our Outstanding Alumnus was promptly turned down. “That was it,” Mark continued, “I wasn't interested in anywhere else.”

After taking a year out, Mark regrouped, reapplied and in 1982, moved his life to Manchester: “On my very first day I



Dr Mark Kermode with his mother, Audrey

checked into Owens Park, then caught the bus into town and bought one of the credit card memberships to the Hacienda." It was important to tap into the culture of the city as well as the campus: "If you weren't engaged with the city you were missing out on at least half of the experience of being at university."

Mark immersed himself in political campaigns, drama productions and impromptu skiffle gigs outside The Royal Exchange (the proud owner of a perfectly

cultivated quiff, he continues to play skiffle with The Dodge Brothers). He also began writing for the student newspaper, *Mancunion*, then for *City Life* magazine - established by the present Chair of the Alumni Association, Andrew Spinoza. As a critic you trade by the currency of your opinions and Mark certainly has those. Crucially, he also has the ability to express those opinions eloquently. "That's something I learned from *City Life*," he recalls.

Extending his life in Manchester to take on a PhD, Mark wrote his thesis on Horror Fiction. "I had struggled to get into Manchester and ended up with a middling 2:1 degree. But I really wanted to finish that PhD... and be Dr Kermode. The first thing I did was put it on my chequebook because I'm more proud of getting my doctorate from Manchester than almost anything else."

Mark's biography *It's Only A Movie* includes a chapter *Bright Lights, Big City Life* about his time in Manchester. *The Sunday Times* recently listed him as someone the BBC are keen to invest in, whilst other sources have lined him up to replace Jonathan Ross as anchor of the *Film 2010* show. If Mark's life were a film it would have something of an upbeat narrative, and he puts much of that down to Manchester: "All of it was forged in Manchester," he says later at the

ceremony, to the graduands before him in the Whitworth Hall. "Whatever you wanted to do you could make it happen in Manchester."

He also compares Manchester in the 1980s to Hunter S Thompson's vivid description of San Francisco in the mid 1960s; the sense of being in the right place at the right time.

...And occasionally the wrong place at the wrong time. Back then Mark penned a harsh review of the latest David Lynch film, *Blue Velvet*, and was subsequently approached by a member of the public in the Cornerhouse, who identified him as the author. Initially flattered by the recognition, things took an ignoble turn when the man punched him. "That punch brought together everything," says Mark, now chuckling at the memory during a post-award lunch. "The writing... the politicisation... the fact that someone felt that strongly about something to physicalise it. It's a really odd thing, but in many ways that tiny altercation in the Cornerhouse bar summed up everything about Manchester for me."

Manchester remains a proud and passionate city, but is now interested only in extending an open hand to Dr Mark Kermode; especially (and irrespective of that contretemps) because he has now reversed his opinion of Lynch's fabulous film.

Deep down under Manchester's bustling streets lies a hidden landscape of long abandoned tunnels, from nuclear proof corridors to underground canals and even a Victorian shooting gallery

What lies beneath?



Keith Warrender

This subterranean world has captured the imaginations of Mancunians, many of whom remain fascinated by our lost city of caverns, crypts and canals. One of them is publisher and local historian Keith Warrender.

Over the years, Keith has uncovered evidence of dozens of places - from nuclear proof corridors under Piccadilly to underground canals and a Victorian shooting gallery.

In March this year, Timperley-based Keith, who has also written two books on the subject, took a group of intrepid graduates from the University on a tour deep into the bowels of the city as part of the Alumni Association's programme of events - Your Manchester Insights.

He said: "I've always thought the subject of what lies below Manchester absolutely fascinating and I'd heard so many stories that about ten years ago I began to research into it and started to give talks to local groups.

"Along the way people gave me more and more information so I decided to write a book and publish it."

Keith's first book, *Underground Manchester*, was such a success that he recently published a sequel, *Below Manchester*, delving further into the tales - true and false - about life underground.

Keith's latest volume has a foreword by former Radio Manchester presenter Fred Fielder, whose 'Orpheus Project' is now the stuff of legend.

In the early 1980s, Fred and some pals would secretly explore tunnels in a variety of locations in the city centre. An option which, thanks to health and safety regulations and the blocking up of access routes, is no longer possible. Keith, however, is one of the few people still able to gain permission to conduct occasional tours.

In a recent BBC programme, he joined a team investigating Victoria Arches, a vast network of tunnels created in 1830 when the steeply sloping ground in front of the cathedral was levelled off to support a new road.

For years the arches housed cellars and small businesses, but today the entrance is a closely guarded secret.

During the Second World War the tunnels were used as air raid shelters. A sign on the wall from the 1940s still warns that 'gambling and insobriety' won't be tolerated.

Later still they were used as public toilets - today the cubicles are still standing, a sign on one reading 'Convenience closed for repairs'.

Keith said: "I think it's an amazing place - the sheer scale of the arches, the fascinating notices and other remnants from the last war, and imagining what it was like for all the people who sheltered down here."

Manchester's most famous underground secret was revealed in 1968 when official details of the 'Guardian' tunnel network, built to provide a secure telephone link between Manchester and other British cities in the event of a nuclear attack, were revealed by the Government.

Located under the Piccadilly Hotel below Back George Street and York Street, this massive labyrinth was protected from nuclear blast by a 35-ton concrete slab door, manned by around 50 engineers. It extended 1,000 feet beneath the city centre - complete with living accommodation, food supplies and a fresh water well nearly 600 feet deep.

Unfortunately, advances in the arms race put paid to its effectiveness as a possible place of safety for regional government.

Another nuclear bunker, in Cheadle, was made similarly redundant and demolished in the 1990s when it was sold to a private hospital.

But most of Manchester's underground caverns have rather less sinister origins. Many of them are canals, rivers and tributaries now closed off to the public.

The River Tib runs right underneath Tib Street. Dukes Tunnel, along the River Medlock near the BBC on Oxford Road ends up below the London Road approach to what is now Piccadilly Station.

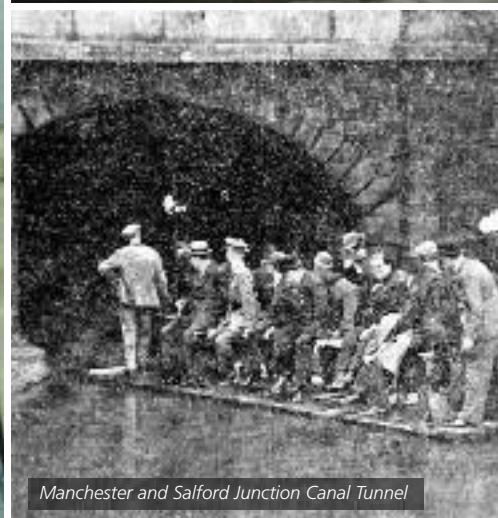
Below Deansgate is the Manchester and Salford Junction canal, originally dug to link the Rochdale Canal with the River Irwell in the 1830s and later divided up into over a dozen chambers. This runs from the site of Granada Television right through to what is now Manchester



Guardian BT Tunnel



Great Northern Tunnel



Manchester and Salford Junction Canal Tunnel

Photo courtesy of MEN ©

Central conference centre. During the Second World War, this was also used as an air raid shelter

At one time, there was talk of turning it into a theme park complete with an underground gondola. Keith hopes that some of these ideas to turn tunnels into tourist attractions will still come to fruition.

Not every tale turns out to be true. Stories of an old underground postal railway linking Manchester railway stations and Spring Gardens post office have so far come to nothing.

Still yet to be located is a tunnel allegedly running from Victoria Arches right along Deansgate to Knott Mill station.

The problem, Keith admits, is that many of these places have probably long been filled in by developers.

"In a way, I've started all this years too late because a lot of the tunnels were once much more accessible and I'm very much aware that lots of evidence has simply disappeared.

"But much still remains and people who have lived in Manchester all their lives don't realise they are often close to something of underground interest."

The city's vast underground network includes Manchester University, where beneath the Victorian quadrangle is a network of passages once used as service ducts. A wartime ARP control room still lies below Manchester Museum on Oxford Road.

Dozens of buildings in the city, including Manchester town hall and the CIS building, still have their old air-raid shelters.

And, going further back in time, there was an underground shooting gallery in Victorian days just off Market Street where Harvey Nichols now stands.

"It wasn't just for the upper-classes. All kinds of people would come and shoot at targets for sport. The tunnel stretched right up to Manchester Cathedral boundaries. Later on in the 1920s

Goulburns grocers and poulterers used it as a cheese store. We have the photographs to prove it."

Though he has spent the last ten years in serious research, there is seemingly no danger of Keith running out of material, or of an audience.

A recent talk at Manchester Central Library proved so popular that it had to be re-located to a larger room.

"I was surprised at first about the level of interest but I suppose people just love finding out about tunnels. Why? I think it's the mystery of the unknown, coupled with our primeval fear of the dark and the sheer thrill of trying to sort out myth from truth. There is obviously a lot more for me to investigate!"

**Your
Manchester
Insights**

See page 40 for details of the Alumni Association's Your Manchester Insights events programme.



Soviets planned to invade our space

A fascinating collection of maps detailing Soviet plans to invade Manchester have attracted record numbers to the John Rylands Library

Visitors to the library over the last year have been astonished at the display of Soviet maps, created in the 1970s, which mark colour coded targets around Manchester and reveal which roads in the city were wide enough to carry battle tanks (Washway Road, the Mancunian Way, and Princess Road).

Chris Perkins, a map specialist and the exhibition organiser, said the images were unsettling: "After all they are only 35 years old and the level of detail they had collected, presumably from soviet spy planes and satellite imagery, is astonishing," said Dr Perkins, a senior lecturer in Geography.

There really wasn't much they missed, he added, suggesting local intelligence gathering was under way as well. Even secret locations such as Strangeways Prison and the Risley Moss nuclear research site - which were left out of Ordnance Survey maps from 35 years ago - were all there.

"They had maps of everywhere from here to the Congo, but this is an 'A-list' - a

place which they really thought they might need to know one day."

The Manchester map used road widths and load-bearing statistics to plot advance routes for tanks, ruling out older, crooked lanes where armour might be trapped by urban guerrilla warfare. The Soviet planners also used a colour code for local targets: industrial sites in black, administrative buildings in purple, and military installations in green.

Given the highest security during the Brezhnev years, when mutual goading was part of the UK-Soviet relationship, the map came to light after the collapse of the Communist system. Along with similar charts of other western and US strategic centres, it was sold by military mapmakers in the chaotic aftermath of perestroika and glasnost.

"The managers of individual printing factories basically went native," said Dr Perkins. "They sold as much stock as they could on the western market, where there was no shortage of customers. I know for a fact that the Ministry of

Defence sent a van over there in 1991, to pick up as much as they could."

The maps were analysed to get a sense of Soviet spies' efficiency, which was sorely tested by the intricacies of the then-developing industrial estate at Trafford Park. Like many local visitors, the mapmakers got lost in the maze of new factories, and decided to steer their tanks past on the A57 and the Chester Road.

"Images like these really give us a new angle on familiar places," Dr Perkins said. "And that's the great thing about maps. They tell different stories and reveal the past in a new way."

The advent of Google and other digital image providers mean maps have experienced a resurgence of interest he added. "More people are now using maps than ever before, whether it's looking at their own house on Google Earth or checking travel routes on the internet. Maps are really a metaphor for everything that is happening in the world at any given point. Absolutely invaluable."

Many big name comedy acts are former undergraduates who learnt their trade on campus



Rik Mayall and Ade Edmondson "Saturday Live", 1985. Photo courtesy of ITV / Rex Features ©

It's a funny old place Manchester

For a city drenched in the misery of industrial hardship, it has generated some of the best comedy around.

Those Lancashire mills brought with them the working men's clubs and the comics who would thrive or die in front of the work-weary and cynical. In the 1970s it was all Bernard Manning and Wheeltappers and Shunters Social Club, Jimmy Clitheroe and the peerless Hylda Baker - purveyors of a kind of northern humour that didn't chime with a more politically correct audience a decade or so later.

The counterpoint which emerged was alternative comedy and many of its

performers such as Ben Elton (BA Hons Drama 1980), Rik Mayall (BA Hons Drama 1978) and Ade Edmondson (BA Hons Drama 1978) were graduates of the University.

Both Mayall and Edmondson have acknowledged the importance of their time at Manchester. This is Mayall's explanation of how their career began:

"We formed a group called 20th Century Coyote, and the first thing we did was an improvised affair called 'Dead Funny'. The two other guys I was doing it with pulled out after a couple of shows, so I decided to ask Ade. He had a bit of a reputation in our year as the actor. He had done a

couple of big roles and had lots of confidence. He said yes, and that's how we started.

"We would perform lunchtimes at The Band on the Wall and Monday evenings at the Studio Theatre at the University. We would drink at a pub called the Ducie near the University and go to the Cavalcade Club. We used to go and watch jazz... I think the characters we developed at that time are the basis for everything we have done since."

For Edmondson, it was an equally auspicious time: "I do look back on my university days with great affection. Rik and I got on so well because we liked the



Ben Elton. Photo by Karl Schoendorfer / Rex Features ©

same things, like drinking eight pints of lager, and found the same things funny.

"When we were in the third year, Ben Elton joined our course and later co-wrote *The Young Ones*. The first time I was aware of him was when I was round at Rik's house and he said: 'Quick, duck. Ben Elton is coming down the path.' Ben was incredibly prolific; he was putting on plays in his first week."

It was *The Young Ones* that got Neil Edmond into comedy writing today.

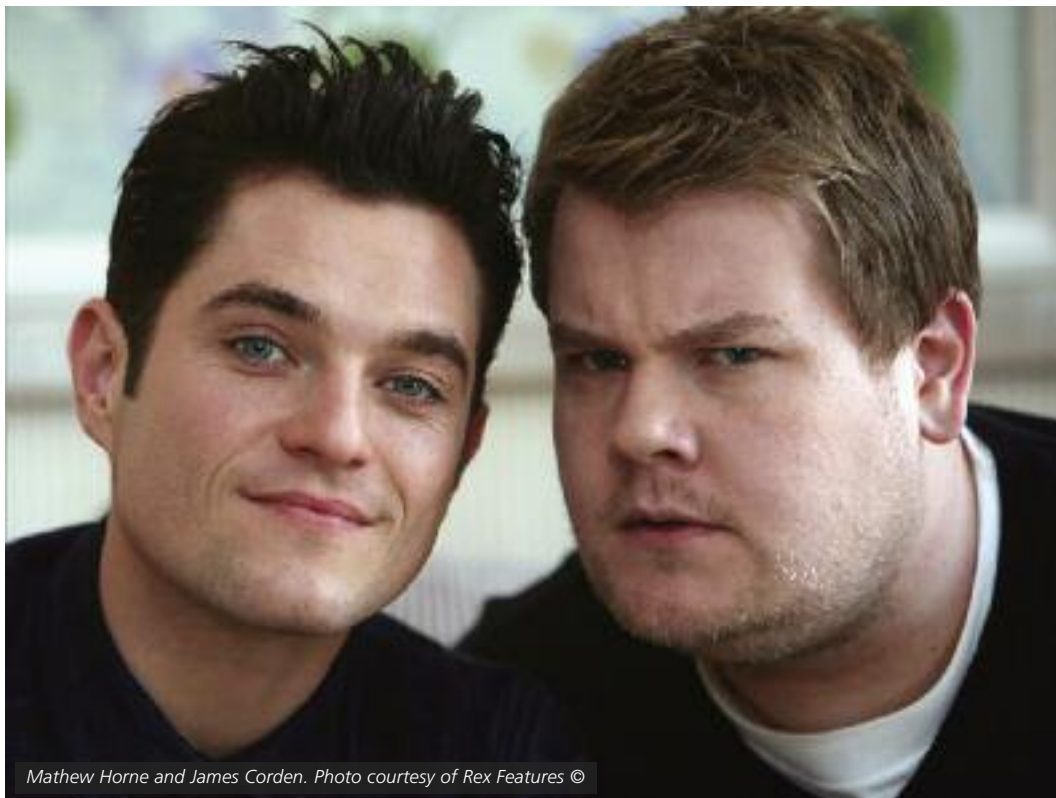
Neil, who won a 2010 South Bank nomination for his BBC2 series *Home Time*, explains: "*The Young Ones* caused a small revolution in my family: we all loved it so much that mum and dad decided we could swear freely, providing it was funny. So, the fact that Rik and Ade

had gone to Manchester (and that my Dad grew up in Levenshulme), did swing it when it came to applying to university.

"My fondest memories are of the Wednesday night 'Studio Group' performances in the Drama Department - even when it was just posh kids trying to demonstrate how hard life was by rubbing cat food in their hair, or spitting fake blood onto photocopies of their breasts. I still think The Seperadoes' tragi-comedy '*Sackboy am Christmas*' - about the bastard offspring of Santa and his sack - was amongst my best writing.

My dad died just after I graduated and I sank into a long period of sitting quietly and making detailed maps of road junctions, and occasionally making props for other people's shows. But, years later, I

bumped into Justin Edwards and George Cockerill in a pub in London. They'd been in the year below me, and Justin and I had put on some early 20th Century daft 'terror-dramas', playlets by the likes of Lord Dunsany and Sidney Box. We met up a few times and started work on what was a fairly pioneering comedy website - The Peel Bell, a fake small-town newspaper which grew into a very rich, strange, online world with its own currency and strange games, where readers had to sign up as town residents with unlikely names. From there Justin and I ended up forming a sketch group called The Consultants (with James Rawlings, another Manchester graduate, though I'd never met him) and we were jammy enough to win Perrier Best Newcomers in 2002."



Mathew Horne and James Corden. Photo courtesy of Rex Features ©



Dave Gorman



Shazia Mirza

Photo courtesy of Rex Features ©

Photo by Garaint Lewis / Rex Features ©

If students weren't doing comedy while they were at university they were watching it, at places like The Buzz in Chorlton which ran for 15 years until 2004. Compèred by the veteran punster Agraman the human anagram...it became at the time the longest-running comedy club outside London, and helped launch the careers of Steve Coogan, Caroline Aherne, Peter Kay, Eddie Izzard, Bill Bailey, Lee Evans, Jack Dee and Harry Hill. Venues like the Frog and Bucket and the Comedy Store followed and suddenly, Manchester was part of a major comedy explosion.

Toby Hadoke is now a regular compère at XS Malarkey at the Frog as it is affectionately known and admits that an academic qualification wasn't uppermost on his agenda when he came to the University.

"I remember having lots of fun - university was a big adventure as I'm a country boy," he reveals.

I remember the time spent there with affection. But I don't think I went for an education as such, I went for the experience and the "student" lifestyle, which I got, and probably tried to cling on to for too long after I left. It was only in my final year that I even considered doing stand-up, and that was at the suggestion of a friend, Steve Keyworth, who was putting on a night.

Dave Gorman dropped out of a maths course at Manchester, but not before he was cajoled into attending a comedy-workshop run by the then-unknown Frank Skinner, who had also played at the Buzz. Gorman was offered a spot at an upcoming benefit gig at Salford University followed two weeks later by a paid gig in a Birmingham club and the rest, as they say, is history.

It was a similar story for Gavin and Stacy comic Mathew Horne, who in 1997 saw Steve Coogan while studying performing arts and thought 'I want to do that'.

Aged 21, he formed a comedy double act with fellow student Bruce Mackinnon.

"God knows what we were doing.

"We went to a pub called Scruffy Murphy's in Fallowfield that did a topical limerick competition. We won and said we were a double act, can we have five minutes on stage. The bloke booked us for a gig."

With a week to write the material he admits it looked like they'd 'get slaughtered' but they were a big hit. After that they came third in a Channel 4 comedy competition.

"The degree didn't matter. We came to London, got an agent and it all kicked off."

Manchester was even the starting point for one of the most successful female Muslim stand-up artists, Shazia Mirza, whose parents wanted her to be a doctor.

"When I was at Manchester University I had never thought of being a comedian, but I knew I wanted to be on stage," explains the former biochemistry student.

"University did inspire me, it inspired me to pursue my dreams no matter how incredible, and to be what I wanted to be. I had never watched live comedy before doing my first gig, but I did pursue many other interests while at the Uni. I took up ballet and tap dancing, and took acting classes. I was studying biochemistry, and all I could think of was, 'How on earth am I really going to be able to do what I want?'"

"Other students were shocked and horrified when I became a comedian. They couldn't believe it. They couldn't believe I ditched the biochemistry for laughter."

At the time of going to press we hope to see Ade Edmondson back at the University with his band, The Bad Shepherds - for further details and tickets please contact boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk



Alison photographed by her fiancé, James Uttley on Wimbledon Common, c 1911

Uncovering the rich imagination of Alison Uttley



One of the University's first female physics graduates went on to become one of England's best loved authors. But her charming country tales of *Little Grey Rabbit* and *Sam Pig* were in stark contrast to the writer's own often tortured personal life, as Alison Uttley's newly published *Diaries* reveal

Biographer Denis Judd had a hunch that there was a remarkable story to be told about the life of the celebrated author Alison Uttley. But after tracking down her diaries - literally saved from a fire as her troubled son John sought to extinguish her memory after her death in 1976 - a life story emerged that he could not have predicted.

"I soon realised that this beautiful, lyrical writing was intertwined with the often depressed and negative feelings of a tragically, lonely woman struggling to come to terms with her husband's suicide and wracked with self doubt and anger at the world," said Professor Judd, a historian and writer, and Alison Uttley's official biographer.

Alison Uttley has a special connection to Manchester, having been only the second woman to graduate in Physics in 1906. An extensive archive of her papers is held at the John Rylands library and last year *The Private Diaries of Alison Uttley*, edited by Denis Judd, were published to mark the 125th year of the author's birth.



Portrait of Alison painted from a photograph taken at her graduation in 1906. The portrait was bequeathed by her to Peter du Sautoy and given by him to the University.



Alison and her son John, photographed while on holiday in Tenby, in the 1920s



Manchester Physics Department students and staff. Alison is on the first row, second from the left

Professor Judd, who spent almost two years editing the 6 million-word diaries, came to talk to alumni in Manchester last year about the work as part of the Your Manchester Insights programme of events. He explained to a rapt audience here that the anniversary had offered an excellent opportunity to reassess the literary reputation of one of the most remarkable and gifted British writers of childrens' and adults' books.

The *Diaries* reveal the highs and lows of her personal life, as well as providing an invaluable record of nearly 40 years of British history.

It was following her husband's death in 1930 that Alison Uttley established herself as a best-selling author. There was something about *Little Grey Rabbit*, *Squirrel and Hare*, *Sam Pig* and *Tim Rabbit*, as well as classics like *The Country Child* and *A Traveller in Time* that had captured readers' imaginations world-wide.

"Although shadows pass over these generally sun-lit landscapes, the stories are most remarkable for their brilliant characterisation and wry humour, their love of country lore and magic, their sense of time and place and their

celebration of old and solid values - good neighbourliness, good sense, a love of the natural world and of the enduring values of hearth and home," Professor Judd said.

Despite her love of science, Alison Uttley also believed in fairies, one of her many mysterious incongruities. She was an Edwardian suffragette, Professor Judd explained, and a close friend of the future Labour Prime Minister, Ramsay MacDonald (to whose children she told bedtime stories), but in later life she became a staunch Conservative. "She was obsessed with the world of



A delighted Alison, after being made a Honorary Doctor of Letters, at Manchester, in 1970

dreams, writing an intriguing book, *The Stuff of Dreams*, yet she shied away from any serious self-analysis. She was a loving wife, mother and friend whose relationships were often stormy and sometimes downright destructive. Her husband drowned himself before she had been able fully to establish herself as a writer - a tragedy from which she never fully recovered. She could be a demanding and over-close mother, and an easily offended friend."

She was eventually estranged from Margaret Tempest, the illustrator of

most of the *Little Grey Rabbit* books, over copyright and over which of them had really created the characters. She was bitterly resentful of comparisons with Beatrix Potter and she despised her neighbour in Beaconsfield, Enid Blyton.

"She took the work of literary creation very seriously and relished her success, but was easily hurt by criticism and craved the affirmation of the public," Professor Judd says. "She eventually earned large quantities of money and had the works of Brueghel in her home,

but was able to agonise over whether to buy a small bag of oranges."

From the rural idyll of the hilly Derbyshire countryside of the author's upbringing, to the story of her intellectual awakening in Edwardian Manchester, "everything she published is soaked in a sense of having sprung from the deepest part of a rich imagination," concludes Professor Judd.

**Your
Manchester
Insights**

See page 40 for more details of the Alumni Association's Your Manchester Insights events programme

Big Brother and *The X Factor* are the modern incarnation of the Victorian entertainment industry according to a Manchester lecturer

Peepshows and Freakshows



The popularity of peepshows and freakshows suggests that the Victorians had none of our 21st century qualms over seedy voyeurism. And yet, according to University lecturer Ann Featherstone, the modern pleasure-seeker has much in common with its 19th century counterpart.

"I believe we are much more like the Victorians than we think we are," says Ann who recently published a novel, *Walking in Pimlico*, based on her academic research into Victorian circuses and sideshows.

There isn't such a great deal of difference between us and them, except the Victorians were more honest. They didn't think anything of looking, whereas we try to disguise it.

"They had freakshows and we have TV programmes like *Embarrassing Bodies*, or

Bodyshock: the 60 stone man, or Big Brother or the X Factor."

Ann had a long-held interest in the seedier side of Victorian entertainment after completing an Open University degree, and was encouraged by Professor of Theatre Jacky Bratton at Royal Holloway to pursue the subject for a PhD.

"It was great being able to legitimise my interest," says the 55-year-old University lecturer in Performance History. "And doing the research gave me the sense of being a detective, there was this whole subculture waiting to be discovered."

Her studies have led her into an extraordinary underworld of portable theatres, Victorian circuses and penny gaffs.

"The penny gaff was to be found in urban areas like Manchester and London and was the lowest form of permanent venue," she explains.

"A showman would take an abandoned shop or empty dwelling and turn it into a theatre space for freakshows or for performers like sword-swallowers. There could be an overnight conversion into a penny theatre. The idea would be to keep you moving from scenes in one room to another which increased the sense of voyeurism."

Freakshows were a source of great amusement to the Victorians but Ann insists that sadly the unfortunates, like the famous Elephant Man John Merrick who were the sideshow stars, often had little choice.

"I think sometimes a showman would take advantage but if say a child had microcephaly, or what they used to call a 'pin head', they were never going to earn a living so the parent would sell the child to a showman. The alternative would be an institution and an early death. But



really the freakshow could include anything. Tom Norman, who had freakshows in America, said you can tell if you're any good as a showman if you show them a bloater and convince them it's a whale."

In spite of the uptight prudery of the Victoria age – or maybe because of it, sex too was an obvious lure according to Ann.

"Why were the front rows at the circus mainly filled with men? Well, if a lady is standing on the back of a horse they can see her legs and a lot more! Ballet dancers were also sexually significant because the men got to see their legs.

"And one aspect of the freakshow was the sex life of the freaks. How did they do it? For example Chang and Eng Bunker, conjoined twins of the time, were married and had lots of children. There was a lot of curiosity about how that could happen."

Surprisingly, given their red-light status today, peepshows weren't a source of sexual titillation.

"These were touring shows but not what we think of as a peepshow today," says Ann. "The peepshow was a box with holes cut into it and a glass lens stuck over painted scenes of say Waterloo, or a picture of something cut out of a newspaper. You'd peer through the lens which would make the image slightly magnified. It was low cheap entertainment."

Exploitation of minors crossed the darker side of the Victorian amusement 'industry' Ann adds: "Children worked day and night in the ballet, shivering in the streets afterwards with no warm clothes.

"There were children like William Betty, a child prodigy who played roles like

Richard III when he was seven and who, when his voice dropped, was no longer wanted. There were others who just fell by the wayside."

And the cruelty extended to animals, such as horses, the mainstay of the Victorian circus.

"Some trainers would break a horse's spirit, or its tongue would be tied to its foot so that it would be bowed all the time."

But visions of the 'Baldwin cat' which had been trained to climb up a ladder and then parachute down to the ground, or the dancing dog dressed in a tutu, drew crowds all the same. However distasteful these divertissements are to the modern sensibility, they are a source of fascination, especially as so little is still known about this extraordinary world.

Alumni in the spotlight



Grace Boyle goes Rainspotting in Bangalore

Chemistry graduate Grace Boyle, 24, spent the summer in Bangalore working on a Greenpeace project investigating the impact of climate change on rain patterns there.

The Rainspotting project, which focuses on the Indian monsoons, presented the testimonials of rural and indigenous Indian communities as to how the climate was changing to serve as a body of evidence against climate change denial in the country. The project is part of a larger campaign to put pressure on the Indian Government to commit to various renewable energy laws.

Grace completed an MChem in chemistry at Manchester in 2008. As part of her course, she went on an exchange to Berkeley University in California and also participated in a summer school in Hong Kong in 2007. During the final year of her degree, she and several other students formed a group under the charity READ International, and collected over 30,000 surplus textbooks from Manchester schools, travelling to Tanzania the following summer to distribute the books to schools there. During her trip, she also climbed Mount Kilimanjaro to raise money for girls' education in Africa.

The University is delighted that Grace is continuing with her experiences overseas and she is writing a blog for the Independent about her time in India:
www.independent.co.uk/rainspotting

Originally from London, Grace is currently based in India, where she works for Greenpeace as a writer on Climate and Energy.

Dragons' Den inventor to inspire students

Successful Dragons' Den contestant Imran Hakim, who graduated from Manchester in Optometry and Vision Science in 1999, has been appointed director of entrepreneurship at UMIP, the University of Manchester's Intellectual Property Limited.

Imran is best known for securing a £140,000 investment from Peter Jones and Theo Paphitis during his appearance on the BBC's Dragons' Den. Since then, demand for his product (an interactive toy bear called iTeddy which has an MP3 player in his tummy) has exploded and it is now available in over 40 countries worldwide generating a £12 million turnover.

Imran has been running his own business since he was 16, long before he entered the Dragon's Den. An optometrist by profession, Imran runs a chain of independent practices in the north west. He has won countless business awards over the years and most recently won The Institute of Directors' 'Young Director of the Year, 2008' as well as being the youngest entrant into the NorthWest Power 100. He received an honorary doctorate from the University of Bolton in 2009.

Now the 32-year-old businessman is helping to foster more talent in his new position with UMIP – a company dedicated to helping students and academics maximise the potential of spin-out companies. Imran will be helping them to license their intellectual property whenever possible.



"I will be continuing with the expansion of my existing business portfolio but I am enthusiastic about working with UMIP" he said. "The University already has an excellent track record for innovation and commercialising world-class science and technology, and some fantastic resources like the £32 million UMIP premier fund. So I'm proud to be associated with my old university and excited by this challenge".

Janette Faherty returns to Manchester



Janette Faherty, chief executive of Avanta Enterprise Ltd, a leading employment, skills and enterprise company, returned to her alma mater in November to speak to students as a guest lecturer on the Manchester Leadership Programme.

The Manchester Leadership Programme is a successful University initiative to help equip students for modern citizenship, entrepreneurship and above all leadership. Students have been offered the opportunity to hear from an impressive range of speakers including high-profile leaders of global multinationals, Nobel laureates, as well as MPs and Ministers of State. MLP students also learn from leaders of charities and community groups, local government bodies and small enterprises who have compelling stories and experiences of leadership.

Janette, who was recently awarded an OBE for her services to unemployed people and entrepreneurship, graduated from Manchester in 1971 with an honours degree in politics and modern history. After a short stint as a teacher, she married and had two daughters.

On re-entering permanent employment in her 30s Janette began her career at TNG, now part of Avanta, as a training manager. Five years later, following a management buy-out, Janette became chief executive and owner of the company.

Today the company operates nationwide from more than 100 locations, employs more than 1,000 staff and works with some 30,000 people each year. "I was delighted to be awarded an OBE on behalf of all my staff who make a daily difference to people's lives".



Former Apprentice star heads to India

Lucinda (Cindy) Ledgerwood (formerly Lucinda Burger), a contestant in The Apprentice BBC TV show in 2008, has embarked on a new two year challenge in India with the charity VSO (Voluntary Services Overseas).

The 33 year old alumna, who was fired from the Apprentice show for being too zany and is remembered for wearing berets, has given up her freelance earnings (said to be over £100,000 a year) to help poverty-stricken youngsters in New Delhi.

Lucinda graduated from Manchester in 1998 with a degree in psychology and neuroscience. Her first job was in the finance sector with Ernst and Young and Merrill Lynch. After three years extensive travelling, including four months in a campervan going through Mexico, she set up her own business consultancy to focus on business strategy, development and project management. She was employed by the UK's largest life assurance and pensions provider, among other clients, as a contractor.

Lucinda is working in India with a small NGO which educates street children, who live under the flyovers and on pavements, and beg or work at traffic signals in South Delhi. Khoj Foundation provides basic education through roadside learning, workshops and theatre. It aims to be a support system to the children, guiding them towards a dignified life and educational opportunities. Their next project will see the launch of a mobile school bus.

Lucinda says: "I loved being at Manchester University. I had some of my happiest moments there. I feel that it was a really supportive environment that has helped me determine the life I lead. Working in India is eye-opening. It is inconceivable how some of these young folk live. They have no permanent shelter, few clothes (many simply wear a single t-shirt every day) and no guarantee of food or safety. Yet the warmth and happiness they exude with no expectation is simply astonishing".

www.khojfoundation.com

Budget hotel success



Manchester graduate Drew Cockton, 23, has taken on the credit crunch by opening the new 'Eazysleep' budget hotel in Manchester.

Faced with a poor jobs market Drew (BA Hons European Studies and Modern Languages, German, 2008) and some friends decided to take matters into their own hands after graduation. They began raising funds to transform an old bed and breakfast on Canal Street in Manchester's trendy gay village into a new budget hotel.

The hotel, which has 14 en-suite rooms with prices starting from

£19-a-night, was up and running in time for the Manchester Pride festival in August 2009.

Already a cross section of guests have been welcomed in to Eazysleep including football fans, female shoppers, gay men and of course Manchester graduates!

Drew now hopes to expand Eazysleep to Liverpool or Birmingham. "This is the hardest thing I have ever done in my life, but I'm hoping it'll all be worth it. My advice to anyone thinking of doing something similar? Go for it, but don't expect it to be easy!"

Former Student Direct journalist scoops top award

A former Student Direct journalist has picked up a top award for restaurant reviews written for Metro newspaper.



University alumna Emma Sturgess was presented with the Guild of Food Writers Restaurant Reviewer of the Year award by food critic Egon Ronay at a ceremony in the magnificent Lincoln's Inn in London. The event was attended by some of the nation's top food critics and other winners included Jamie Oliver for his campaigning *Jamie's Ministry of Food* television series and Heston Blumenthal for his *The Big Fat Duck Cookbook*.

Emma started her writing career at *Student Direct*, The University of Manchester's weekly student newspaper, the largest in the country. She began by writing restaurant reviews of some of Manchester's best - and worst - establishments while studying at the University. She has not looked back since.

"I've always been interested in food, cookery and restaurants and enjoy reading the work of illustrious obsessives like Ruth Reichl, Michael Bateman and Jeffrey Steingarten," said Emma.

"A few years after graduation I trained at Ballymaloe Cookery School in Cork, Ireland, and am now freelance, working for *The Observer*, *Radio Times* and *Metro*.

"I was thrilled to win the award, especially as it was for my reviews of restaurants in Manchester, where I started as a food writer and have had so many good and bad meals."

Emma graduated from Manchester in 2000 with a first class degree in English and American Literature.

She beat off competition from Jay Rayner of the *Observer Magazine* and John Walsh of the *Independent Magazine* to take the top prize.

Student Direct has begun the careers of many big name journalists, with former staff now working at the BBC, the *Financial Times*, and the *Mirror*, among many other places.

To read more alumni profiles please visit the alumni news section on the alumni community website Your Manchester Online. See page 41 for details on how to register. There is also a 'distinguished alumni library' which lists some of our eminent alumni. www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester

Alumni events

Join our many former students who attend an alumni event in the UK or overseas each year. To keep yourself informed about the latest events, register for the exclusive alumni community website www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester and make sure that your details are updated regularly.

Here we highlight just some of the many events which have recently taken place. Details of all our past events can be found on the alumni community website.

Past Events



Alumni Association Dinner in London

The University of Manchester Alumni Association's annual, black-tie dinner was held this year at the Institute of Directors in London and hosted by Chancellor and University graduate, Dr Tom Bloxham MBE



Your Manchester Insights London

The May 2009 Your Insights London Lecture took place at the Royal Overseas League and was presented by Manchester graduate Dr Stephen Taylor (BSc Hons Biochemistry 1991), Cancer Research UK Senior Fellow at The University of Manchester.

International Networks

Members of the Alumni Association enjoyed alumni events in Hong Kong (hosted by Lord Bradley of Withington, Special Advisor on Government and Political Relations at The University of Manchester) and in Shanghai (hosted by Professor Rod Coombs, Vice-President for Innovation and Economic Development at the University).



Cockcroft Rutherford Lecture 2009

Our speaker for 2009 was Professor Mohan Munasinghe who is Vice-Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the new Director General of the University's Sustainable Consumption Institute (SCI).



The private diaries of Alison Uttley

Alumni heard from acclaimed biographer Professor Denis Judd, on the subject of renowned children's author and Manchester graduate, Alison Uttley, while enjoying afternoon tea in the Christie Bistro at the University (see page 33 for further details).

Forthcoming Events

Your Manchester Insights Lecture and Business Networking Reception, London

May/June 2010

See the alumni community website for details of this event

Tour of Gorton Monastery followed by lunch

Wednesday, 8 September 2010

Visit the magnificent Victorian Gothic building and walk in the footsteps of the Franciscans. The tour is followed by tea/coffee, homemade soup and sandwiches and Monastery-made cakes.

The Alumni Association Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, 30 March 2011

All alumni are encouraged to attend the AGM, which is your opportunity to gain a full insight into the activities of your Alumni Association, as well as a chance to meet the staff of the Division of Development and Alumni Relations.

Chair of the Alumni Association

Our special thanks go to Andrew Spinoza (BA Hons Combined Studies 1982) who took up the helm as the first Chair of the Alumni Association for the newly-established University at the 2005 AGM and whose term of office will come to an end in April 2011.

Andrew founded City Life, a "what's on" magazine for Greater Manchester, which is now owned by the Guardian Media Group. He also founded a national Public Relations consultancy based in Manchester called SKV Communications.

Since his appointment as Chair the University has benefited greatly from Andrew's links with the city and with business. Andrew comments: "I have thoroughly enjoyed my role as Chair of the Alumni Association. My time at The University of Manchester helped make me what I am today and it has been an honour to be able to play a role in enhancing the University's profile and to engage with so many alumni".

Graduates on the Alumni Register are able to nominate other fellow graduates to be considered for the role as Chair. Nominations received will be submitted to the Alumni Association Advisory Board for selection by its Nominations Committee. Nomination forms will be available on Your Manchester Online this Autumn.



Paul Skinner (second from left) receiving his award from Hugh Mitchell (Chief Human Resources and Corporate Officer, Royal Dutch Shell plc), flanked by Michael Luger, Director of MBS (left) and Chris Cox, Director of Development

Outstanding Alumni Awards

The achievements of three former students have been recognised with Outstanding Alumni Awards. These are given to former students who have achieved distinction within their profession, have provided exemplary service to the University, or have made an outstanding contribution of a personal humanitarian nature. Recent recipients are:

Dr John Emsley

PhD Science 1964, MSc Science 1961, BSc Hons Chemistry 1960

Respected writer and broadcaster, well known for his award-winning books on chemistry.

Paul Skinner

MBA (Dip BA) 1969

Chief Human Resource Officer, Royal Dutch Shell.

Dr Mark Kermode

PhD English 1991

BA Hons English Language and Literature 1985

Highly acclaimed film critic – see page 24 for further details

The Alumni Register

If you wish to be kept informed of the proceedings of the Alumni Association and to exercise your voting rights, please ensure that you are registered with the alumni online community – Your Manchester Online (YMO) – and that your email address is kept up-to-date. Those without access to the internet should contact the Division of Development and Alumni Relations (using the contact details on page 3) and ask to be kept informed of proceedings via the postal system.



Your Manchester Online

Many of the articles within the magazine have directed you to the alumni online community – Your Manchester Online (YMO) – designed to keep you

updated with the latest news and activities and to help you maintain contact with thousands of other alumni.

As a reminder to those who have not yet registered, in order to do so you will need to enter your alumni ID number. This number appears on your alumni membership card. You will also need to create a User ID (a name you select when registering on the site) and a password (which you will need to remember, or keep in a safe place for future use).

www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester

Can you help?

Can you help former Manchester graduate and economics lecturer Eric Rowley (MA Economics 1966) to identify staff, alumni and students from the University who died whilst in the Armed Forces in the years following 1945, in order to complete a commemorative list. If so, please contact Eric at eric.rowley@btinternet.com or telephone + 44 (0)161 439 8779.

Development News

Giving for impact on campus and beyond

Your Manchester Fund is the annual giving programme for The University of Manchester. Alumni and friends make a tremendous difference for thousands of current students through generous financial support for scholarships, projects and research programmes.

Funding is allocated to five key, student-focused areas:

Opportunity Manchester

These scholarships are offered to high achieving undergraduate students joining the University, who come from backgrounds which are under-represented in higher education.

Global Outreach

The Global Outreach programme enables students from developing countries to study beyond their borders and fulfil their potential, whilst diversifying the talent pool at Manchester.

Research Impact

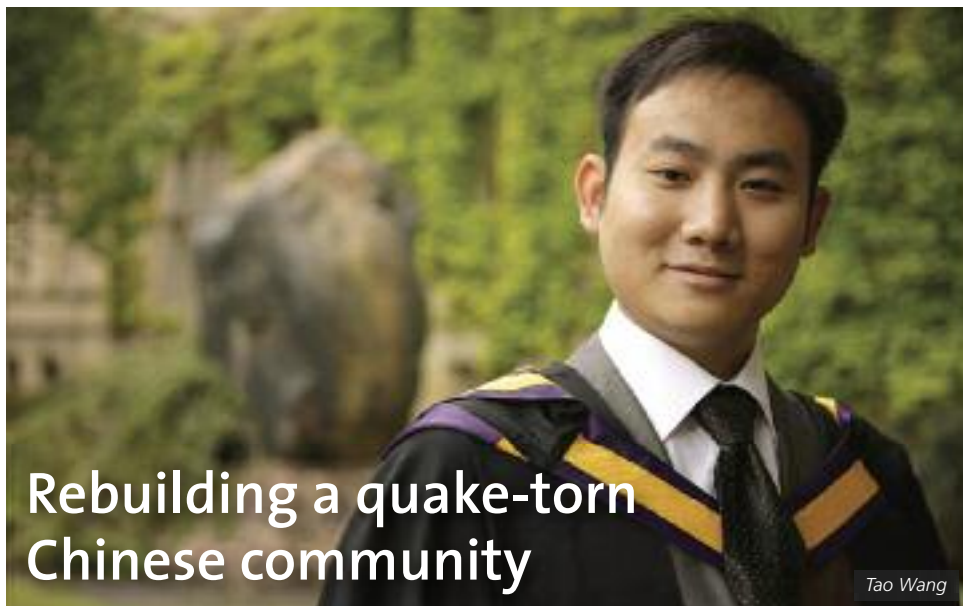
Your Manchester Fund is supporting outstanding Manchester research students as they undertake solutions-driven research into issues of national and international importance.

Bridging Hardship

Bridging Hardship offers a helping hand to hard-hit students in order to see them through their studies at Manchester.

Learning Enrichment

Your Manchester Fund supports a wide variety of projects and programmes across campus to enrich the academic and wider university experience for the student body as a whole.



Rebuilding a quake-torn Chinese community

Tao Wang

Tao Wang's life changed for ever in May 2008 when an earthquake measuring 7.9 on the Richter scale devastated his hometown of Pengzhou in China.

The 23-year-old was an engineering student in Manchester at the time. Tragically his sister and grandfather had been killed and Tao's home and his family's successful hotel business were also destroyed.

During the summer vacation, Tao returned to his village to help rebuild the badly damaged community. He used skills acquired through taking part in the Manchester Leadership Programme, and enlisted the support of his high school friends, to set up makeshift school rooms and to teach children subjects such as Maths, Physics, English, History and Kung Fu. Some students travelled for up to three hours on foot to attend.

Despite the tragedy, Tao's family were adamant that he should continue his studies. Tao said he was overjoyed to receive a £17,100 Bridging Hardship Award from Your Manchester Fund to cover the remaining international student tuition fees and living costs for his final year studies. The award

enabled Tao to graduate in 2009 with the MEng Chemical Engineering degree he had worked so hard for.

"I really appreciate the support from the University and the alumni who have helped me during this very difficult time."

Tao strongly advocates the notion 'pay it forward', believing that people should be helped and inspired to achieve great things "so that they can go on to help and inspire others in turn". Tao says: "A strong gesture of support could deliver untold goodwill in a wide range of communities and is beneficial all round."

He has since returned to China to work for an engineering company and is continuing to help rebuild his village by securing support from prominent Chinese individuals and organisations.

Help support more students like Tao Wang now by contributing to Your Manchester Fund. The value of your gift could be increased by up to 70%.

See page 45 for details.

Dan's innovative plan to reduce carbon emissions

Thanks to a Your Manchester Fund Research Impact Scholarship, Manchester's most talented students are undertaking solutions-driven research into issues of national and international importance.

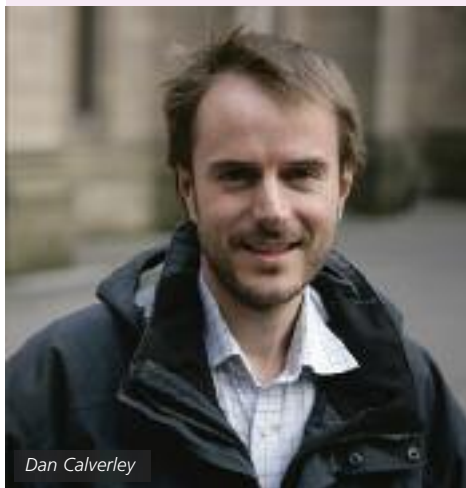
One of these students is PhD scholar, Dan Calverley who is investigating innovative methods of reducing carbon in the transport sector.

He is currently helping to create a new government policy relating to environmental issues in Wales and is directly expanding current knowledge about how public attitudes to pro-environmental behaviour affect the uptake of interventions designed to reduce CO₂ and prevent climate change.

His work is in conjunction with the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change and the newly founded Sustainable Consumption Institute.

Dan says, "The award money has granted me a degree of interdisciplinary freedom not attainable under other funding programmes.

"Thank you very much for your donation. I will strive for a high standard of research which will do credit to Your Manchester Fund and the University."



Dan Calverley

Harvard Link-up

Medical Scientists working on a joint venture at the Universities of Manchester and Harvard have made important progress in our understanding of the link between scar tissue and cancer.

Thanks to generous support from alumnus and president of the North American Foundation for The University of Manchester (NAFUM), Tony Thornley (BSc Chemistry 1967) and his wife Gillian, the Thornley Visiting Professorship in Regenerative Medicine has enabled specialists from the UK and the US to work together to grow human keloid scar tissue in a test tube for the first time at The University of Manchester.

The work is a significant breakthrough in the field of regenerative medicine and cancer treatment, an area which has received additional funding from another alumnus, Steve Fitzpatrick (BSc Chemical Engineering 1972) and his wife, Kathy, together with a significant contribution from Your Manchester Fund.

The transatlantic team is carrying out pioneering research into the molecular genetics underlying wound healing and skin cancer. The focus is on keloid scars – lumpy, over-grown scars that form over injured skin. Keloid scars grow like cancer tumours, but unlike cancers, they do not spread beyond the injury site.

By investigating the behaviour of wound healing and scar formation at a molecular level, the researchers hope to learn more about skin repair and the role of stem cells in skin



Tony Thornley

regeneration, as well as the growth of cancerous cells.

Professor Pier Paolo Pandolfi, an award-winning geneticist and cancer researcher, is directing work at Harvard University, and has been appointed Thornley Visiting Professor in Regenerative Medicine at The University of Manchester for the next three years. Professor Pandolfi is due to visit the University in the spring. His busy schedule will include a lecture and seminar programme, along with discussions on progress with Manchester-based regenerative medicine specialists.

The team at The University of Manchester is led by Professor Gus McGrouther, Professor of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and Dr Ardeshtir Bayat, a plastic surgeon with a PhD in the molecular genetics of scar formation.

The research is being supported by the appointment of Thornley-funded post-doctoral fellows at both universities.

Manchester fellows Dr Syed (Sameer) Farhatullah and Dr Syed Amir Iqbal, recently published papers containing fresh findings related to keloid scars. Meanwhile, at Harvard, Dr Shohreh Varmeh is looking into molecular developments in tissue samples sent from the UK.

"The advances we have made as a transatlantic team are very exciting," said Professor McGrouther.

"Keloid scars are relatively under-researched at a molecular level and the work is important because these scars are disfiguring and can be crippling when they form over a healed burn injury."

Professor McGrouther added: "The partnership means our people in Manchester can collaborate with Harvard colleagues to look at the genetics of keloid tissue, while addressing the question of how this relates to the biology of cancers. By linking the two fields and by exchanging staff, we are making big strides towards increasing our understanding of the entire process."

Law firm backs community-based doctoral research in Wythenshawe

An amazing group of Manchester mothers who work with murderers to prevent further violence – despite having lost a child to violence themselves – has inspired Yvonne Thorne to begin a unique PhD studentship scheme at the University.

Yvonne, a mother-of-three and a founding member of Mothers Against Violence (MAV), is pursuing her academic goals while maintaining her hands-on voluntary community work after winning a place on the pilot studentship scheme.

The scheme was launched by the Manchester Leadership Programme (MLP), the University's pioneering initiative that offers a unique combination of academic study and community-based activity. It is generously supported by Russell Jones & Walker Solicitors.

The four-year studentships enable three outstanding young researchers to combine PhD research with valuable work experience linked to the leadership programme. The idea is directly connected to the University's three strategic goals of research, higher learning, and social responsibility.

Yvonne, aged 33, was expecting her first child when she became inspired by the compassion of MAV members whose children had been killed in gang-related violence in the Moss Side and Hulme areas of Manchester. The group has been commended by the Home Office.

"These mothers are amazing. Despite having lost their children they come back to stop this happening to other people," said Yvonne. "They'll go into a prison and hug someone jailed for murder, which is crucial to the offender's rehabilitation. This compassion drove me then, and it still does now."



Neil Kinsella of Russell Jones & Walker with PhD student Yvonne Thorne

"I became the treasurer at MAV but as a voluntary set-up it's all hands on deck and I quickly found myself visiting bereaved parents, doing talks at schools and youth centres, advising people about their legal rights, and writing letters to prisoners. All this was on top of my 'official' duties," added Yvonne.

After leaving school with three GCSEs, she returned to the classroom some years later and gained extra qualifications. These, along with an extensive portfolio of voluntary community work, enabled her to take a BA in Criminology at the University. She graduated with a 2:1 in 2008.

The pilot studentship scheme involves three PhD students carrying out interlinked research projects related to improving the choices and chances of young people living in Wythenshawe, one of the Manchester City

Region's most deprived areas. Yvonne's remit is to identify case studies of people who have successfully broken out of offending behaviour cycles and establish how these studies can be used to help other people.

"I started my studentship in September 2009. It's been a rollercoaster ride, but a marvellous experience. What motivates me is the idea that other people will benefit from my work," said Yvonne.

Russell Jones & Walker Solicitors is headed by Manchester alumnus Neil Kinsella (LLB 1979), a managing partner at the firm who specialises in personal injury and sports law.

Neil is delighted that his company is involved in supporting this project: "Yvonne is an inspiration as someone who makes a real difference and that's why we wanted to support her and the University."

Future Developments

Did you know that Manchester has the UK's lowest life expectancy for men and the second lowest for women? The University plans to launch another programme of MLP PhD studentships aimed at identifying ways in which community-based research, focused on some of the most deprived areas in the UK, can help address this important issue. Alumni who are interested in finding out more about how they can support this work should contact Jane Ratchford, Director of The Manchester Leadership Programme tel +44 (0)161 275 2828 or jane.ratchford@manchester.ac.uk

Time is running out...

...to make your match



The University's allocation from the Government's Matched Funding Scheme is fast running out as donors from the UK and beyond are using this opportunity to increase the impact of their gift. Join them before it is too late by supporting Your Manchester Fund and increase the impact of your gift by up to 70%.

What is the Government Matched Funding Scheme?

- The UK Government has launched a programme to encourage gifts from alumni and others to support English Higher Education institutions, known as the Matched Funding Scheme.
- As a former student, wherever you are in the world, we can add at least a third to the value of your gift, at no extra cost to you.
- For UK donors, this 33% bonus will be applied both to the gift itself and to the value of Gift Aid. This means the value of your gift could be increased by 70%.

Your Gift	Your Gift with Gift Aid	Your Gift with Gift Aid and Matched Funding	Effect on Your Gift
£29.37	£37.59	£50	+70%
£117.48	£150.37	£200	+70%
£588.68	£735.85	£1,000	+70%

Which gifts qualify?

- Donations from all donors, given since 1 August 2008.
- Gift Aided donations.
- Gifts from UK and international individuals, companies and charitable trusts.
- All gifts to Your Manchester Fund (see page 42). Certain limits apply to major gifts above £150,000.
- Shares, valued at the time received by the Division of Development and Alumni Relations.

Which gifts do not qualify?

- Any gifts made after 31 July 2011, or after the University's allocation from the Government has run out (which will happen soon).
- Gifts in kind.
- Legacies.

Your Manchester Fund

Together we're shaping the world of tomorrow

To find out if any other forms of giving are eligible for Matched Funding, please contact Lesley Dowdall, Head of Donor Programmes – tel +44 (0)161 275 2373, email lesley.dowdall@manchester.ac.uk – for further information

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Show your support for the transformational power of education and research.

Your Manchester Fund is the programme through which thousands of Manchester alumni target their support for a range of student scholarships, student support resources, and research at the University. For further details on the priorities of the fund, or to donate online please see www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchesterfund

Please complete in block capitals and return to:

Your Manchester Fund, The Division of Development and Alumni Relations, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL tel +44 (0)161 275 2619

REF: MAG 10/11

Add up to 70% Matched Funding
See page 45

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The purpose of your gift

Your Manchester Fund

☐ To benefit the five student support priority areas at the discretion of the Your Manchester Fund Steering Group

OR

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☐ Opportunity Manchester	☐ Learning Enrichment	☐ Bridging Hardship
☐ Research Impact	☐ Global Outreach	☐ Other
Specific Research Theme (optional)		

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£100	☐	£500	☐	Other	

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Please charge the above amount to my

☐ Visa	☐ Mastercard	☐ Maestro/Switch/Solo	☐ CAF
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Should name and address of card holder differ from the donor details completed, please insert a note supplying these

Date

Donor Acknowledgement

☐ Please tick here if you would prefer your name not to appear in any future donor acknowledgement list

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If you are a UK taxpayer please take a moment to sign this declaration. In doing so you will increase the value of your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you. For donations made from 6 April 2008 to 5 April 2011, HMRC will also add an additional 3% in transitional relief. A confirmation certificate will be sent upon receipt.

I would like The University of Manchester to treat all donations I have made for the last 6 tax years, and all future donations that I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations.

Signature Date

Data Protection - 1998 Data Protection Act Your data is securely held in the University's Division of Development and Alumni Relations and will be treated confidentially and with sensitivity for the benefit of the University and its members in accordance with the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998. The data is available to our schools and faculties, recognised alumni societies, sports and other clubs associated with the University and is used for a full range of alumni activities including the sending of University publications and the notification of alumni events, fundraising programmes and for the promotion of benefits and services. If you do not want your data to be used for the above purposes, please tick this box. ☐

Your Manchester Legacy



Many alumni choose to show their appreciation of The University of Manchester by remembering the University in their Will – building on a long history of philanthropic support at Manchester.

Whatever the reason or size, legacy gifts can have a real and enduring effect. They speed up vital research, strengthen an academic discipline, or help us to attract the best students. Examples of gifts include:

- Mr Kenneth Cavalot (Adult Education, 1971) – for the Manchester Research Centre Hearing and Communications Group, allowing the Audiology and Deafness Department to further research into the benefits of hearing aids and cochlear implants for hearing impaired children;
- Dr George Howard (Chemistry 1943; MSc Polymer Science and Technology 1944) – for The Howard Scholarship in Chemistry. Established by Mr Andrew Howard in memory of his father, the Scholarships are awarded to undergraduate Chemistry students who are finding it difficult to study at the University without additional financial assistance;
- Dr Isabella Muir was a Research Biochemist at the University. Her gift is used for research prizes in the Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell-Matrix Research, supporting training visits.

If you have been inspired by The University of Manchester in any way, a gift in your Will can be invaluable to research and scholarly enquiry for future generations. It may even be that you have a personal reason to support the University – to commemorate a loved one's time here for example. Whatever the reason, if you do choose to remember the University alongside other commitments in your Will, we would encourage you to share your plans with us if you feel able to do so. Please be assured that any information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence, should that be preferred.



The University is honoured to be the selected partner for such far-sighted generosity and we thank you sincerely for your support. If you would like a copy of the University's legacy brochure or would like to speak directly to someone about leaving a gift in your Will to the University, please contact Lesley Dowdall, on tel +44 (0)161 275 2373, email lesley.dowdall@manchester.ac.uk

Alumni from the University can take up a special will-writing service that is available at a discounted rate through specialists Irwin Mitchell Solicitors. Please visit: www.extranet.irwinmitchell.com/willsandtrusts/university_of_manchester/index.asp for further information. Rates are irrespective of whether the University is included in your Will.

Alumni Benefits

Your Alumni Association membership card entitles you to over 40 special discounts and offers. See the alumni community website below for a full listing and click on 'benefits and services' – you will need to register if you have not already done so (see page 41.) We have highlighted just a few of the benefits currently available below
www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester



Cottages4You

A 10% discount is available for alumni on over 13,000 properties in the UK and parts of Europe



The Magazine Group

Alumni can save up to 75% on over 400 magazines and trade journals

Royal Exchange Theatre

Alumni can take advantage of a £3 discount off any performance in the main theatre. This excludes Saturdays and is subject to availability



Forthcoming careers fairs

Graduate Recruitment Fair

Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 June 2010
(Different exhibitors each day)

Ethnic Diversity Fair

October 2010 – date to be confirmed

Engineering, Science and Technology Fair

Wednesday 20 October 2010

Finance, Business and Management Fair

Thursday 21 October 2010

Law Fair

Tuesday 16 November 2010

Postgraduate Study Fair

Wednesday 17 November 2010



www.manchester.ac.uk/careers/fairs

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