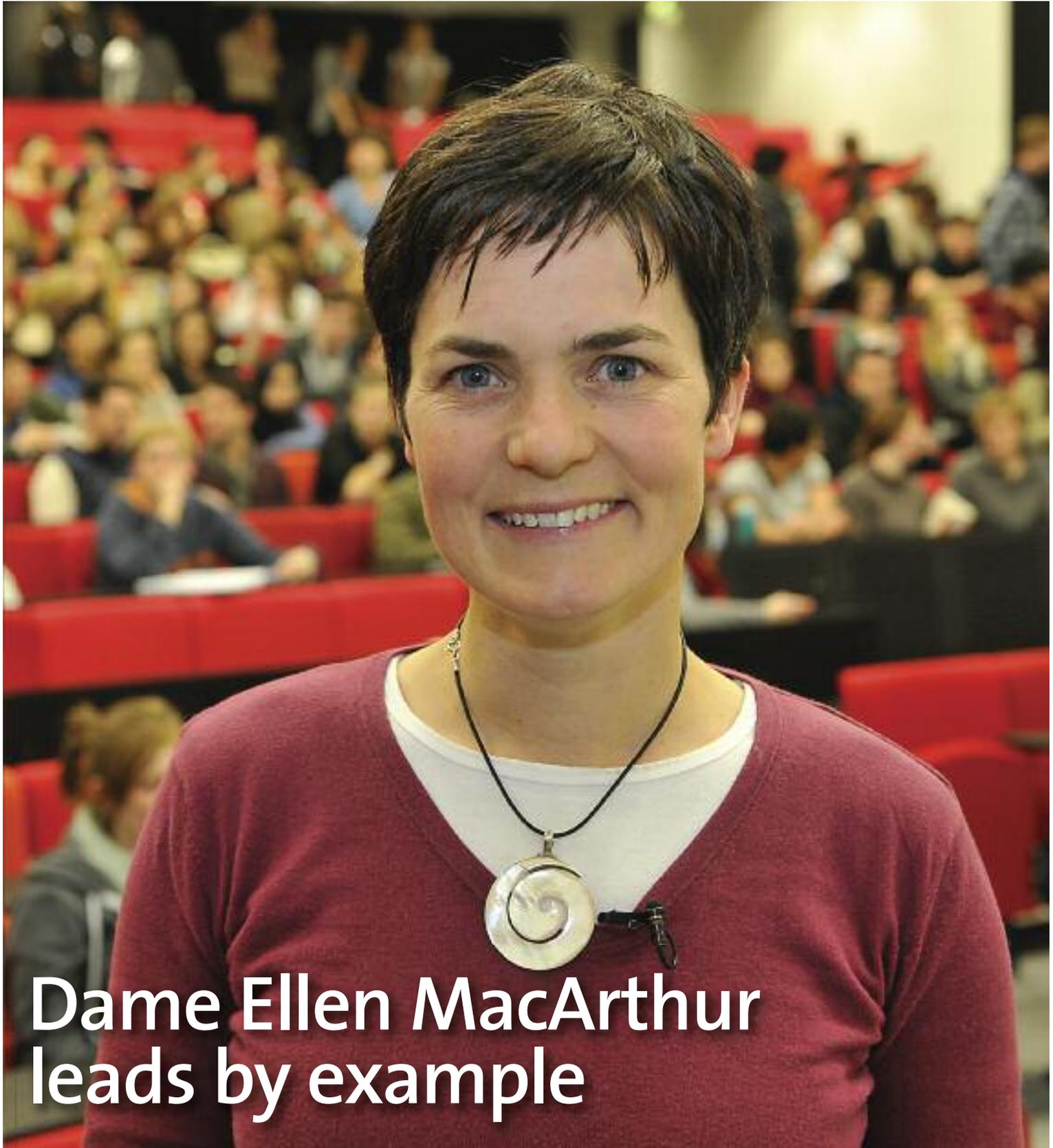


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**Dame Ellen MacArthur
leads by example**

Message from the President

The President looks this month at how Professor Alan Gilbert's vision to enhance the student experience is being implemented throughout the University.





On the 20th October we celebrated the sixth birthday of the University at our annual Foundation Day. This is a day when we celebrate success and award honorary doctorates to outstanding individuals who have made diverse and important contributions to the University.

This year the day was tinged with sadness, as we paid tribute to Professor Alan Gilbert, who sadly died earlier this year, very shortly after his retirement as President and Vice-Chancellor. Alan was due to have received an honorary degree, which was awarded posthumously, and had been selected as our Foundation Day lecturer.

Alan's lecture was not polished to his very high standards which would allow us to publish it, but the messages were very clear. It was entitled "It's the students stupid!" a reference to Bill Clinton's famous statement "It's the economy stupid!" during his successful 1992 presidential campaign.

Alan's intended messages were loud and clear that, in a university such as ours, the students and the value of their experience are incredibly important, that in spite of very limited resources, we must pay more attention to our students and that teaching and research are of equal importance and must have parity of esteem.

The pressure to achieve parity of esteem between research and teaching and to improve the undergraduate experience is ever growing as students already pay significant sums for their university education. We are facing potentially unprecedented changes to the higher education sector, if proposed cuts described in the Comprehensive Spending Review are implemented, and if students are required to meet much of the costs of their university education. While the details of funding for universities and the nature of student fees will not be known for some time, it is clear that students will almost certainly bear a higher proportion of the costs. They will thus, quite rightly, have much higher expectations of their university experience and will be ever more discerning in their choice of university.

The satisfaction of all UK final year undergraduates is assessed annually through the National Students' Survey. This year our average score increased by

two points to 79% overall satisfaction, indicating that nearly one in five of our students are satisfied with their experience in Manchester (a similar international students' survey gives a significantly higher figure). Many of our courses score well over 90% and some have improved dramatically this year. But far too many attract low scores and some have declined.

There may be numerous reasons behind the lower scores and the failure for some courses to improve, despite Alan Gilbert's focus on teaching and learning over the past three years and the many measures we have introduced. We know that for some courses, very large classes and great pressure on limited resources make it very difficult for overworked staff to give students the attention that they need. We are looking at how we reduce some of the very high student:staff ratios and alleviate the pressures.

In some cases, the major changes instigated last year may have been too late to take effect. But in some areas we also know that the importance of the student experience just hasn't yet been fully grasped, that students aren't listened to and that other activities take priority.

Colin Stirling, as Vice-President for Teaching, Learning and Students, will take the academic lead on enhancing the student experience and will be supported by the appointment of an Associate Vice-President. They will both work closely with the new Director of Student Experience, currently being appointed, to oversee all of the student services within the University's Professional Support Services.

On visits to most of the Schools across the University last year I held open meetings with students. They were, as you would expect, articulate, informed and reasonable. They understand the many pressures on our staff and value the high quality of research undertaken at this University. They have many, often quite simple suggestions, that could have a considerable impact on their learning experience. But above all else, they want to believe that the staff of the University care about them and their education. We owe it to the students to do this, not only because they pay for their education, but because students are what makes a university.

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Dame Ellen MacArthur

News in brief



Hospital hosts Emmerdale star

Medical and midwifery staff at the University Hospital of South Manchester's Maternity Centre were joined by Emmerdale and Coronation Street actor Chris Bisson who performed the official ground-breaking for the Trust's extension to its Maternity Centre.

Understanding genetic disorders

A specialist in genetic medicine at the Manchester Biomedical Research Centre is leading a multi-national team investigating the genetics of immune system disorders.

Professor Yanick Crow has been awarded a European Union grant of €5.4 million over three years to investigate Nuclease Immune Mediated Brain and Lupus-like (NIMBL) conditions. These are devastating genetic disorders which lead to greatly reduced quality of life, high mortality - especially in children, and significant risks of recurrence within affected families.

Prime Minister's praise

Prime Minister David Cameron spoke about the importance of an environmental collaboration between the University and Fudan University in Shanghai on last month's visit to the country.

Mr Cameron led the biggest-ever Government delegation to China, including Chancellor George Osborne, Business Secretary Vince Cable, Energy Secretary Chris Huhne and Education Secretary Michael Gove.

Mr Cameron reinforced his commitment to support their UK investments and made reference to the collaboration between the Tyndall Centre and the Shanghai institution.

Led by the University of East Anglia (UEA), and including The University of Manchester as well as Oxford, Cambridge, Newcastle, Sussex, Southampton and Cardiff, the Tyndall Centre has received support from China's central and Shanghai governments.

Fudan will become the Chinese hub of the Tyndall Centre, a unique partnership between researchers from eight UK research institutions, which tackles issues around climate change.



Foundation Day honours former President

The 2010 Foundation Day Lecture honoured the memory of Professor Alan Gilbert and marked his contribution to the University and higher education, bestowing an honorary degree on him posthumously.

The tribute was followed by the unveiling of Professor Gilbert's official portrait at the Whitworth Art Gallery, in whose memory the Turner Exhibition has also been dedicated.

On the day, honorary degrees were also conferred upon the inaugural Chairman of the Board of Governors Norman Askew, and philanthropist Rory

Brooks, whose Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Foundation funds the University's Brooks World Poverty Institute, an international centre of excellence established to create and share knowledge to end poverty.

In addition honorary degrees were conferred upon Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury, the First Vice-Chancellor of Brac University in Bangladesh and American economist Professor Thomas Schelling who was awarded the 2005 Nobel Prize for Economics for enhancing our understanding of conflict and cooperation through game-theory analysis.

Milestone met at research centre

The Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility (WTCRF) recently celebrated its 100,000th participant visit.

Leslie Dickinson visited the Facility as part of a project run by Professor Rayaz Malik, who is based in the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine.

Leslie said: "I wanted to contribute to research for the future. More people, including me, will benefit from this work further down the line. I'd recommend anyone who gets the chance to participate in research studies."

With around 10,000 participant visits a year, the Facility provides specialist space for clinical researchers and other NHS partners. During the first nine years the Facility has housed over 400 researchers from across



more than 30 research areas. It has had over 375 study submissions to date and is currently serving 120 active studies and trials.

Leslie was presented with flowers by WTCRF Medical Director

Professor Tony Heagerty who said: "I am delighted that Leslie can join us to celebrate this significant landmark. It pays tribute to the hard work of the staff and the ever increasing quality of the work undertaken."



Ellen leads by example

Round the world yachtswoman Dame Ellen MacArthur visited the University to give a lecture to 500 students taking the Manchester Leadership Programme (MLP).

In 2005 she set a solo record in her trimaran, sailing around the world single-handedly in just 71 days.

But last year she dramatically announced her retirement from competitive sailing, to launch the Ellen MacArthur Foundation.

Whilst clearly still in love with the sea, Ellen's new passion is sustainability, as she explained to the MLP students packed into University Place.

Ellen said: "After retirement, I considered sailing around the world in a boat to promote the message "use less" but that would have been just raising awareness. The awareness is already there. I want to help to persuade people that we need to rethink the way we do things and that is the biggest challenge I have ever faced."

The Foundation is a charity that works with business and education to give young people the vision to rethink and redesign a sustainable future.

Ellen is the latest in a long line of leaders who have come onto campus to engage with MLP students. She also advises several blue chip including E.ON and Renault on leadership and sustainability.

Ellen spoke to the MLP students about why she decided to set up her Foundation to work with public, business, government and organisations to find and communicate ways to live more sustainably.

While MLP students are given a basic introduction to leadership theory, the main focus of the programme is on the practical ways in which leaders from the public, private and voluntary sectors confront key challenges facing their organisations and which test their leadership mettle.

The MLP was launched in 2005 with 80 students and this number has risen to 900 in 2009/10. The University is committed to the ongoing growth and development of the MLP so that by 2015, more than 3,000 students each year will have completed the programme.

Last orders for science historians

University science historians found a novel place to discuss their research taking up residency in one of Manchester's most iconic pubs.

Dr James Sumner and Dr Carsten Timmerman lectured pub-goers at the Briton's Protection on Great Bridgewater Street, on the history – and dangers – of drinking and smoking, as part of the Manchester Science Festival.

Dr Sumner, a researcher at the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (CHSTM) at Manchester's Faculty of Life Sciences, presented Drinking Up Time: the unlikely story of an everyday time-traveller's entanglement with the science of alcohol over three centuries.

Dr Sumner explained: "The great thing about time travel is that you can jump around and explore how scientific ideas have changed, and why they developed.

"Alcohol is a great topic for this project because it mattered as much to our ancestors as it does to us. Thinking about fermentation – why things that taste sweet turn into things that make you drunk – had a big influence on the growth of chemical theory, and there has always been controversy about the ingredients of drink. Clearing cloudy beer, for instance, often involved substances made from fish. Nineteenth-century brewers relied on evidence from the leading chemical lecturers of the time to persuade people that this was safe."

News in brief



Hungary for knowledge

Volunteers from The Manchester Museum have been involved in an international exchange programme with the Museum of Fine Arts in Budapest. Over the last 12 months, six teams of volunteers from both organisations swapped places for three weeks to live and volunteer in a different country, sharing their skills and experiences, whilst learning about each other's culture.

During their stay, volunteers were involved in many aspects of museum work, including conservation, visitor services, guiding, office administration and object handling.

Dante Project

Dr Guyda Armstrong from the School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures, held an event at the John Rylands University Library, Deansgate, recently to publicise the completion of her British Academy-funded Manchester Digital Dante Project. The event showcased digital surrogates of three culturally significant editions of Dante's *Divine Comedy* dating from the fifteenth century which are held in the University's Special Collections. The books were digitized by the Library's Imaging team and will be used in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and research in Italian studies in Manchester and beyond.

Cell control study

A team investigating how genes respond to hormonal changes and inflammation has been awarded a Wellcome Trust grant of £1.24 million for a five-year study.

The research programme, at the National Institute for Health Research's Biomedical Research Centre (BRC), in Manchester, is led by Professor Julian Davis, a consultant endocrinologist at MRI and leader of The University of Manchester's Developmental Biomedicine Research Group.

"The aim of the study is to learn more about how tissues control themselves and influence how the body reacts to changes such as puberty or external challenges such as inflammation," explained Professor Davis.



Epic reading of an epic poem

A ten-hour reading of Milton's epic poem Paradise Lost is to take place on 10 December to raise money for charity.

The 50 or so students and staff will read all 86,340 words -10,552 lines - in a bid to raise cash for the Royal National Institution of Blind People (RNIB) - a day after what would have been the poet's 402 birthday.

The event is being organised by PhD student Liam Haydon with the support of Dr Jerome De Groot, and will take place at the Poetry Centre in the University's Samuel Alexander building.

Liam chose the RNIB as by the time Milton started working on the poem, he had turned blind and was forced to dictate the text to his daughters.

He said: "I first discovered Milton as an undergraduate and fell in love with the poetry - the rhythm is amazing and unlike anything else I've read.

"This is about raising money for the RNIB but it's also bringing this fantastic work to the wider public and imparting some of our enthusiasm for Milton.

"Milton is meant to be read aloud - though it can be quite challenging reading 200 or so lines.

"But it's such an incredibly engaging poem: not bad for a story about two people who eat an apple!"

Each reader will each take 200 lines, lasting about ten minutes, aiming to complete the 12 books by early evening.

To sponsor them visit the web address below.

www.justgiving.com/paradiselost2010/

10 years at the top for Jane

Manchester Science Parks (msp) chief executive, Jane Davies, has recently celebrated 10 years of success as head of the world renowned science park.

Jane, the first female chief executive in the 25 year history of msp, took over from previous chief executive and chairman of the board, Professor John Allen, in 2000.

At the time, msp was a two site science park with 21,000 square metres of space and playing host to 76 tenants.

Under Jane's leadership, msp now manages more than 35,000 square metres of accommodation on four sites in Manchester and Salford, has 132 tenants and has played a vital role in the emergence of the city region's 'knowledge economy'.

Jane has received various accolades for her achievements



and in June of this year, she received an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for services to innovation.

Commenting on her ten year anniversary Jane said: "I consider it a privilege to have served Manchester Science Parks, and in turn the city region, for the last ten years.

"There probably aren't many people who still relish coming into the same job every day after ten years but I do, and that is largely down to the people I work with - colleagues, tenants and associates - and the constantly changing landscape of partnerships that we're involved in."



Inventive visit for Vince Cable

The Rt Hon Vince Cable, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, visited The University of Manchester Incubator Company (UMIC) recently for a tour of the world-class business incubation resources in the Core Technology Facility.

Dr Cable met with the Deputy President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Rod Coombs, Clive Rowland, CEO of The University of Manchester's Intellectual Property Commercialisation Company (UMIP) and UMIC Incubation Manager Tony Walker.

He also met Mark Ferguson, CEO of Renovo, and Andrew Gooda, Manufacturing Director of Nanoco.

During the tour Dr Cable found out how UMIP, UMIC and the University identify and support innovative research commercialisation potential, and nurture and develop spin-out companies and licenses technology.

Clive Rowland, CEO of UMIP, said: "We were delighted to welcome the Secretary of State and honoured to be seen as an exemplar of university technology transfer. We were able to illustrate some genuine examples of enterprise; in

particular, the role of UMIP in selecting inventions and managing proof of principle and early-stage projects through to company status and licences.

UMIC is the facilities management and business support service provider for the University, providing state-of-the-art facilities and top-quality business support services for start-ups. Its aim is to help Manchester and the region deliver high levels of economic growth through the creation, development and attraction of competitive, high-value and profitable businesses within a culture of enterprise and innovation.



Jodrell Bank stars in BBC show

A major series of BBC TV shows, presented by Professor Brian Cox, will be broadcast live from Jodrell Bank in the New Year.

Professor Cox will be joined by comedian Dara O'Briain to present Stargazing Live – three nights of fascinating footage from the University's Jodrell Bank Observatory which aims to bring astronomy down to earth.

The three live broadcasts, on the evenings of January 3rd-5th, hope to inspire people to look up at the wonders that fill our skies every night of the year.

Each programme is set to feature stunning images streamed live from telescopes across the globe, including the world-famous Lovell telescope, as well as from satellites hundreds of miles above the Earth's surface.

Coming live from the control room at the Cheshire site, the show will give Jodrell Bank astronomers the opportunity to explain their ground-breaking work to a wide audience.

The programme will also feature Jodrell Bank's key areas of work and expertise, including the study of the remnants of exploded stars and using the UK-wide e-MERLIN array of radio telescopes to examine the birth of planets, stars and galaxies.

Professor Cox, from the School of Physics and Astronomy, will act as guide, using his infectious enthusiasm for science and his trademark demonstrations to take the audience on a whistle-stop tour of our galaxy, teaching them the basics of how to identify, image and photograph the wonders they see above them.

Dr Tim O'Brien from the Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics, said: "After more than six months working on this project it's great to see it all coming together.

"We're really excited about the opportunity to showcase our work live from the Jodrell Bank Control Room.

"Astronomy has always been a subject that inspires and this programme will be a great way to encourage people of all ages to get involved."

Should cloud cover restrict visibility on any of the three nights, Professor Cox and Dara will turn to a team of star spotters located across the British Isles. By sharing their images of the night sky, they will maximise the chances of seeing everything that the stars have to offer during the nights the programme is on air.



News in brief



A voice in Parliament

Saudi students delivered a presentation in the Houses of Parliament to Lord Ahmed, Vice Chair of the all-party Saudi Arabia Group which exists to promote good relationships with the UK. The students presentation was on the topic of UK-Saudi relations, as well as their experience of culture shock arriving in the UK.

The group was also treated to a tour of part of the Houses of Parliament, as well as being allowed to observe a session taking place in the House of Lords.

The students were all undertaking a Summer School Programme at the University which was organised by the Study Abroad Unit. The participating students are all sponsored by the oil company Saudi Aramco, and undertook a programme of taught sessions, excursions and activities.

Stephanie Nixon, Study Abroad Officer, said: "The visit to the Houses of Parliament was a great opportunity for the students to engage directly with UK politics and to feedback first-hand to a member of the all-party Saudi Arabia group about the experiences of young Saudis living in the UK."

Zoology honour

The Faculty of Life Sciences hosted a dinner to honour Derek Yalden, who was recently awarded the highly prestigious Linnean Medal (formerly Gold Medal) of the Linnean Society of London, for his wide-ranging contributions to Zoology.

Derek, who retired from the University in 2005 and is currently Honorary Reader in the Faculty, is in good company – previous recipients of the medal include Sir Richard Owen (1888), Thomas Henry Huxley (1890), Alfred Russel Wallace (1892), Alfred Romer (1972) and W.D. Hamilton (1989).

Derek's enthusiasm for his subject played a huge part in maintaining and developing Zoology as a discipline in Manchester. It is still strong – this year the University registered a record number of first year undergraduates on its BSc Zoology programme.

Research in brief

Real cause of Brecht's demise revealed



Professor Stephen Parker, who is based at the University's School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures, has proved that the iconic German poet, playwright and theatre director suffered as a child in the early 1900s from

undiagnosed rheumatic fever, then a poorly understood condition.

Brecht was simply labelled a nervous child with an enlarged heart, but his condition caused a lifetime of suffering and eventual death.

When Professor Parker spotted an obscure note about Brecht's childhood diagnosis of an enlarged heart buried in the vast 30-volume edition of Brecht's writing, he set to work in the archives.

His research found that rheumatic fever attacked the boy's heart and his motorneural system, triggering chronic heart failure and Sydenham's chorea, manifest in erratic movements of the limbs and a facial grimace.

Wikis win award



Economics lecturer Ken Clark has been recognised for an innovative use of the internet in his teaching. Ken, receives his eLearning award from the Higher Education Academy's Economics Network this month in recognition for his

work on 'wikis' collaborative websites which can be edited by anyone with access to them.

Wikis produced by students were delivered through the University's virtual learning environment Blackboard. The students were divided into groups and assigned a task based on lecture material and each group only had access to its own wiki section before the assessment deadline. Once all sections were submitted and assessed the entire wiki formed an online textbook to help students revise for their final examination.

Ken said: "The inspiration for the wiki-based assessment was the increasing use of Web 2.0 tools in a variety of contexts. The "open sourcedness" of wikis and their inherently collaborative nature, make them an ideal vehicle for the creation of knowledge in the classroom."



New software brings facial-recognition technology to mobile phones

Your phone may one day be able to tell how you are feeling thanks to new mobile phone software that has been developed by Manchester scientists.

It can track your facial features in real-time and eventually it will be able to tell who the user is, where they are looking and even how they are feeling.

The method is believed to be unrivalled for speed and accuracy and could lead to facial recognition replacing passwords and PIN numbers to log into internet sites from a mobile phone.

"Existing mobile face trackers give only an approximate position and scale of the face," said lead researcher Dr Phil Tresadern from the School of Cancer and Enabling Sciences.

"Our model runs in real-time and accurately tracks a number of landmarks on and around the face such as the eyes, nose, mouth and jaw line.

"A mobile phone with a camera on the front captures a video of your face and tracks 22 facial features. This can make face recognition more accurate, and has great potential for novel ways of interacting with your phone."

Originally intended as part of a face and voice-verification system for access to mobile internet applications such as email, social networking and online banking, alternative uses for the device could include fun applications that, for instance, attach virtual objects to the user's face as they move around.

"At this stage, we're particularly interested in demonstrating uses for the face-tracking part of the technology," said Dr Tresadern.

A video of the mobile face tracker can be viewed on YouTube at the web address below.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=5TDO9ok4sWI

Award winning School

The Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET) Innovation awards shortlist caps a fantastic year for the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE).

Five members of staff from the School have been shortlisted for a total of eight awards for the final of the IET's Innovation Awards.

They are Professor Zhipeng Wu, Dr John Oakley, Professor Patrick Gaydecki, Professor Barry Lennox, and Professor Simon Rowland.

The School's teaching and learning has also come in for praise with a score of 98% satisfaction from

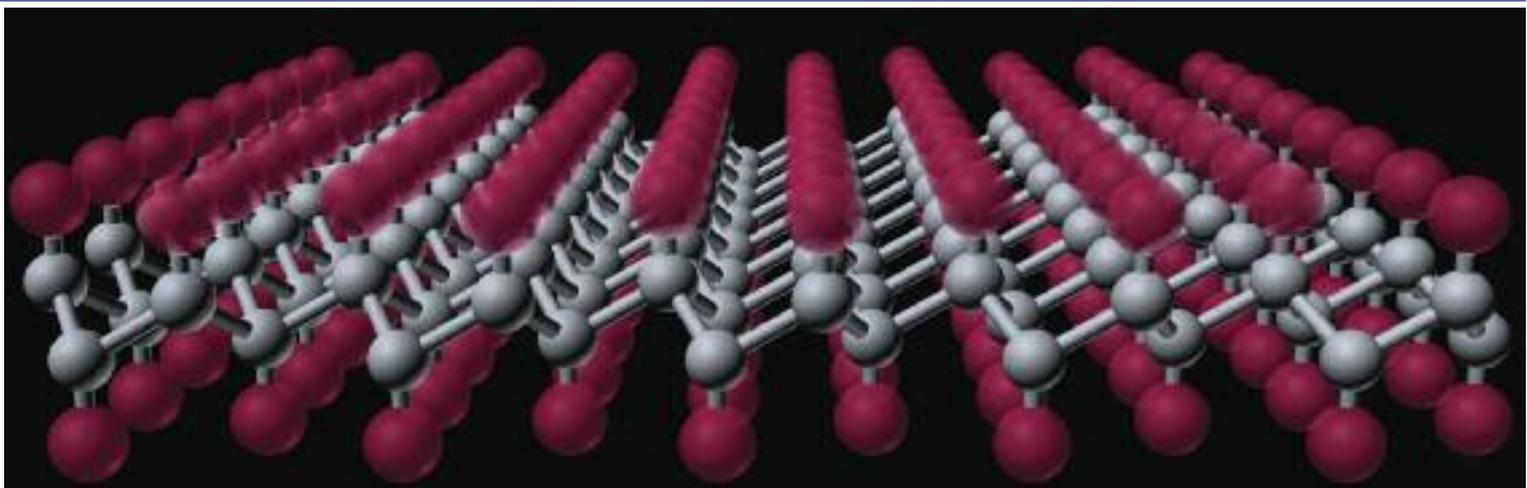
graduating students in the latest National Student Survey. This places the School as the top Russell Group university in England in the subject area.

Combined with the Research Assessment Exercise ranking of second in the UK for research quality, the School can rightly say it is one of the best in the UK.

And a number of members of staff have been recognised over the past few months.

Dr Danielle George was shortlisted for the Science and Technology Woman of the Future Award.

Peter Green was also shortlisted for the Engineering Subject Centre Teaching Awards 2011.



Graphene gets a Teflon makeover

Nobel Prize winner Andre Geim has created a new material which could replace or compete with Teflon in thousands of everyday applications.

Along with his colleague Professor Kostya Novoselov, Professor Geim won the 2010 Nobel Prize for Physics for graphene – the world's thinnest material, and has now modified it to make fluorographene – a one-molecule-thick material chemically similar to Teflon.

Fluorographene is fully-fluorinated graphene and is basically a two-dimensional version of Teflon, showing similar properties including chemical inertness and thermal stability.

The team hope that fluorographene, which is a flat, crystal version of Teflon and is mechanically as strong as graphene, could be used as a thinner, lighter version of Teflon, but could also be in electronics, such as for new types of LED devices.

Graphene, a one-atom-thick material that demonstrates a huge range of unusual and unique properties, has been at the centre of attention since groundbreaking research carried out at The University of Manchester six years ago.

Its potential is almost endless – from ultrafast transistors just one atom thick to sensors that can detect just a single molecule of a toxic gas and even to replace carbon fibres in high performance materials that are used to build aircraft.

Professor Geim and his team have exploited a new perspective on graphene by considering it as a gigantic molecule that, like any other molecule, can be modified in chemical reactions.

Professor Geim said: "The electronic quality of fluorographene has to be improved before speaking about applications in electronics but other applications are there up for grabs."

"There is no point in using it just as a substitute for Teflon. The mix of the incredible properties of graphene and Teflon is so inviting that you do not need to stretch your imagination to think of applications for the two-dimensional Teflon. The challenge is to exploit this uniqueness."

Light shone on unheralded sacrifice of war dead

A historian has shone a light on the hundreds of people, killed doing their duty in the First World War, but unrecognised as official war dead.

The overlooked include an unknown number of women killed in Europe and the munitions workers who perished in factory explosions across Britain during the conflict.

Though more than 400 munitions workers were probably killed in accidents or died of poisoning, says Dr Anne-Marie Claire Hughes, their sacrifice was not officially recognised by the British government or the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

None of the victims' families received the death plaque, scroll or letter, still treasured by relatives of the official war dead today, and they lost out on state benefits which provided enough income for bereaved families to survive on.

Dr Hughes, from the School of Arts Histories and Cultures, said: "Though very sad, the omission was not a result of any hostility towards women workers or prejudice by the authorities. Instead, I think it was a result of the authorities struggling to cope with the huge numbers of dead – approximately 757,000 in all."

"They weren't prepared for the number of servicemen who died, let alone the other types of war workers and civilians killed - and the system of official recognition grew in an ad hoc way."



A woman is listed alongside male servicemen on The University of Manchester's World War One memorial. Gertrude M Powicke, a modern languages teacher at Manchester High School, died of typhoid while working for a relief organisation in Poland. Though Gertrude's sacrifice is also commemorated at Heaton Chapel Church's war memorial, she was not listed as one of the 655 British women officially recognised as war deaths by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Research helps to predict longevity of terminally ill

Professor Chris Todd, in the University's School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work, has produced a prediction model which could help to provide a more accurate picture of how long terminally-ill cancer patients have left to live.

The research, funded by Cancer Research UK, is based on blood tests, white cell blood count, pulse rate and patient symptoms and can predict survival at least as well as a doctor.

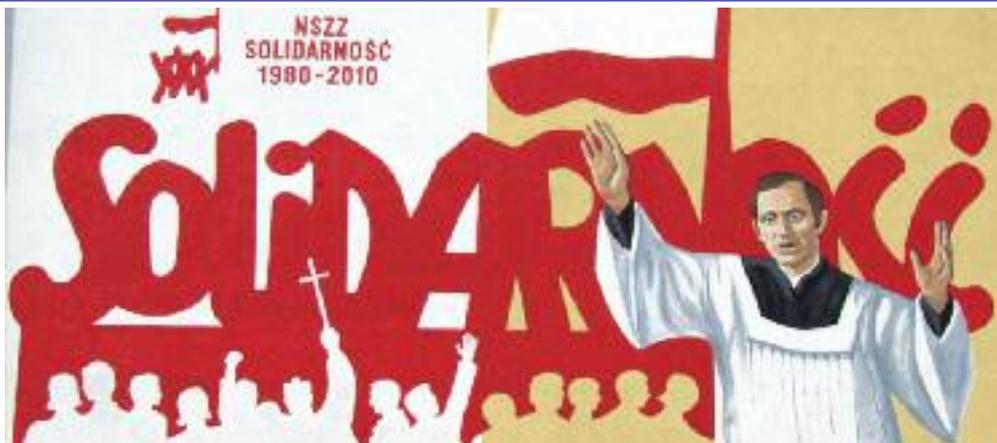
Although these scales are not a definitive model for predicting how long someone might have left to live, they could help families, carers and nurses make plans with cancer patients who are close to the end of their life.

The study, carried out with colleagues at St George's University of London, looked at 18 palliative care services, including hospices, hospital support teams and community service and more than 1,000 patients with advanced cancer who were no longer receiving treatment.

Professor Todd said: "An instrument like this will also help us identify which patients could take part in studies aimed at improving the quality of life for people receiving end-of-life care. We are already looking at how to improve the prediction models and how to make them readily available to clinicians through, for example, iPhones and other mobile devices."

Mike Hobday, head of campaigns at Macmillan Cancer Support, said: "This scale could prove useful to patients, families and clinicians who are wondering whether to begin discussions around palliative care arrangements.

"All too often this conversation is left until it is too late to make arrangements while patients wait to know what their future is. Having the conversation at an earlier point, alongside ensuring a 24-hour community nursing service is in place, will vastly improve the chances of people with a cancer diagnosis who want to die at home being able to do so."



Media wrong to condemn unions over Solidarnosc

The press - and the 1980 Thatcher Government - unfairly criticised the trade union movement over its support for the newly formed Polish Solidarity Trade Union, according to the most detailed analysis of the period ever carried out.

In Professor Stefan Berger's new book he says an initial slowness to react gave way to strong political and practical support - often behind the scenes - for Lech Walesa's fledgling union by his UK counterparts.

The findings emerge on the thirtieth anniversary of the tumultuous events which captivated the world in 1980.

"This research will force many historians and commentators to revise their opinions of the part the unions played in supporting Solidarnosc during the 1980s," said Professor Berger, who is based in the School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures.

"Though the picture is complicated, we should applaud the enormous efforts of the majority of British Trade Unionists. It's fair to say the almost unanimous hostility to the unions by the press and politicians at that time was misplaced and did not reveal the true picture.

"The TUC even held talks with the Thatcher government over how best to co-ordinate reactions to the imposition of martial law in Poland in 1980.

Professor Berger added: "At times, the TUC was cautious, but that was down to a desire to avoid a second Cold War and avoid intra-union tensions.

"But this should not deflect attention away from the basic fact that it remained, from beginning to end, committed to the values of free trade unionism."

Portable breast scanner allows cancer detection in the blink of an eye

Women could have a fast test for breast cancer and instantly identify the presence of a tumour in the comfort of their own home thanks to ground-breaking new research.

Professor Zhipeng Wu, from the University's School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, has invented a portable scanner based on radio frequency technology, which is able to immediately show the presence of tumours - malignant and benign - in the breast on a computer.

Using radio frequency or microwave technology for breast cancer detection has been proven by researchers in the US, Canada and UK. However, up to now, it can take a few minutes for an image to be produced, and this had to be done in a hospital or specialist care centre.

Now Professor Wu says concerned patients can receive real-time video images in using the radio frequency scanner which would immediately and clearly show the presence of a tumour. Early diagnosis and treatment could save thousands of lives and this system would enable women to be tested at GP surgeries or at home.



"Other systems need to use a liquid or gel as a matching substance, such as in an ultrasound, to work but with our system you don't need that - it can be done simply in oil, milk, water or even with a bra on.

"Although there is still research to be done, the system has great potential to bring a new way for breast cancer diagnosis and could benefit millions of women in both developed and developing countries."

Assessing the effect of US oil spill

A University researcher has been studying the effects of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill on large fish such as bluefin tuna and mackerel on behalf of the US Government. Dr Holly Shiels from the Faculty of Life Sciences is trying to assess the extent of the damage on fish populations.



The Deepwater Horizon drilling rig exploded on 20 April, killing 11 workers and causing an oil spill that soon became the worst environmental disaster in US history. The ruptured well was capped in July but it is now estimated that 4.4 million barrels of crude oil have been dispersed into the sea, causing untold damage to the environment, wildlife and the local economy.

Dr Shiels – an expert in the cardiac functioning of fish and reptiles – carried out a month-long pilot study in the Gulf of Mexico with colleagues from

Stanford University in the US and will return in January for a longer investigation.

She and the team are investigating the effects of the oil, and also the dispersants used to remove it, on large pelagic fish in the area. Pelagic fish like to live in the open ocean and tend to be nomadic.

“We are trying to understand the long term effects of the oil spill,” she explained.

“How the spill will affect the large pelagic fish is not yet known. However the components that make up the oil are known to affect cardiac development in fish larvae, which is why the cardiac team was brought in. We also need to find out if the dispersants will have an effect.

“Our findings are to be used by the US Government as they build a case for damages so obviously they are confidential,” added Dr Shiels.



Flagship schools programme ‘ineffective’

A flagship programme introduced by the previous Government across the UK to improve the social and emotional wellbeing of secondary school pupils is ineffective, a study has suggested.

The evaluation of the dedicated lessons and staff training, carried out by academics here at the University, found the scheme is having no impact on pupils’ social and emotional skills, mental health and behaviour to other children.

The failures, according to Professor Neil Humphrey, Ann Lendrum and Michael Wigelsworth, all from the School of Education, are caused by a poor allocation of resources and time to staff and a failure to act on the findings of pilot studies. There was also no clear framework to work from in implementing the programme, they added.

The team was commissioned by the Labour Government to evaluate the effectiveness of its ‘Social and emotional aspects of learning programme’ or SEAL.

Professor Humphrey said: “Our analysis indicates that SEAL, as implemented by the schools in our sample, fails to impact significantly upon pupils’ social and emotional skills, general mental health problems and behaviour towards other pupils.

“This is an opportunity for review and reflection, and a timely reminder of the need to develop more rigorous systems for piloting and trialling innovations before they are launched in schools across the country.”

X-ray of Stephenson’s Planet steam locomotive



A steam locomotive has been X-rayed by an innovative new mobile unit which is used for scanning cargo and vehicles for criminal activity.

The replica 1830 Planet at the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI) was X-rayed to test the new Rapiscan Eagle® M60, which was developed by Rapiscan and the University.

It now hits the road to scan cargo and unoccupied passenger vehicles to protect against threats, counter trade fraud and detect contraband such as narcotics.

The insides of the Planet locomotive are revealed in a

fascinating X-ray image taken by the M60, which shows its complicated system of boiler tubes, cylinders, valves and watertank. It is the first time that such an image has been taken of a steam locomotive.

The M60 was originally designed to help identify contraband and plastic explosive type materials in cargo shipments, and is able to detect different materials such as wood and metal.

It is the first Rapiscan system with a high energy X-ray imaging system in a road legal, mobile platform.

Rapiscan Systems works regularly with the University and funds

research work by mathematics postgraduates to help develop X-ray imaging, including work on the M60.

Professor Bill Lionheart, Professor of Applied Mathematics, said: “Stephenson’s Planet was made for the first passenger railway here in the North West so it seems fitting to make an X-ray image of it with Rapiscan’s Eagle truck scanner, which has also been developed in the region.

“Unlike Stephenson’s more famous Rocket the cylinders of Planet are inside. With Rapiscan’s huge X-ray machine we should be able to show the inside workings of the engine.”



Keith's keystone

History is clearly important to Keith Brown - and has been from an early age. As a boy growing up in Ayrshire, in a strongly non-conformist, Protestant household, and imbued with self-improvement, he was gripped by bible stories and tales of the Romans with their military exploits and great battles.

"It was Boys' Own stuff," he says. "As a young kid, I kept a scrapbook, and started writing my own version of the history of the Roman Empire. Later I realised I was hopeless at Latin and that was the end of the Romans!"

There was an even graver academic wobble in secondary school when the prospect of going to university appeared to be under threat. Keith's father was the first member

of his family to get a degree, in engineering, and constructed his own incentivisation programme for a son who showed signs of not appreciating the value of education.

Aged 15, Keith was sent to work one summer as a labourer in a steelworks in the hope that the tough environment of a hot, dirty and dangerous rolling mill would result in better performance when he returned to school. "That experience convinced me

that there had to be better ways to make a living, although I did buy a guitar at the end of it and went back to earn cash for several summers afterwards."

He laughs about it now and is able to see some humour in most things. The corrective treatment must have worked, because by the age of 17 he had decided that he wanted to be a professor of something.

Keith admits to being influenced by reading Hermann Hesse's novels, especially 'The Glass Bead Game'. "Clearly I missed the point of the novel and I had a glamourised view of academics and their intellectual significance," he says with a wry smile.

In 1975 he went to Glasgow University and became engrossed by Scottish history. "It's difficult to understand now, but Scottish history wasn't taught in schools and wasn't taken very seriously by an Anglocentric historical profession in the UK."

Things have changed for the better and he is delighted to have been at the heart of the renaissance in Scottish history during such a politically important period, which saw the establishment of a Scottish Parliament.

As an undergraduate, he stood out, not only by winning all the prizes, but also by getting married - to Janice, his school sweetheart. After graduating in 1979, he refused to be steered towards Oxford, preferring to do his PhD at Glasgow under Jenny Wormald, an inspiring lecturer. "I told her that I was going to prove her wrong and she was amused by the challenge," he says. "We are still arguing about it to this day."

He investigated Scottish family bloodfeuds in the 16th and 17th centuries. "I wanted to find out what kept these bloody vendettas going and why they finally disappeared over a relatively short time," he says, adding, "It was a good preparation for understanding academic rivalries and negotiating deals." His first book, *Bloodfeud in Scotland*, was published in 1986.

When he got his PhD in 1983 there were very few academic posts available. Fortunately, he got the first of several Fellowships - the Glenfiddich Fellowship at the University of St Andrews. "It brought with it a couple of bottles of whisky at Christmas." Other prestigious three-year Fellowships followed - from the British Academy and the Edinburgh Royal Society. In 1986, he and Janice had a son, Mark, who currently works as an intern for the United Bank of Switzerland in New York.

So, Keith served a long and distinguished "apprenticeship" before he got his first lectureship - at Stirling in 1991 at the age of 34. By this time he was working on the integration of elites in Early Modern Britain and in the following year published 'Kingdom or Province?', a book that tries to explain Scotland's relationship with England during the 17th century.

He went from lecturer to Professor when he was invited in 1995 to return to St Andrews to take up the Chair of Scottish History. Keith became Head of the School of History two years later, in charge of 60 historians.

He set about drumming up money for research, scoring a major hit in 1997. "I exploited the fact that 2007 would be the 300th anniversary of the union of the English and Scottish parliaments", he says. "I wrote a very short letter to the then Secretary of State for Scotland, Michael Forsyth, and before I knew it, I was making a sales pitch to him." The next day Prime Minister John Major announced a grant of £500,000, a huge sum at the time for a humanities project.

That sum was to more than double and 11 years later the project concluded, publishing a 16 million

word, online archive of the proceedings of the Scottish Parliament from its first surviving Act of 1235 to its union with the English Parliament in 1707. This was accompanied by three volumes of essays and many other spin-offs. "In effect we gave the new parliament a history, rooting it in Scottish political culture."

During that time Keith also conducted research on the Scottish nobility. A big monograph, 'Noble Society in Scotland', was published in 2000 and next year will see the appearance of its companion, 'Noble Power in Scotland from the Reformation to the Revolution'. He concedes that his wife might be correct in suggesting he knows more about the families of these long dead nobles than some members of his own family.

At St Andrews, Keith successively became Vice-Principal (Teaching), Master of the United College in charge of the overall academic operation, and Deputy Principal to Brian Lang at a time when St Andrews was noticeably climbing up the league tables. "It was a very exciting time - great fun mostly and one long run of continuous success," he says.

This year, aged 53, he was tempted away from Scotland, coming south to Manchester, as Vice-President and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities. It's a big job. The Faculty is two-and-a-half times bigger than the entire University of St Andrews.

He says "It is essential that we do not make unstrategic decisions that do serious long-term damage to the humanities which are so important to the cultural and political texture of our society - as well as to its economic welfare. As a historian I hope I am able to look at these issues with a longer perspective than may be the case for people whose timeline is much shorter, such as politicians or accountants."

And he has firm views on the university experience students can expect in the future: "If we are being entirely honest with ourselves, universities have put too much emphasis on research in recent years. The anticipated rise in student fees offers an opportunity to redress that balance, to encourage staff and students to negotiate a new deal in which everyone gains something."

Refreshingly, he says: "I'm not a workaholic, and I certainly try to discourage colleagues from having an uneven work-life balance." He still enjoys running, walking and exercise, watches what he describes as "an unhealthy" number of football matches, especially if they involve Glasgow Rangers; and films and enjoys "making a noise" on the guitar. He admits to having slipped away from his evangelical roots while insisting that a combination of guilt and intellectual curiosity keep drawing him back to "the big religious questions."

In the meantime, Keith is reviving a former project that got sidelined, on the Scots in England during the 17th and 18th centuries when Britain was formed. "A coincidence", he remarks, while conceding that his own journey south may provide an added edge to his research. More pressing, however, is ensuring that humanities at Manchester has a successful future.

Name

Keith Brown

Position

Vice-President and Dean of Humanities

Education

1979 First Class MA Modern and Scottish History, University of Glasgow

1983 PhD: 'The Extent and Nature of Feuding in Scotland, 1573-1625', University of Glasgow

Career

1983-1986 Glenfiddich Research Fellow, University of St Andrews

1986-1989 British Academy Post-Doctoral Fellow, University of St Andrews

1989-1990 Edinburgh Royal Society Fellow, University of St Andrews

1991-1995 Lecturer in the Department of History, University of Stirling

1995-2010 Professor of Scottish History, University of St Andrews

1997-2001 Head of School of History, University of St Andrews

2001-2003 Vice-Principal (Teaching), University of St Andrews

2003-2009 Master of the United College, University of St Andrews

2006-2009 Deputy Principal, University of St Andrews

Professional Affiliations

Fellow of the Royal Historical Society

Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh

Bringing research to the real world

The University was awarded £8.3 million by a leading research council as part of a national drive to transfer Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) research findings from the laboratory to industry. The Knowledge Transfer Account (KTA) has now been running for one year with a number of high impact projects already funded.

The award was made to enhance research application and to strengthen business and economic growth. Since the programme started in October 2009, the University has seen five calls for proposals under the following schemes:

- Exploitation and Exploration Secondments
- The Concept Development and Feasibility Study Scheme
- The Knowledge Transfer Fellows Scheme
- The nationally run Knowledge Transfer Partnership Scheme.

The Knowledge Transfer team has handled enquiries from 170 academics, and has received 123 applications for funding. A total number of 52 projects have been awarded funding, involving 46 academics from 14 Schools across all four Faculties in KTA knowledge transfer activities.

Miranda McCormick, Head of the Knowledge Transfer programme is pleased by the breadth of engagement across Schools and said: "Some Schools have a long history of engagement in Knowledge Transfer activities, for others industrial engagement has traditionally taken the form of fundamental research collaborations and sponsorship. The KTA is proving successful in enabling and encouraging academics from across all Schools to engage in knowledge transfer."

Professor Peter Duck, Head of the School of Mathematics added: "The School is very much involved in a number of KTA schemes; all of which are helping us to overcome barriers to research application." Mathematics projects supported include the exploration of techniques and concepts to enable fire services to fight wildfires effectively, a study to determine how mathematical algorithms can be used to optimise car parking management at airports and an exploration of how research on the mathematics of tomography and radiation modelling can be applied in the oil and gas industry.

The School of Chemistry is also being supported via the KTA, according to Professor David Procter, who says: "Our EPSRC-funded groups generate a vast array of tools and techniques for the synthesis, development, and analysis of molecules with therapeutic potential. However, because of our success in obtaining Research Council Funding, and because of the traditional engagement model between Pharma and Chemistry, we do not have a strong tradition of engaging in the collaborations required to further develop and apply our work. We have been awarded a Fellowship by the KTA which will drive a step change in our activities, helping us to launch a new Centre for Chemical Intervention in Biology and Medicine with the aim of

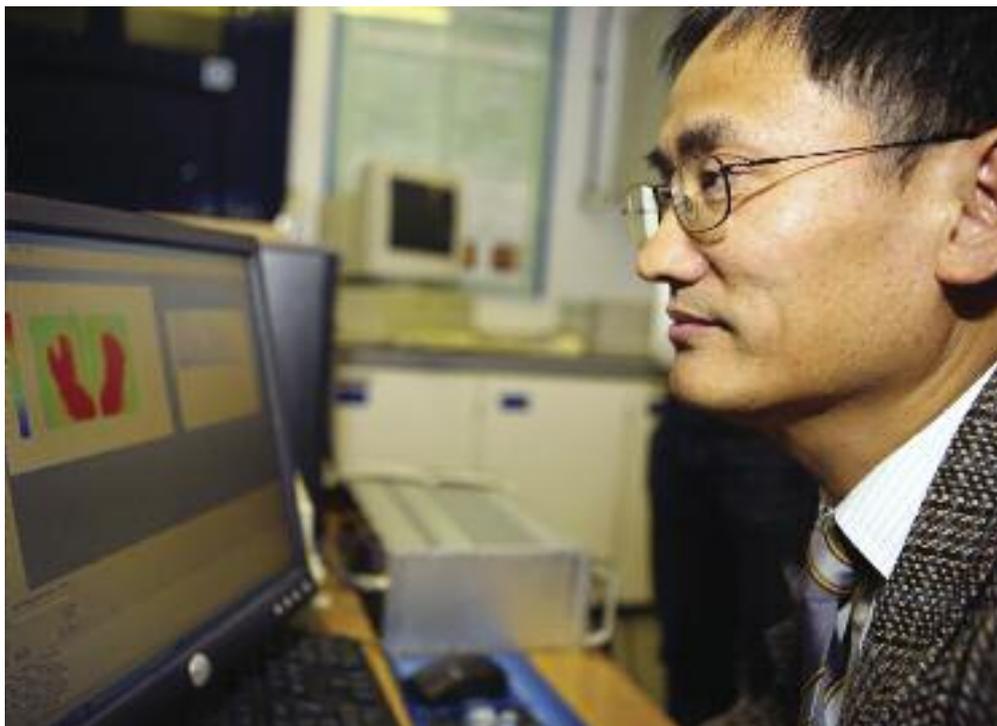
increasing significantly our impact on the pharma and related industries."

The schemes offered by the KTA have enabled academics to establish new partnerships with a range of companies and to deepen relationships with existing partners. A total of 43 organisations have engaged in Knowledge Transfer activities with the University during the first year of the KTA. Industry involvement ranges from sectors such as

Biomedical and Healthcare, Advanced Engineering and Materials, Chemical and Process Industries, Digital and Creative, Aerospace and Defence, Environment as well as the Public and Third Sector.

For further information on the different schemes including application forms and guidance notes please visit the KTA website.

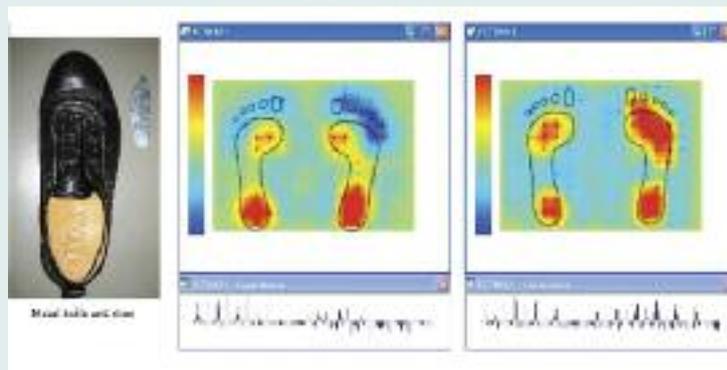
 www.manchester.ac.uk/kta



Wuqiang Yang: Re-engineering and installation of a shoe scanner in Manchester Airport.

Manchester Airport and the University are working together to deploy a newly developed prototype shoe scanner for a live trial. Due to the threat of shoe bombs at airports, passengers are often asked to stop and remove their shoes to be checked by X-ray machines which can detect metallic objects. However, it is difficult to identify plastic explosives by x-ray. The sensing and imaging technology that has been developed in the School of Electric and Electronic Engineering will allow scanning shoes in real-time when passengers are walking through the shoe scanner. This technology will be able to detect dangerous objects such as plastic explosives and ceramic knives hidden in the soles of shoes by generating display images of shoes. The basic principle of the shoe scanner is that different materials have different permittivity.

During the twelve month concept study a robust full-scale prototype will be developed and installed for a live trial in Manchester Airport. If proven successful, the real-time shoe scanner will significantly improve airport security by providing a cheap and reliable solution to detect dangerous objects.



Staff here at the University are always taking their work out and about to help encourage and enthuse the students of the future. Here are just three examples of the work they do - both here in Manchester and further afield.

Want to come to a bacteria party?

Dr Jill Barber and Dr Sally Freeman from the School of Pharmacy led a team of students at Manchester Science Festival's Dragons Den event recently.

The enthusiastic students worked closely with the Dragons over a two week period to share their ideas and knowledge to present 'The Bacteria Party' at the Zion Arts Centre in Hulme.

This was an interesting and fun way to educate young, local students about bacteria, antibiotics and resistance.

Five interactive 'bacteria' stations were created and a 'passport to immunity' granted as the students worked their way around the various stations. They

could view bacteria down a microscope, used antibiotic top trump cards to help explain what antibiotics are and how they treat bacterial infections and learned about antibiotic resistance by playing a game of skittles and using polystyrene pieces to help visualise how rapidly resistant bacteria are able to multiply. Other 'games' included a snakes and ladders style board game to demonstrate the importance of the appropriate use of antibiotics.

The event was a great success and helped to strengthen links between the University and the local community, raising antibiotic awareness and it also helped to ignite a passion for science in the young students.



Inspired sisters turn artists

Scientists have been out and about turning the pavements of Manchester into colourful art to illustrate how parasitic worm infections trap people in global poverty.

Around three billion people have gut worm infections globally and worst affected are children and pregnant women. Not only does worm infection cause ill-health, it has a major impact on farming, with livestock also becoming sick, which affects productivity. Science in Manchester is helping to understand how our bodies fight these parasites with a view to designing new therapies to aid treatment.

The project was funded by the Manchester Beacon for Public Engagement and brought together a community group of Asian women in Longsight called "Inspired Sisters" with University researchers from the Faculties of Life Sciences and Medical and Human Sciences, and was coordinated by Manchester Development Education Project Officer Aartii Pandey. The event started with an education workshop in which the community group and the

scientists led by Dr Sheena Cruickshank and Dr Jo Pennock discussed issues around gut worm infections and global poverty. These discussions provided the inspiration for worm-based art which formed the basis of a large Rangoli mural - a traditional Indian art form which creates beautiful pictures using coloured powder, traditionally used at festivals and celebrations.



Never too young to learn

Kids of all ages joined in the British Science Association's annual science festival in Birmingham recently. Felicity Mitchell, from the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, hosted fun sessions in the parent and toddler area of Birmingham's Centenary Square marquee.

The event was targeted primarily at pre-school aged children, and encouraged them to think about how drugs interact with receptors using foam shapes and holes to illustrate the principles.

The children also used 'poorly' teddy bears and dolls in role playing situations helping social and emotional development as well as promoting language and communication skills.

Both the children and their accompanying adults asked plenty of questions about the actions of medicines, their appropriate use and considered approaches to the design of new medicines.

As Felicity said: "Most importantly, though, much fun was had by all, and who knows, one day we might have a pharmacy student studying with us who was inspired by this workshop."

What's On

Centre for New Writing

Our unique events bring the best-known, contemporary novelists and poets to Manchester to discuss and read from their work. Everyone is welcome, and ticket prices include a complimentary glass of wine or soft drink.

6 Dec, 6.30pm, £7/£5

Martin Amis Public Event

The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

9 Dec, 6.15pm, FREE

Poetry Reading by Gwyneth Lewis

The John Rylands Library, Deansgate

Website: www.manchester.ac.uk/arts/newwriting

Online journal: www.themanchesterreview.co.uk

The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama

Bridgeford Street, Manchester M13 9PL

0161 275 8951/8950

email boxoffice@manchester.ac.uk

www.manchester.ac.uk/martinharriscentre



Chaplaincies

St Peter's House Chaplaincy

11am Holy Communion

12.15pm Bible Study

12.45pm Lunch (first Sun)

6.30pm Evening Worship (term-time only)

FOYER 10am – 5pm

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

RC Chaplaincy Avila House

Mass Times (term-time only)

Sun, 7pm (in the Holy Name Church) next door to the Chaplaincy

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

Tues, Thurs, 12.15pm in the Chaplaincy Chapel

The Jewish Student Centre and Synagogue

Hillel House, Greenheys Lane

0161 226 1139

Email rabbiiy@hotmail.com

www.rabbiiy.com

Muslim Chaplaincy

South Campus Mosque, McDougall Centre

Jammat (Group Prayer) Daily

Juma Prayer Friday 1.15pm

Honorary Imam: Imam Habeeb, h_chatti@hotmail.com

North Campus Mosque, Basement of Joule Library,

Sackville Street Building

Jammat (Group Prayer) Daily

Juma Prayer Friday 12.30pm

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

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

mbm1411@hotmail.com, assia_shah61@yahoo.co.uk,

hawwah@hotmail.com



Gig Guide

MANCHESTER ACADEMY 1, 2 and 3

Mon 6 Dec **The Drums** - £11.50 Adv

Janelle Monae - £14 Adv

Tues 7 Dec **Godspeed You! Black Emperor** - £22.50 Adv

Weds 8 Dec **XFM Winter Wonderland** - £20 Adv
Emarosa - £8 Adv

Thurs 9 Dec **Airbourne** - £16.50 Adv
Electric Six - £10 Adv
The Bees - £12.50 Adv

Fri 10 Dec **Faith Evans** - £25 Adv
The Wedding Present - £15 Adv
Skin - £15 Adv
The Logicals - £6 Adv

Sat 11 Dec **Hawkwind** - £20 Adv
The Virginmarys - £10 Adv
TWE1V3 - £6 Adv

Sun 12 Dec **The Orb** - £15 Adv

Mon 13 Dec **Idlewild** - £15 Adv

Tues 14 Dec **The Pretty Reckless** - £12.50 Adv
Hatebreed - £12.50 Adv

Weds 15 Dec **The Human League** - £25 Adv

Thurs 16 Dec **Helmet** - £15 Adv
Fine Young Firecrackers - £5 Adv

Fri 17 Dec **Sophie Ellis-Bextor** - £17.50 Adv
Karnivool - £9 Adv
Titers Insignia - £6 Adv
From The Jam - £20 Adv

Sat 18 Dec **The Glitter Band & Captain Sensible** - £14 Adv
Fear Factory - £16.50 Adv

Thurs 30 Dec **Sonic Youth** - £23 Adv

Tickets from:

Students' Union, Oxford Road

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

0871 2200260

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

Students' Union

Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL

0161 275 2930

www.manchesteracademy.net



The Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama

Thurs 9 Dec, 7.30pm, £9/£6/£3

Manchester University Big Band

The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Thurs 9 Dec, 1.10pm, FREE

Simon Turner (cello) and Richard Casey (piano)

The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Fri 10 Dec, 7.30pm, £9/£6/£3

Ad Solem – The University of Manchester Chamber Choir

The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Thurs 16 Dec, 7.30pm, £9/£6/£3

MUMS Festive Concert

The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Thurs 16 Dec, 1.10pm, FREE

Quatuor Danel

The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

Fri 17 Dec, 7.30pm, £12/£8/£3

Quatuor Danel Evening Concert

The Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall

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Bridgeford Street, Manchester M13 9PL

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International Society

Saturday 11 Dec

Chester Zoo Frost Fair

Sunday 12 Dec

Yorkshire Dales visiting Bolton Abbey and Haworth

Sunday 26 Dec

Boxing Day Sales! Chester and Cheshire Oaks

Opening hours

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

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

Small World Café opening hours

Mon-Fri 11am – 3pm

327 Oxford Road (next to Krobar)

0161 275 4959

email int.soc@anchester.ac.uk

www.internationalsociety.org.uk



The Manchester Museum

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

CHINA: Journey to the East
until June 2011. A British Museum Tour supported by BP, a CHINA NOW legacy project. Find out about China's global impact in this major exhibition combining fantastic objects from the British Museum with stories from one of the world's fastest growing economies.

Finding Manchester, Lost in Bolivia
until 30 Jan 2011. Follow Chris Smith and Liz Peel on their amazing four month journey through the Amazon in search of the small South American village of Manchester.

After Life
As well as discovering the ancient Egyptians' beliefs about the after life, find out about some personal reflections, and potential options, for funerals and remembrance today. *The After Life* exhibits are displayed within the Ancient Egypt gallery.

Mon 6 Dec, 12.30-1pm
A History of the World Mini Tour
Unravel the stories behind objects we have chosen for *A History of the World*.

Mon 6 Dec, 6-8pm,
Ideas Café: China and Globalisation
Find out more about China's role in the contemporary and historical world. Part of our *China: Journey to the East* Exhibition.

Wed 8 Dec, 3-4.30pm
Showcase lecture: Up Pompeii (and Herculaneum!)
Dr Paul Roberts, The British Museum.

Fri 10 Dec, 11am-12pm
Magic Carpet: Dinosaurs
Get comfy on our magic carpet and enjoy stories and activities.

Sat 11 Dec, 11am-4pm
Big Saturday: Jurassic CSI
Enter the world of dinosaurs in this day bursting with activities for all ages. And of course don't forget to visit Stan, the Museum's *T.Rex*.

Tues 14 Dec, 12.45-1.30pm
Chinese Economy
Part of a series of talks by The Confucius Institute at The University of Manchester.

Mon 20-Thurs 23 Dec & Mon 27-Fri 31 Dec, 11am-4pm
Chinese Paper Craft
Make a Chinese lantern or plate. Part of our *China: Journey to the East* Exhibition.

Most activities are free and drop-in but they may need to be booked on the day. For more information ring 0161 275 2648 or visit

www.museum.manchester.ac.uk/whatson/

Opening hours
Open: Tues-Sat 10am - 5pm
Sun-Mon (and Bank Holidays) 11am - 4pm
FREE Admission

The Manchester Museum
Oxford Road, Manchester
0161 275 2634
www.manchester.ac.uk/museum



John Rylands Library (Deansgate)

EXHIBITIONS

The Provincial Forge
until 20 December. *The Provincial Forge* project draws on existing cultural publications and artefacts to create new works - placing them in different contexts and inspiring fresh dialogues.

Public opening hours
Mon 12-5pm, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 12pm-5pm
Reader opening hours
Mon-Wed 10am-5pm, Thurs 10am-7pm, Fri-Sat 10am-5pm
FREE ADMISSION

The John Rylands Library
150 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 3EH
0161 306 0555
email jrl.visitors@manchester.ac.uk
www.manchester.ac.uk/library



Jodrell Bank

Jodrell Bank is going through an exciting period of change with a new visitor centre development and is due to re open in the summer 2011. During the interim period, visitors will be welcomed at a temporary reception area located in the Environmental Discovery Centre. There will be limited facilities and no café. Visitors will have access to the Gardens and Telescope Observation Pathway. Opening times are 11am - 4pm and admission is free. For all development updates please visit our website.

Jodrell Bank Observatory Visitor Centre
Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 9DL
01477 571339
www.manchester.ac.uk/jodrellbank/viscen



The Whitworth Art Gallery

EXHIBITIONS

Nordic Intercultural Creative Events
until 19 Dec 2010. Edith Lundebrekke is a Norwegian textile artist from Trondheim. For this exhibition she makes new site-specific work, printing textiles with colourful and dynamic patterns inspired by the interiors of the Whitworth.

Spinning A Yarn
until 12 December 2010. Artists' group Tea use video, photography and video-animated fabrics based on 1950s originals in the Whitworth's collection to explore Manchester's cotton story.

Intuition
until 9 Jan 2011. A first look at highlights from The Musgrave Kinley Outsider Art Collection.

Walls Are Talking: Repeating Patterns
until 16 Jan 2011. As well as featuring typical 'girls' and 'boys' wallpapers, the display includes many one-off or limited edition artworks.

The Land Between Us: Place, Power and Dislocation
until 23 Jan 2011. This radical approach to landscape art presents historic and modern works together, and on equal terms, to explore nature, habitation, territorial power and culture.

Unstable States: John Ruskin and the Truth of Water
until 23 Jan 2011. Drawing on John Ruskin's precise observations in his book *Modern Painters* (1843), this display investigates how artists from Van de Velde to Turner have captured the 'unstable states' of water.

1st Saturday of the month, 11-1pm (Textiles), 2-4pm (Life drawing), £5

Serious About Art
Monthly textiles and life drawing workshops to learn new skills, sharpen up old ones and meet like-minded people.

3rd Saturday of the month, 10.30-1pm, £3
Alternative Camera Club
Breaking the mould on conventional camera clubs, this workshop moves away from stale discussion of technique and concentrates on a considered, conceptual approach to photography.

3rd Saturday of the month, 2-4pm, £3
Crafternoon Tea
Enjoy a cuppa and try your hand at art and craft techniques.

Free Events
We offer a range of FREE family workshops and events. Please visit our website for details.

The Whitworth Art Gallery
Oxford Road, Manchester
0161 275 7450
email whitworth@manchester.ac.uk
www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth

Students make a difference

Over 160 University students hit the streets of south Manchester recently to make a positive impact on their local communities.

The students were taking part in 'Operation Impact' – a week long volunteering initiative organised by the Manchester Leadership Programme (MLP), Careers and Employability Division in partnership with Manchester City Council and a range of local charities.

Lindsay Gilbert, Head of Volunteering and Community Engagement at the University said: "With Operation Impact we wanted to challenge - or even change - some of the negative perceptions local residents may have of students."

The students, who represent all four Faculties, took their wellies, spades and paint brushes and worked in large teams on a range of volunteering projects in Withington, Moss Side, Rusholme and Fallowfield.

The students' achievements included:

- Creating a community allotment in Moss Side and preparing the ground for a vegetable and fruit

plot, a seating area and a BBQ area. This project was featured on regional BBC TV and radio.

- Renovating Depaul Safestop, a young people's homeless hostel in Withington, including painting all 12 bedrooms, tidying the large overgrown garden and planting bulbs.
- Painting, planting and weeding a previously unused area of Frank Hatton Court, a sheltered accommodation for older people in Rusholme. A new befriending project is also being set up.
- Clearing the Fallowfield Loop cycle path to encourage greater usage by local residents.

Feedback from participants was enthusiastic. Rosie Peniston, an MLP student from the School of Environment and Development, said: "It was fantastic to get involved in activities which had such positive and immediate effects within the community. It was so rewarding to see the difference we made within a day at the allotment site in Moss Side.



Alison Halstead, Warden at Frank Hatton Court, said: "It was a fabulous day which had a great impact on the tenants and has transformed our scheme."

MLP students take part in a diverse range of volunteering opportunities throughout the year. In addition to

conservation and environment projects, they are involved in initiatives related to the arts, culture and media; fundraising and marketing; health; sports and leisure; and working with children, young people and vulnerable adults.

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the Together Trust



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For more information please contact Julie Isted for an informal, confidential discussion or application pack. There is no closing date for applications.

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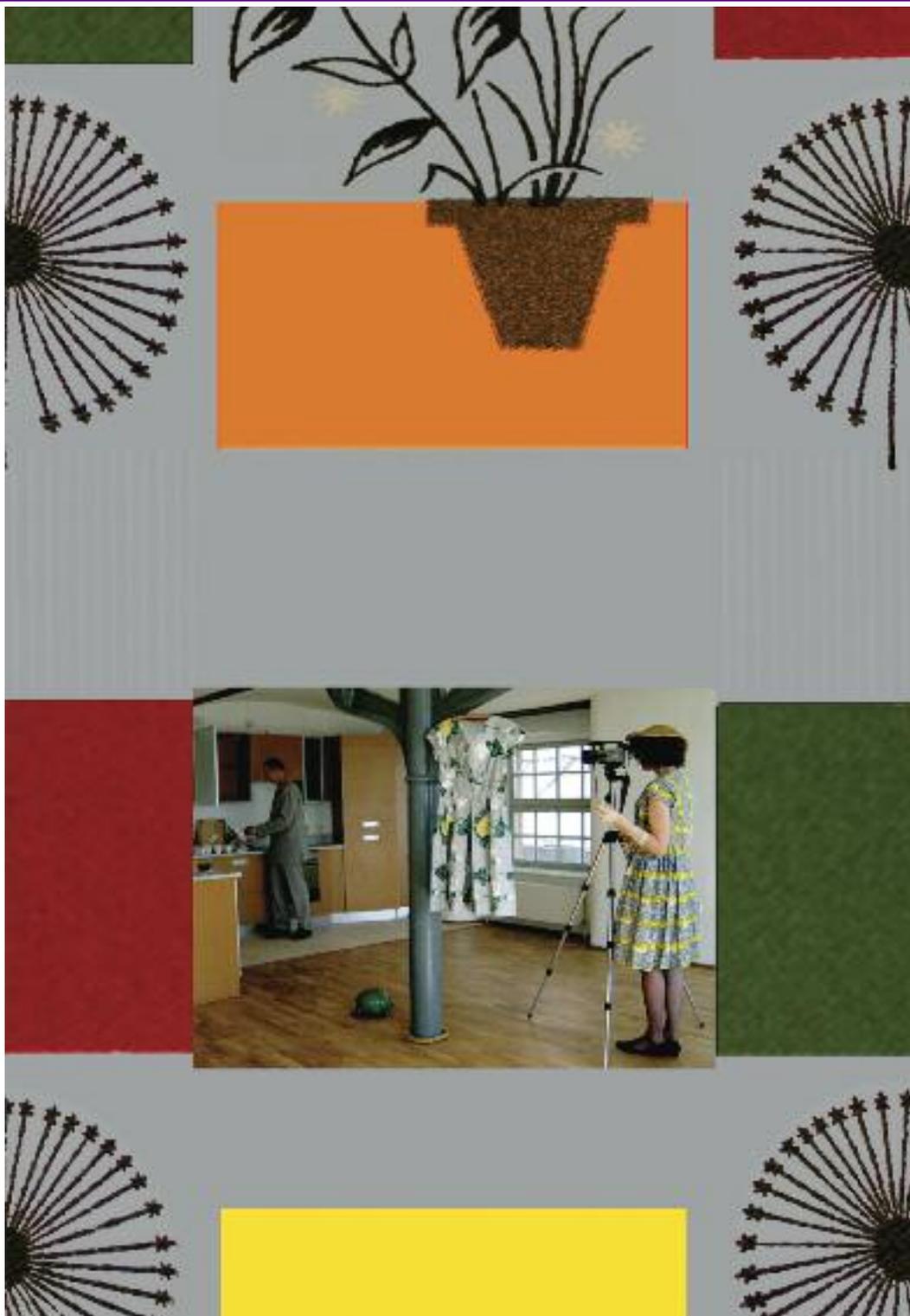
Spinning a Yarn

Miniature videos are embedded into classic 1950s fabric designs, as 'Spinning A Yarn' mixes film technology with vintage cottons to explore Manchester's textile history.

The UK's cotton trade declined swiftly following World War II, and a 1959 BBC TV documentary 'Any Questions On Cotton?' attempted to boost interest during the very depth of cotton's decline. Revisiting this history, artists group Tea (Peter Hatton, Val Murray and Lynn Pilling), took a trip back in time to record retro performances in three Manchester locations associated with the cotton industry; Platt Hall Museum of Costume, Royal Mills, a cotton spinning mill in Ancoats now converted to apartments, and the Whitworth Art Gallery, which houses textile collections that include cotton from all over the world.

Dressed in "Mad Men"-style period clothing, they visited Royal Mills and recorded their attempts to move into two apartments still undergoing conversion. They unpacked, put china away and discussed soft furnishings while site work went on around them. At Platt Hall, once the home of a wealthy textile merchant, the artists moved into an empty display case and staged vintage fashion photography. At the Whitworth, Tea took tea in the galleries and examined 1950s fabric swatches.

The exhibition displays Tea's retro exploits across all three locations, but in a rather unusual way. Tiny videos of the artists are projected inside the textile designs based upon originals in the Whitworth's collection. The exhibition is part of 'Stories of the World', one of the major initiatives at the heart of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad. This is a series of events to showcase the UK's arts and cultures to the rest of the world.



www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth

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