

your manchester

The University of Manchester
Alumni Magazine
May 2007

Martin Amis: arriving soon!

Margaret Beckett's student days

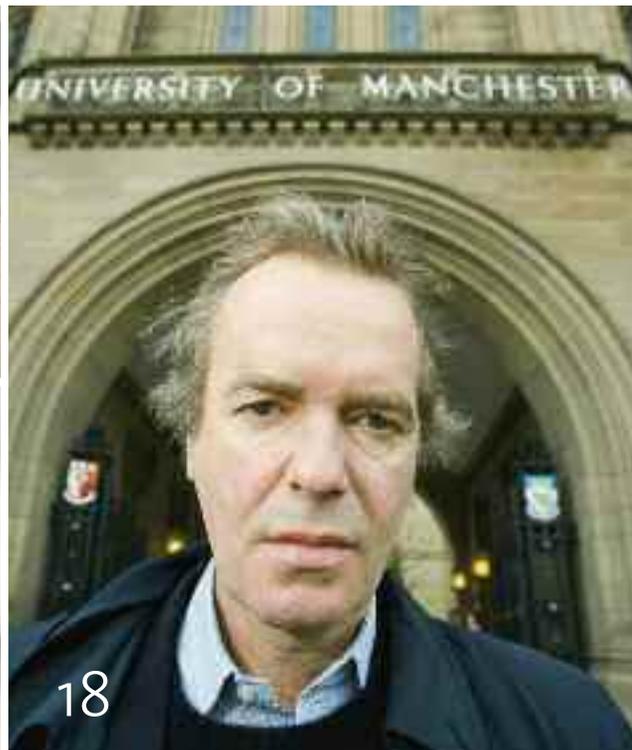
Hitching up with Harvard

Manchester International Festival

Your Manchester Online is launched

your manchester

features...



contents



20



26

Courtesy of Greater Manchester Police Museum



29

Courtesy of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

A word from the President	4
Around the campus	6
Dementia demystified	10
Changing the climate	12
The significance of social capital	14
The scar prevention revolution	16
Martin Amis joins the University	18
TV crews on campus	20
Sport at Manchester	23
Women graduates in the House	26
Manchester's student newspapers	30
The Manchester International Festival	32
Alumni in the spotlight	34
Alumni Association news	36
Development news	40

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:
 Donna Prince, Co-ordinating Editor/Alumni Officer,
 Division of Development and Alumni Relations,
 The University of Manchester,
 G9 Christie Building, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL.
 tel +44 (0)161 306 3066
 fax +44 (0)161 306 8066
 email d.prince@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.



A word from Professor Alan Gilbert,

Dear Graduate,

Welcome to this third edition of *Your Manchester*, the magazine for the 200,000 alumni of The University of Manchester around the world.

I have been in Manchester just over three years now and the new University is just over two and a half years old. Reflecting on that period, it is remarkable what the University has achieved. Although the merger was a massive undertaking, the new University has by now well and truly established its own separate identity, and the energy of the whole campus community is focused on achieving the ambitious goals identified in our strategic plan, the *Manchester 2015 Agenda*.

We are making remarkable progress towards achieving many of those goals and establishing Manchester as one of the world's leading universities over the next decade. Nothing worth achieving is ever easy, and the new University has had challenges to overcome as

well as successes to celebrate. But the trajectory has been remarkable. In September, we were named 'University of the Year' by the Sunday Times and our position continues to improve in the most credible of international higher education league tables, the 'Academic Ranking of World Universities' produced by the Shanghai Jiao Tong University, where our position has improved from 78th in 2004 to 53rd in 2005 and 50th in 2006. Over the past year we moved from 12th to 9th in Europe and 6th to 5th in the UK.

The appointment of distinguished novelist Martin Amis as Professor of Creative Writing and Robert D Putnam as a Visiting Professor to head a new joint project between Manchester and Harvard on Social Change are covered elsewhere in this magazine. Alongside the appointment last year of Nobel Laureate Professor Joseph Stiglitz, these two further 'iconic' appointments reflect the boldness and ambition of the 'step change' transformation laid out in the *Manchester 2015 Agenda*.

The new University's ambitions have been realised particularly in the research field, where we are establishing Manchester as not just world class but world-leading in fields as diverse as cancer studies, the understanding and remediation of global poverty, areas of cell biology and the nuclear-related sciences. Across the University more generally, we are emerging as a genuine research powerhouse with an annual research budget of around £350 million and an increase of around 25 per cent in total audited research expenditure during our first two years.

Without in any way diminishing the importance that it attaches to fundamental research, the new University has since its inception sought to place equal weight on knowledge and technology transfer. In the past two years, there has been a 100 per cent increase in the number of 'declarations of discovery' which may be of commercial value. Most conspicuously, third party investment in University companies is rising substantially.



President and Vice-Chancellor

The scale and value of some of these companies is impressive. One spin-out company, NeuTech Pharma, was acquired in 2006 by Swiss pharmaceutical giant Novartis for £30 million; another, Renovo, was floated on the Stock Exchange, raising some £50 million and valuing the company at more than £200 million.

In the teaching and learning field, applications to study at the University remain buoyant and the past year has seen record levels of enrolment by international students and students enrolled on programmes relying predominantly on on-line and distance learning. There has also been a continuing improvement in student satisfaction over the past year reflecting our continuing programme of investment in academic facilities and support services as well as the quality of our teaching staff and the courses that we offer.

Our students – and the local community - are also benefiting from the Manchester Leadership

Programme (MLP), which was launched in early 2005 to encourage students to get involved with the local community, whilst boosting their personal development. Combining a challenging curriculum focussed on personal and professional development, and requiring 60 hours of formal community work, it attracted 75 students in the first year, with a further 300 set to take part in 2006/07. I believe that the MLP can become one of the defining characteristics of our alumni, making them more sought after than ever by employers and, even more importantly, the kind of informed citizens able to help build stable, sustainable, civil societies wherever in the world they choose to live.

In pursuing all of the goals contained in the *Manchester 2015 Agenda*, the University is very dependant on the support offered by its graduates around the globe. This magazine contains examples of the valuable financial and practical support that many alumni have offered to specific projects and initiatives, but

I know that many more of you are supporting us more informally by encouraging family and friends to study here and colleagues and business associates to forge partnerships with the University.

I am grateful for your continuing support and hope that the highlights that we have chosen for the pages of this magazine will give you a flavour of our successes over the past year and will enable you to become even more effective ambassadors for your University in the year ahead.

Professor Alan Gilbert
President and Vice-Chancellor

Around the campus...

A string of firsts for The University of Manchester

A series of prestigious awards this year has boosted Manchester's enviable reputation around the world. A new survey of Britain's top 100 graduate recruiters for example reveals that Manchester graduates are the most targeted by companies seeking to fill graduate vacancies.

The survey, from The Graduate Market in 2007 published by High Fliers Research Ltd, followed the news that The University of Manchester had won the coveted Sunday Times 'University of the Year' title.

The Sunday Times University Guide is now in its ninth year and is seen by students and parents as an invaluable first reference point for finding a university place.

This year's league table revealed that we retained our position as the UK's most popular university with 62,657 applications to undergraduate courses for entry in 2006. In addition Manchester was beaten by just seven universities in the judgment of academics across a range of 30 subjects. Official assessments of teaching quality show no university in the country has more subjects rated excellent for teaching – 36 in all!

Manchester Business School was also well placed in the Financial Times ranking published recently. The School is now placed ninth in Europe and fourth in the UK, with particular strengths in its doctoral programme



which is ranked second in the world.

Professor Michael Luger (from the Kenan-Flagler Business School in North Carolina), who joined Manchester Business School in January as Director, said: "We have faculty members from all over the world, and an enormous breadth of teaching and research experience that's available to all our students, so it's great to see this recognised in the FT ranking. One of my key objectives is to promote Manchester Business School on the world stage, and independent surveys like this add weight to our claims to offer a truly international experience to our students."

Another boost came from The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) in the North West which chose the University's President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Gilbert, as its business leader of the year.

Professor Gilbert was praised by the CBI for his work in launching and leading the University since its establishment in October 2004 following the dissolution of the Victoria University of Manchester and UMIST.

And finally the Manchester Science Park has been judged as 'Outstanding' for its services to tenants and the local community at the annual UK Science Park

Association conference held at Edinburgh's Heriot-Watt University Research Park.

The judges selected Manchester ahead of other UK science parks due to the contribution it has made to the success of the City of Manchester and its excellent environmental policies.

The Science Park provides free business development support to all its tenant companies and offers networking events, free business and marketing support and access to Greater Manchester universities. It is home to more than 100 companies, and the University is a major shareholder.



Purcell's puzzling piece

Restoration music expert Dr Rebecca Herissone has solved a mystery that has puzzled scholars for more than a century.

The mystery surrounds Henry Purcell's popular piece, *Come Ye Sons of Art*, which was written to celebrate the birthday of Queen Mary in 1694.

The score is riddled with startling errors and is quite different to the master-composer's other works. Now, after a four-year investigation, Dr Herissone has discovered that the ode, which was copied by an unknown musician called Robert Pindar, was subjected to major changes in the eighteenth century. Pindar used different instruments, changed repeats, notations and words and may even have replaced a whole movement with another Purcell piece.

By using other Pindar copies and noting pattern changes, Dr Herissone was able to 'correct' many of the errors and has produced her own version of the score which she believes is closer to Purcell's original composition.

"As we don't know if the autograph score survives, we don't have any way to

check Pindar's copy with the original," she said. "But Pindar also copied three other odes by Purcell, and we are able to compare the composer's autographs with Pindar's versions of these pieces. I've identified how Pindar makes changes to Purcell's music and have used this knowledge to reconstruct Purcell's original version of *Come Ye Sons of Art*. It's now almost a new piece, but I'm confident it's pretty close to the original."



Dr Rebecca Herissone

New nuclear research centre announced

A major new nuclear research facility is to be established in Cumbria with £20 million of initial funding from The University of Manchester's Dalton Nuclear Institute and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA).

The University and the NDA have signed an initial collaboration agreement, which will see each organisation invest £10 million over a seven-year period.

The money will be used to provide specialist research equipment and facilities and to drive forward research into radiation sciences and engineering decommissioning.

A new multi-million pound centre will initially house around 60 staff and postgraduate students and will be built on the Westlakes Science and Technology Park, near Whitehaven in West Cumbria. As part of the investment agreement The University of Manchester will recruit a team of new academic staff and will work to extend access for academic researchers from other universities.

Renamed Rutherford

A historic building that once housed one of the University's most famous scientists has been renamed in his honour.

The Coupland Building, just off Oxford Road, has been officially renamed in honour of Nobel Prize winner, Ernest Rutherford.

The event in December was marked by a special ceremony, which was attended by Rutherford's great-granddaughter, Professor Mary Fowler, and also his great-great-granddaughter Dr Ellen Nisbet.

Established in 1900, the Physical Laboratories at the University were, at the time, among the largest in the world. They soon became a centre for the study of atomic and nuclear physics.

New Zealander Rutherford led the laboratories between 1907 and 1919.



Left to right: Dr Ellen Nisbet, Professor Mary Fowler and the President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert

During this time he made some of his most significant contributions to science, including the splitting of the atom.

The newly-named Rutherford Building houses the University's International

Development, Student Recruitment, Admission and Widening Participation activities, and also a small exhibition celebrating Rutherford's work in Manchester.

Student overcomes obstacles to graduate

A totally deaf Japanese student has overcome hearing and language problems to graduate from the University with flying colours.

Kenichiro (Ken) Onishi has thanked University and Faculty Disability Co-ordinators for supporting him to achieve an MA in International Relations.

Ken became totally deaf at the age of two after contracting mumps while living in Japan. He has never learnt to speak and has had to learn to communicate by sign language and by writing.

But with the help of the University Central Disability Co-ordinator he achieved a merit for his dissertation

paper on the discourses of Human Rights in Islamic countries.

Communicating by writing, Ken said: "When I started my MA studies I was concerned that as an international disabled student any funding for disabled students would be denied. However my worries were quickly removed when I was offered computer equipment to help me."

Ken's course was mainly seminar based so to help him communicate with staff and other students, the University provided a staff member and an electronic note-taker to relay messages in a quick and efficient manner. The electronic note-taker also had the added benefit of allowing Ken to keep his files up-to-date.



Left to right: Pat Horrocks (School Disability Co-ordinator), Ken and Bryan Coleman (Disability Officer)

Ken, who plans to take a PhD and train as a solicitor, said: "I strongly believe that my achievement would not have been possible without the support of the Disability office."

Dentists detect osteoporosis



Researchers in the University's School of Dentistry have created a unique way of identifying osteoporosis sufferers using ordinary dental x-rays.

Following a three year EU funded research programme Professor Keith Horner and Dr Hugh Devlin have developed a largely automated approach to detecting the debilitating

bone disease - which affects a fifth of people in their sixties and more than a third of those in their seventies. Currently no screening is available.

Since X-rays are used widely in dentistry, the team has drawn on 'active shape modelling' technology, developed by the University's Division of Imaging Sciences, to automatically detect jaw widths of less than 3mm – a key indicator of osteoporosis.

"This cheap, simple and largely-automated approach could be carried out by every dentist taking routine x-rays, and the success rate is as good as having a specialist consultant on hand," said Professor Horner.

The team hopes an x-ray equipment company will now step in and integrate the software with its products.

Star attraction

Jodrell Bank, the UK's national radio astronomy observatory and part of the University's School of Physics and Astronomy, has been named as the UK's greatest 'Unsung Landmark' in a BBC online competition.

The accolade is a fitting tribute to a piece of science which is about to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

Jodrell Bank was the brainchild of physicist Sir Bernard Lovell who had worked on radar during the war and was fascinated by odd signals picked up by the equipment, which he believed might be echoes of cosmic rays.

He started work at The University of Manchester buildings in the centre of the city, but was obstructed by interference from passing electric trams and decided he needed to get into the countryside. He took up residence at Jodrell Bank, where the University's botany department had a base.

Conceived in the 1940s, and co-designed by engineer Sir Charles Husband, the main telescope at Jodrell Bank was completed in 1957. It measures 250 feet in diameter and weighs 3,200 tonnes, dominating the Cheshire landscape near Goostrey.



The telescope soon impressed the astronomy community when it was the only facility in the West able to track the rocket carrying the Russians' first satellite, the Sputnik, into space.

Today astronomers at Jodrell Bank spend much of their time looking for quasars and pulsars, large stars that have collapsed in on themselves and become hugely dense rotating neutron stars.

For more details about Jodrell Bank and its 50th anniversary celebrations go to www.manchester.ac.uk/jodrellbank. Also, see page 39.

As our population ages, growing numbers of people are likely to develop dementia. Currently there is no cure but researchers in Manchester are at the forefront of efforts to understand the biology of this much feared disease



The Brain Gain

Dementia is the name given to a group of related conditions which destroy brain cells and lead to a progressive decline in our mental function. It is a distressing condition which affects some 750,000 people in the UK alone, gradually destroying their memory, their ability to learn, reason and make judgments. Over time, sufferers often lose their ability to function on a day-to-day basis.

Treatments do exist but their effectiveness is patchy and usually short lived. However, world leading research across two different University faculties is tackling the root causes of dementia and has produced some

promising results, and perhaps even the hope of a cure.

In the Faculty of Life Sciences, Professor Andrew Doig is working on the design of a new drug for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease – one of the commonest forms of dementia. His results have been so successful that he is now hoping to apply the same drug principle to other devastating diseases.

Professor Doig said that the key step in the onset of Alzheimer's takes place when a small protein fragment (called β -amyloid) changes shape and sticks to itself. The protein aggregates then

build up in a part of the brain called the hippocampus, killing cells responsible for short-term memory.

To tackle this Professor Doig has been working in collaboration with a spin-out company from his laboratory called Senexis on the design of drugs which bind to the β -amyloid aggregates. The drugs interfere with the aggregates assembly and then reduce their toxicity.

In tests the drugs are more effective than any others discovered to date and it is hoped that trials in humans will start soon. In fact the results are so promising that the same drug strategy



is now being tested on other diseases linked with protein aggregation, including Parkinson's disease and type II Diabetes, and there are plans to start work on Motor Neuron disease and other dementias in the near future.

"Diseases caused by protein aggregation are of enormous and growing importance in our ageing population", said Professor Doig. "Current drugs can, at best, only alleviate symptoms for a limited period of time. By tackling the root causes of the diseases, namely toxic protein aggregates, we hope that we can develop far more effective therapies."

Elsewhere in the faculty, Professor Ruth Itzhaki's team is investigating Alzheimer's from another angle by unravelling the role of a common virus in the development of the disease.

The virus, which targets the nervous system, infects most humans in infancy but remains within the peripheral

nervous system – the part of the nervous system other than the brain and spinal cord - usually in dormant form.

"It was uncertain previously whether the virus is also present in the brain", said Professor Itzhaki. "We found that it does indeed reside there in many elderly people, and that those who have a specific form of a gene (called apoE, type 4 form) are likely to develop Alzheimer's disease."

The team's recent findings have formed a vital link between the virus and the main abnormal brain features of the disease.

"Our recent results are extremely exciting; we have found that the virus causes marked deposition of the main components of these abnormalities," said Professor Itzhaki. "We think the virus is normally dormant in elderly brains but can become activated by events such as stress or infection. Repeated activation in those with apoE type 4 eventually causes Alzheimer's disease. Our results point to treatment of Alzheimer's disease by using antiviral agents and to the future possibility of its prevention by vaccination against the virus in infancy."

While significant progress has been made in understanding the genetic causes of Alzheimer's disease, relatively little has been known about the genes linked to another common form of dementia called Frontotemporal Dementia or FTD.

A breakthrough came last year however when researchers in the School of Medicine helped identify a second gene mutation behind FTD, following their earlier success in pinpointing errors in the gene known as 'tau'.

"We now know that many more cases probably result from errors in the 'granulin' gene," said lead researcher Dr Stuart Pickering-Brown, who predicts that replacement therapies to tackle the condition will be developed in the near future.

The Wolfson Molecular Imaging Centre is also contributing towards our understanding of dementia and recently carried out its first positron emission

tomography 'PET' brain scan on an Alzheimer's patient - a 77 year-old former RAF pilot and air traffic controller.

Stephen Carter of the School of Psychological Sciences is using the Centre's unique technology to look at the transition from mild cognitive impairment (MCI) to early Alzheimer's. MCI is often - although not always - considered a precursor to the condition and it is crucial, he said, to be able to detect early changes: "We need to be able to produce a more accurate diagnosis as by the time dementia is currently diagnosed, irreversible brain damage has typically already taken place."

In the same School, Professor Matt Lambon-Ralph is investigating how the knowledge we have about the world is stored in the brain, and why it breaks down in dementia and stroke patients.

His team at the Centre for Clinical Neuroscience is using a unique combination of comprehension and language tests, plus mathematical models and enhanced brain imaging to increase understanding of how our knowledge is encoded. Already the team has identified the part of the brain which forms and processes concepts.

Dementia is also under the spotlight in Psychiatry where Professor Alistair Burns is investigating the effectiveness of aromatherapy oils in combating the agitation that often accompanies Alzheimer's. Professor Burns, Deputy Dean (Clinical Affairs) of the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences, is currently recruiting volunteers for a randomised controlled trial in which patients will either have the aromatherapy oil Melissa massaged into their hand, or take a drug or a placebo.

It is hoped the study will lead to an alternative treatment to conventional drugs which can have side effects.

Professor Burns is also working with the Universities of New York and Sydney in a study to help those caring for dementia patients - more than half of whom suffer from depression. The work seeks to harmonise support across the three continents, enabling sharing of good practise in reducing depression over time.



Manchester is at the forefront in developing new technologies to tackle climate change

A sea change in tackling global warming

When you're next in the city, see if you can spot the solar panels on the new maths, physics and astronomy building on Upper Brook Street or those on the new humanities building on Oxford Road; the latter is the second biggest solar scheme in Manchester after the CIS tower.

The University is taking climate change very seriously indeed and in addition to new green buildings and energy reduction schemes, many hundreds of staff across our schools and research groups are committed to tackling environmental concerns.

The Joule Centre for example is investigating low-carbon technologies such as wave energy and hydrogen fuel

cells, and academics working at the Centre are also looking to develop a host of new 'smart' technologies.

The potential of wave energy has already been demonstrated by Professor Peter Stansby from the School of Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering, who has attracted considerable attention with his innovative 'Manchester Bobber' system.

The Bobber does exactly what the name suggests - it makes use of the rise and fall of the water surface. This movement transmits energy, which is then extracted by the mechanics to drive a generator and produce electricity.

The vision is to have a series of Bobbers working together to generate electricity for the National Grid. After the successful testing of a 1/10th scale device, co-inventor Professor Stansby is now working with The University of Manchester Intellectual Property Ltd (UMIP) and other commercial partners to drive the project forward.

According to legend, the sun is a rare visitor to Manchester but nevertheless the University is still powering ahead with some dazzling work in the field of solar energy.

The School of Chemistry recently started a £1.5 million research project with the School of Materials, the School of Physics and Astronomy, the



The Rigg-NAFUM Scholarship in Energy Engineering

The University's research into sustainable energy is generously supported by alumnus George Rigg (BSc Science 1960) and his wife Jane, and by a contribution from alumni who support the North American Foundation for the University of Manchester (NAFUM) (see page 36 for details on NAFUM). The Riggs, and their fellow NAFUM supporters, have provided funding for a PhD scholarship in Energy Engineering – the 'Rigg-NAFUM Scholarship'.

The scholarship, offered by the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences and commencing in September 2007, is for a student from the US with a research focus on energy, the environment and sustainability (including global environmental change; environmental quality and human wellbeing; sustainability and environmental technological innovation; and energy systems).

School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering and the Department of Physics at Imperial College London to cut the cost of solar power.

The three-year project will investigate a number of new and novel designs for solar cells, in an attempt to produce a cheaper and more efficient system for generating green energy. The research team are aiming to demonstrate solar cells that have the potential to be mass-produced and can achieve a good level of energy conversion efficiency.

As plans are formulated for the next generation of nuclear power stations, the UK faces the very serious challenge of ensuring ageing nuclear facilities are

decommissioned and cleaned up safely and securely.

The University's Dalton Nuclear Institute is geared up to tackle this challenge with some of the UK's most advanced university-based nuclear research facilities.

Plans for a world-class multi-million pound research and learning centre in West Cumbria were unveiled by the Institute and the Nuclear Decommissioning Agency at the beginning of 2007. (See page 7)

In Manchester, the Institute is helping to train and prepare a new crop of nuclear engineers through its nuclear engineering doctorate and nuclear MSc courses.

A Harvard Professor who has impressed Tony Blair and George W Bush has become a Visiting Professor at Manchester in order to conduct a joint investigation into the breakdown of social cohesion - on both sides of the Atlantic



Spotlight on social isolation

Love it or loathe it, successful networking has become a mark of success, whether in academia, business, politics, even the school playground. It's who you know rather than what you know that determines how you get on in life and whether you happen to be a captain of industry or captain of the netball team, you need to be in with the right crowd to have influence.

This is the central idea behind social capital: that groups of people with a common interest help each other out and by doing so, contribute to both economic and wider societal gains. Social capital is not confined to the upper echelons of power but can be identified in many different walks of life from friendship networks,

neighbourhoods, churches, schools, sports clubs, civic associations, even bars.

The problem is that the way many people live today tends to isolate individuals rather than bring them together. Changes in the workplace, where we live, even the growth of computers have tended to fragment communities and reduce the potential for building social capital.

Social capital is productive, since two farmers exchanging tools can get more work done with less physical capital. Similarly rotating credit associations can generate pools of financial capital for increased entrepreneurial activity. Social capital can encourage people to engage with democratic structures to

tackle social problems. On a more simple level, social capital enables people to share information – about job vacancies for example - and reciprocate favours.

But precisely how much influence is wielded by social capital in the 21st century is a big question for the many social scientists studying the idea, like Harvard University's Robert D Putnam who popularised the concept and published a definitive account in his book *Bowling Alone*, published in 2000.

Bowling Alone shows how Americans have become increasingly disconnected from family, friends, neighbours, and democratic structures. But it also explains how

they can reconnect which has strong implications for policy makers.

Since the book was published, Professor Putnam's ideas have attracted the interest of politicians and commentators – including Tony Blair, Bill Clinton and George W Bush.

The arguments have also influenced the World Bank which accepts that social cohesion is critical for societies to prosper economically and for development to be sustainable. Professor Putnam was named one of the Guardian's top 100 intellectuals of 2005 and became a member of both the American National Academy of Science and the British Academy, for his analysis of the 30-year-decline of social connectivity and the atomised nature of modern life.

Now The University of Manchester's School of Social Sciences has joined forces with Professor Putnam's team at Harvard to carry out major research in this area.

'Social Change: A Joint Project of Harvard and Manchester' will be directed by Professor Putnam from Harvard's John F Kennedy School of Government. He will join forces with researchers from Manchester to conduct a series of transatlantic comparative studies on topics such as inequality, immigration, religion, the changing workplace and civic engagement.

They will investigate what drives social change, how it relates to the wellbeing of members of society and the implications for policy makers – issues which confront political leaders on both sides of the Atlantic.

As part of the project, Professor Putnam has taken up a part-time Visiting Professorship at The University of Manchester for five years. His activities will include a series of collaborative projects, graduate summer school coursework and postgraduate programmes.

Manchester already hosts a number of centres of excellence specialising in the exploration of social change and is home to the £3.7 million Economic and Social Research Council Funded Centre for Research on Socio Cultural Change.

It also hosts the Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research an interdisciplinary research centre in the School of Social Sciences.

There are many examples of how university research dovetails with the Harvard collaboration. For example Ludi Simpson argues that the United Kingdom's increasing ethnic diversity has had no impact on levels of cultural segregation - a prominent challenge to the views of Commission for Racial Equality Chairman Trevor Phillips, who warned last year that Britain was "sleepwalking towards segregation".

Similarly, Dale Southerton and a team of sociologists found that contrary to popular belief, families are likely to eat together in much the same way as they would have done 30 years ago.

And in a report for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation Professor Ed Fieldhouse and Dr David Cutts have shown a link between the turnout and registration of British South Asian electors and the ethnic make-up of neighbourhoods.

Professor Putnam said: "There is a long and fruitful history of collaboration between British and American scholars in learning across our similarities and differences in order to tackle important social issues. The programme builds on a foundation of exceptional expertise in both Manchester and Harvard, as well as elsewhere in our two countries."

He said Manchester had been heavily involved historically in using the best scholarship to resolve problems of practical importance to politicians, industrialists, leading citizens, and the working-class - and this project returned Manchester 'to those roots.'

Professor Putnam believes that today's Americans sign fewer petitions, belong to fewer organisations that meet, know their neighbours less, meet with friends less frequently, and even socialize with their families less often.

His research shows how changes in work, family structure, the ageing population, suburban life, television, computers, women's roles and many other factors have contributed to our isolation. Now he is trying to find ways to bring us back together.



Professor Robert D Putnam

The Englander Studentship in Civic Engagement

The Harvard-Manchester Initiative and the University's research into sustainable civil societies are complemented by the 'Englander Studentship in Civic Engagement'.

This PhD studentship has been supported by a generous gift from Peter Englander and will focus on the role of information technology in shaping and facilitating the role of citizens in a modern democracy. The scholarship holder will explore the trend in democracies, such as the UK, for declining levels of political participation and volunteering, and reduced trust in government.

Peter Englander is an alumnus of the University having graduated with a BSc in Chemical Engineering in 1964.



An injection of healing

Manchester's world leading research into the prevention of scars is recognised by the World Economic Forum

It is no picnic to be selected as a Technology Pioneer: a company must be developing life changing technology which has the potential for some long term impact on business and society. It must demonstrate visionary leadership and show all the signs of being a long-standing market leader. And blue sky thinking alone will not suffice; the technology must be proven.

These are the stiff criteria laid down by the Geneva-based World Economic Forum which is committed to improving the state of the world. Funded by one thousand of the world's foremost corporations, the Forum exists to further economic growth and social progress. And this year it made Renovo Group plc, one of Manchester's most successful spin out companies, a Technology Pioneer.

Renovo is a biopharmaceutical company which last year successfully

floated on the London Stock Exchange raising more than £60 million.

The company is genuinely a world leader in regenerative medicine. Its business is developing drugs for the prevention and reduction of scarring which results from major injuries or from surgical procedures.

Scars are a consequence of a repair mechanism that replaces missing normal tissue with an extra cellular mass when normal tissue regeneration has failed.

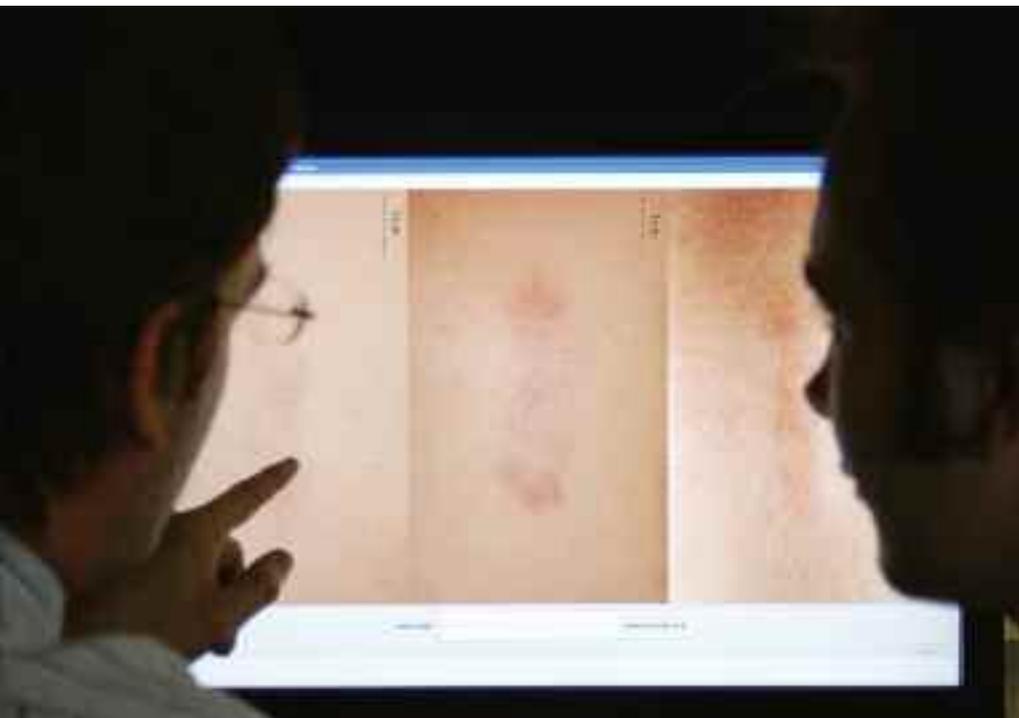
But scars are not just unsightly. They can cause major medical problems and can seriously impair the workings of blood vessels, eyes, nerves, internal organs, tendons and ligaments.

The new drugs are injected around the margins of the wound to either prevent scarring or significantly reduce its effects. But timing is critical and the intervention needs to take place within

48 hours if scar-free healing is to take place. Since surgery is 'trauma by appointment', administering the drugs promptly is not a problem for surgical patients. In the case of major trauma resulting from say road traffic accidents or burns, patients are usually transferred promptly to hospital where any scar reducing drug could be administered.

No one else in the field is even close, and yet there is an important medical need to be met according to Professor Mark Ferguson, Chief Executive Officer of Renovo. "There are currently no pharmaceutical drugs to prevent or improve scarring," he said. "Over the counter products such as pressure garments, silicone dressings or hydrocortisone injections are unpredictable and largely ineffective."

Renovo has a portfolio of drugs which use different methods to prevent and reduce scarring. The Company



currently has four drugs in clinical development and a further eight in trials. According to external research conducted by The Mattson Jack Group, the potential commercial market is huge, worth in the order of US\$4 billion a year in the US alone. This is largely because there are some 42 million patients each year undergoing surgical procedures in America who could potentially benefit from pharmaceuticals that prevent or reduce scarring in the skin. This market is larger in patient volume than depression, osteoporosis, asthma and diabetes.

By continuing research into the scientific mechanisms that result in scarring, Professor Ferguson's team aims to discover different pharmaceutical approaches to scarring. For example much of the work is investigating why damaged mammalian embryos heal perfectly, with no signs of scarring and complete restitution of normal skin architecture.

Renovo has a strong portfolio of intellectual property, with more than 300 granted patents and patent applications worldwide, as well as a number of exclusive licensing agreements which allow access to the key patents required.

And the potential benefits of the drugs could be even wider, Professor

Ferguson added. Since common fibrotic disorders share some of the underlying mechanisms involved in scarring, patients suffering from conditions like pulmonary fibrosis, liver cirrhosis and the kidney disorder glomerulonephritis also stand to benefit from the research.

The final selection of the 47 Technology Pioneers, from a group of 225 nominees, was made by a panel of 'world leading' technology and venture capital experts appointed by the World Economic Forum. Professor Ferguson is hoping that the award will boost his company's reputation across the world. "There is a real gap in the market for the kind of drugs we are developing and significant unmet medical need," Professor Ferguson said. "There is not really any competition and Renovo aims to be first to market with a drug in the US and Europe to tackle scar prevention and wound healing."

He was invited to take part in the World Economic Forum meeting in Davos in January where he got the chance to chat with the presidents of South Africa and Egypt and business people from many different sectors. "It was the most wonderful networking opportunity," he said. "I met interesting people from all over the world."

 [www.weforum.org/
techpioneers/2007](http://www.weforum.org/techpioneers/2007)

The Thornley Visiting Professorship

Manchester's exceptional success in the field of regenerative medicine is to be enhanced by the creation of new links with leading researchers and students in the USA.

Alumnus Anthony Thornley (BSc Chemistry 1967) and his wife Gillian are supporting the recruitment of a virtuoso Visiting Professor with a track record in wound and scar healing in the USA.

The aim is to build up a joint venture with one of the foremost US centres of tissue regeneration/engineering to share expertise and further our understanding of the science. The Thornley Visiting Professor will continue his or her own programme at home, while developing major new and complementary strands of research activity in Manchester. There will be full laboratory facilities and the support of a technician.

Tony retired as President and Chief Operating Officer of Qualcomm Inc in 2005. Based in San Diego, he is the newly elected President of NAFUM (the North American Foundation for the University of Manchester), an organisation that is playing an increasingly catalytic role at the interface between the University and its strategic links with partner universities in the USA.

Tony said "we are very happy to be able, in a small way, to help the University in its quest for excellence and particularly in the field of regenerative medicine which has so many potential beneficial applications in the future of medicine."

Read more about these links on page 36

Acclaiming Amis

In a great literary coup Martin Amis, arguably the leading novelist of his generation, is coming to Manchester as Professor of Creative Writing.

"You can't teach talent," said Martin Amis, "but I believe it can be coaxed along."

Considering that he never had any special tuition, yet has become arguably the leading novelist of his generation, Amis is genuinely enthusiastic about teaching creative writing. He did, of course, have what might be considered the huge advantage of learning at the knee of his famous novelist father, Kingsley Amis. But his drily humorous response to that notion is that "he never gave me any tuition."

Indeed, 'following in father's footsteps' is not a suggestion he takes to kindly, even though Sir Kingsley also became a teacher in later life – at Swansea, Princeton and Cambridge - for 15 years. "By all accounts he was very good at it," he said.

Now, at 57 and with eleven acclaimed novels, as well as collections of short stories, books of non-fiction and countless essays and critical pieces to his name, Amis is very much looking forward to his first academic job – at The University of Manchester's newly created Centre for New Writing.

"I always fancied teaching," he said. "I am at the point of my life where I want a new milieu and I think I have something to offer. I have a vulgar curiosity about the young. I want to know how ideological they are and what effect modernity has had on them. I can't think of a better way to learn about them, because nothing lays you more open than writing fiction." He has five children of his own, but he said "they only give you a partial view".

So, whilst coaxing along new writers, he is clearly keen to learn himself and, as always, is on the look-out for possible material for another novel.

"When I was young I might have benefited from some guidance from a kind and helpful 57-year-old writer," he said, with typical irony, considering that he has something of a reputation for being an acerbic writer and a fearsome critic. "I'm sure I can be helpful and gentle. I know that writing fiction leaves you totally exposed."

The challenge of not only teaching creative writing, but also assessing students' work, exercises him. "Nabokov said there is only one school – one of talent," he said, underlining his original point. And he is not about teaching new writers "the tricks of the trade". But there are what he calls benchmarks, like freshness, freedom from cliché, levels of perception and, perhaps most importantly, "economy of energy – how to make the best use of it".

He is truly committed and strongly believes that the academic milieu has earned a valid place in fostering creative writing talent. He cites Ian McEwan, a product of the long-established creative writing course at East Anglia, led by Malcolm Bradbury, a notable exponent of the campus novel. The number of successful writers produced is certainly some measure of the effectiveness of the teaching.

Amis will be based in the School of Arts Histories and Cultures, also home to the leading literary theorist and critic, Professor Terry Eagleton. And in

another literary coup Patricia Duncker, award-winning novelist and short story writer, has also just joined the School - from the University from East Anglia - as Professor of Creative Writing. The Irish poet Vona Groarke is yet another new appointee.

John McAuliffe, Co-Director with Ian McGuire of the Centre for New Writing, said: "The creative writing programme at Manchester has long been one of the best in the country, but the foundation of the Centre and the appointments of Martin Amis and Patricia Duncker mean that we will continue to attract – and provide a terrific apprenticeship for – talented new novelists, poets and critics. Martin and Patricia are both writers who are interested in the broad swim of contemporary culture, so the Centre will be a prominent platform for the best new creative and critical writing being produced in the UK."

Of course, few reach the heights or the celebrity status that Amis himself has achieved over 30 years. After graduating from Exeter College, Oxford, with a First in English, where his tutor was the late Jonathan Wordsworth, great-great-great-nephew of the poet, he went to work as an editorial assistant on the Times Literary Supplement.

He wrote his first novel, *The Rachel Papers*, in 1973, when he was 24. Success was immediate - it won the coveted Somerset Maugham Award for best first novel. In 1975, *Dead Babies* appeared, followed three years later by his third novel *Success*, whilst he was Literary Editor of the *New Statesman*.



“Nothing lays
you more open
than writing”

In the 1980s, he produced what is considered to be his masterpiece, *Money: A Suicide Note* (1984), the first of an informal trilogy along with *London Fields* (1989) and *The Information* (1995).

In 2003 came *Yellow Dog*, his eleventh novel, and he is currently working on his latest, *The Pregnant Widow*. “It is a very autobiographical, generally rash novel,” he said. “At a certain age, you become curious about what you’ve lived through and it is a matter of tweaking and mauling that material. Feminism has been the main issue in my lifetime, hence the title.”

Amis has always tackled big and distinctive themes, fearlessly and often controversially. And he has always explored them with a distinctive and innovative literary style.

So, he brings to his new job exceptional experience as a writer – and as a man concerned with the big issues. In a way, he is entering a new phase in a wider sense since he has recently returned to England after living for more than two years in Uruguay.

He and his second wife, the writer Isabel Fonseca, moved back to London for the sake of their daughters’ (Fernanda, aged nine and seven-year-old Clio) education. And coming back has caused him to look afresh at Britain, Europe and what he identifies as the worrying hostility towards the United States and Israel.

“I find that people here are very masochistic” he said. “The tangle of ideologies that dominated Europe has peaked in America. The lesson of history is the desire for power – and the loss of power causes anger. Britain does not relish being no longer a world power. Islamism lost power centuries ago and is still angry about it.”

When the Centre for New Writing is launched in September, Martin Amis will be there, raring to go, running postgraduate seminars and participating in public events – whilst gently coaxing that talent along.

For more information on the Centre for New Writing at The University of Manchester visit

 www.arts.manchester.ac.uk/cnw



From left to right: Jodrell Bank Observatory used in *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*; Ashburne Hall as featured in *The Mark of Cain* and *Goldplated*; cast from *The Innocence Project*

From Hitchhiker's Guide to the

...as well as *Top gear*, *Cold Blood* and *The Innocence Project*, film and TV crews love coming to The University of Manchester as Alison Utley found out

The University campus has become a firm favourite for film and TV crews according to Richard Hanscombe, Sales and Marketing Manager of STARS (Sport, Trading and Residential Services). "We are always happy to work with TV crews," he said. "Lately we have been experiencing an increasing number of enquiries by film production companies and we are excited that the University is such a popular film location."

Filming generated some £30 million of inward investment to Manchester in 2005 and according to Colin Sinclair, Chief Executive of inward investment

agency MIDAS, the city's cool image is much enhanced as a result. "There was a time when Manchester conjured images of cobbled streets because *Coronation Street* was all there was to go on," he said. "Now we have got a much more positive image."

Perhaps you spotted some of your old haunts if you watched *Cold Blood* starring John Hannah which was filmed in the University's Whitworth Building. And *Blue Murder* starring Caroline Quentin was made around Chancellors – which was also the setting for *Extreme Escapes*, a National Geographic film



Galaxy to Coronation Street

about the storming by the SAS of the Iranian Embassy. The Sackville Street building appeared as a mental hospital for *The Street* starring Jim Broadbent.

For the filming of *The Mark of Cain* (a story about the impact of war on young soldiers in Iraq), the University's Woolton Hall was used as the sergeants' mess and also a court martial room, while Ashburne Hall's dining room was turned into the officers' mess.

Another crew has finished making the drama *Goldplated* for Channel Four

on the University's Fallowfield campus. Behrens House was turned into a clinic where characters in the story went to 'dry out', whilst Ashburne Hall was used as St Ethel's School for Girls.

The children's channel CBBC has also recently been filming on the campus. They captured some sketches during Fresher's Week for *Prank Patrol* which airs on Saturday morning children's TV. Banana skins were strewn on the pavements and when the students went to investigate, a gorilla jumped out of a hut to make them jump. In another gag, footballs with string attached were

whipped away when someone went to kick them.

Easy Jet have even filmed a television advert outside Main Campus' Barnes Wallis Building which featured two 'soon to be' holiday makers being whisked away thanks to a bungee cord attached to a giant crane!

On a more serious note, a new BBC One mini series called *The Innocence Project* about a group of law students has been made on the central campus. But this time The University of Manchester was more than merely an attractive backdrop for the drama.

The eight part series focuses on law students researching miscarriages of justice. This theme mirrors some real work going on in the University's Law School which has been advising the makers of the drama.

The programme stars Lloyd Owen, of *Monarch of the Glen* fame, who plays a corporate law professor working with students to take on high profile dramatic appeal cases. But in real life, volunteering at Manchester's Legal Advice Centre is slightly less glamorous and more about training future lawyers according to Dinah Crystal, Director of Clinical Education and Practice at the School of Law who set up the centre seven years ago.

Some 300 student volunteers work 'pro bono' at the Centre to help hundreds of clients every year dealing with problems such as landlord and tenant disputes, divorce, probate, consumer and employment tribunals. "We may not take on such dramatic cases as the TV show but we have our share of complex matters," she said. "For example a prison liaison officer at HM Strangeways prison contacted us to take up a miscarriage of justice for a man convicted of attempted murder."

The Centre has also helped some parents protesting about a school closure to take their local authority to the High Court, and successfully negotiated compensation for a bowling club that was to be closed down by property developers.

Ms Crystal said she had been impressed with the amount of effort the BBC had put into making the series as realistic as possible. "When I visited the set with one of my students he said it was so real he could have sat down and started working, their attention to detail has been amazing."

Pro bono work played an important part in the life of many law practitioners, she added: "I hope this programme will inspire more young people to do pro bono work during their legal careers."

Manchester Business School has also been working behind the scenes on the hit business series *Dragon's Den*. The programme follows entrepreneurs pitching to four 'dragons' (potential investors) to secure cash for their businesses. MBS was approached by the BBC to screen applicants' business plans.

"When we saw this opportunity, we were interested straight away," said Leigh Wharton, manager of the MBS Incubator. "It's what we do every day

in assessing business ideas that come into the Incubator, but to be part of a national TV programme provides an extra buzz. We are working under strict confidentiality agreements, as it's vital that the applicants to *Dragon's Den* can be sure that their plans and ideas – many of which are very innovative – will be protected. We're looking forward to seeing the businesses we've assessed featured on TV – and perhaps even have a 'dragon' ask one of our questions!"

Meanwhile scientists at the University's Jodrell Bank observatory came face to face with Earth destroying aliens in the movie blockbuster *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*.

Two key scenes of the sci fi classic were filmed at the observatory in Cheshire – which also features in the book by Douglas Adams. But in a unique twist to the original plot, in which scientists fail to detect an alien spacecraft as they are busy enjoying a nice cup of tea, this time it is down to them to stop the Vogons from destroying the Earth.

Jodrell astronomer Ian Morison, who is one of the extras in the film, said: "Actually the aliens take very little notice of us and blow up the planet anyway – we might as well be having a nice relaxing cup of tea."



From left to right: William Roache (*Ken Barlow, Coronation Street*); Philippa Adshead from the University's Visitor Centre; Anne Kirkbride (*Deirdre Barlow, Coronation Street*); and filming an *Easy Jet* advert outside the Barnes Wallis Building



Sport at Manchester

Sport has come a long way since a grubby bit of gym kit was installed in a back room at Quay Street 150 years ago

The University of Manchester has grown its sporting talent to unprecedented levels thanks to new state-of-the-art facilities and the legacy of the 2002 Commonwealth Games. Last year, the University achieved its highest ever finishing position in the British Universities Sports Association (BUSA) National League table, finishing tenth out of 150 competing institutions.

But sport on campus had humble beginnings. Director of Sport, Alison Odell, takes up the story: "The first

mention of sport at Manchester was in the 1850s and some fairly shabby gym equipment in a back room at Owens' College on Quay Street. The first outside fixture didn't take place until 1861, but the following year saw the first annual boat race on the River Irwell, and by 1865 the first official Sports Day had been held, becoming a major social fixture at the College.

It wasn't until 1884 that a sending off was first recorded of an Owens' player during a game of lacrosse – Mr Bell for hitting Mr Lewis. A second dismissal

wasn't slow in coming – Mr Lewis for hitting Mr Bell."

Sporting pedigree

Both UMIST and the Victoria University of Manchester have a history of producing sporting talent over the years and, not surprisingly, football has always been central to Manchester's sporting activity.

Dr Richard Cox, former Director of Sport at UMIST, said: "Many footballers will remember UMIST's envied status as members of the



Lancashire League where they played on quality grounds, sometimes against top players on their way back to form following injury or playing in the A team before progressing up the ranks.

“Bryan Robson and Norman Whiteside, for example, graced the playing fields at MUTECH in my day as Director of Sport. Other universities desperately tried to get into the League without success. There was also the annual grudge match between UMIST and ‘Owens’, which was always the highlight of the year.”

Former students include Paul Sherwin, a great cyclist who ended up commentating with the Channel 4 team after he retired; rugby player

Gary French who went on to play for Bath; Charles Dagnall, cricketer for Warwickshire and Leicester; Marie Harrison, European Windsurfing Champion in 1986; Clare Connor, Captain of England women’s cricket team 2000-2006 and Rugby League star John Whittle, who played for both Wigan and St Helens.

Two Cities Boat Race

One of the highlights of the sporting calendar at The University of Manchester is the annual ‘Two Cities Boat Race’ against Salford. Now in its 36th year, it has become a huge family day out attracting crowds in excess of 5000.

Professor Alan Gilbert, President and Vice-Chancellor of The University of

Manchester said: “The Boat Race plays a special role within the Manchester and Salford communities and the generous support allows us to grow and develop the event.”

The Two Cities Race has also attracted support from Olympic Gold medalist Sir Steve Redgrave, who said: “University rowing on the whole is very important because we need to expand the people becoming involved in the sport. University gives a lot of people the chance to get involved in the sport, an opportunity they may never have had before.”

In 2006, The University of Manchester successfully retained its title, winning six of the seven races.



Key stages

From these humble beginnings, sport has flourished at The University of Manchester;

- **1885:** the formation of the Athletic Union (AU) which has survived to the present day
- **1900:** the establishment of a Women's Athletic Union (WAU)
- **1900:** the Firs Pavilion and Fallowfield sports grounds were opened. Apart from a period during the First World War when the grounds were requisitioned as a POW camp, they have remained in constant use to this day
- **1932:** The XXI Club was founded. Its members are the elite among Manchester's student athletes and this prestigious body boasts many international athletes amongst its alumni. 2007 sees the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Club
- **1986:** The completion of the Armitage Centre
- **1993:** The Directorate of Sport was formed
- **1997:** The Sugden Sports Centre was completed
- **2002:** The Commonwealth Games came to Manchester, providing the incredible purpose-built Manchester Aquatics Centre with two 50m pools and a specialist diving pool

Today The University of Manchester can boast more than 80 health and fitness classes every week, whilst over 3000 students are members of the 42 various Athletic Union Clubs.

The future

In 2005/6, Manchester claimed its highest position ever in the BUSA League. The Trampoline club won the national title, whilst Canoe, Swimming, Climbing and Water Polo all finished in the top five.

Many of our athletes compete at the highest level. Elaine Radcliffe and Olivia Clinton have just returned from the England Lacrosse tour of the United States, whilst 14 other current students have represented England over the last year.

AU President Mark Thompson said: "13,000 students and staff were involved in our extensive health and fitness programme last year. We

organise over 80 courses and classes every week; everything from Come Dancing to Ashtanga Yoga.

"Over 2,000 students are involved in weekly leagues and, on a Wednesday afternoon alone, 600 students take part in our eleven-a-side football league at the Wythenshawe Sports Ground."

Sport has come a long way since that grubby bit of gym kit was installed in a back room at Quay Street in the nineteenth century, and Manchester will continue to provide opportunities and choices for students and staff to participate in sport, health and fitness at whatever level they choose.

Manchester has produced more than its fair share of successful female politicians over the decades



Their struggle still inspi

Summer 1968: As student revolutionary turmoil reached fever pitch on the streets of Paris, Beverley Hughes was getting ready to pack her bags for the Victoria University of Manchester. One of eight children, she was the first in her family to have the chance of studying for a degree.

Some 58 years previously, one of her political heroines, 'Red' Ellen Wilkinson, was one of the first women ever to go to the Victoria University of Manchester. And one of the many women graduates who would later opt for a political career.

"Those early women at Manchester

University were breaking the mould in a really dramatic way and I like to think that their struggle still inspires us," said Ms Hughes, who since 1997 has been Labour MP for Stretford and Urmston and is now Minister Of State at the Department for Education and Skills.

Born in 1891, Ellen Wilkinson was the daughter of a textile worker. At the age of eleven she won the first of several scholarships and in 1910 became a Victoria University undergraduate, studying history. Ms Wilkinson was active in the University Socialist Federation, an active Fabian Society member and she is said to have failed to gain the First Class degree expected

of her because of her "studied decision" before Finals to help in a local railwaymen's strike. A keen suffragist and pacifist she never became a suffragette as she abhorred militancy and violence.

This attitude was in stark contrast to her almost contemporary, Christabel Pankhurst, daughter of the legendary Emmeline who was equally instrumental in the Votes For Women movement.

The Pankhurst family lived just round the corner from the University and close friends included Keir Hardie, founding father of the Labour Party. Christabel studied law, obtained her



Courtesy of Greater Manchester Police Museum

Meanwhile, Ellen Wilkinson had become a Labour councillor and was developing the trade union links which would see her becoming an MP in 1924. Her finest hour was probably in 1936, when she led the Jarrow March of 200 unemployed workers all the way from the north-east to London.

This was, as Beverley Hughes puts it, "inspirational" stuff: "Things still aren't easy for women in politics but I would not want at all to imply that it was the same for my generation. The difficulties faced by women in those days were tremendous, they were really breaking the mould in a much more dramatic way."

In May 1937 Ellen Wilkinson joined with Eleanor Rathbone, Independent MP for the Combined English Universities (which included Manchester), to establish the Dependents Aid Committee, raising money for the families of men who were fighting in the Spanish Civil War.

As Minister for Education, she supervised the implementation of the 1944 Education Act but is said to have

been uneasy at the prospect of the eleven-plus and selective education. In 1947, she took an overdose of the barbiturates which were prescribed for her asthma. It was a tragic end but her legacy was the prospect of a university education for thousands more children from ordinary backgrounds.

Another fiery redhead, Renee Short, followed in her wake as a Victoria University graduate and Labour MP. And, by 1968, the Manchester air was positively swarming with student radicalism.

Beverley Hughes recalls: "It was marvellous to find there were lots of women like me from the same kind of backgrounds. The revolution had started; we were all very vibrant and questioning all the things going on around the world. You did not need to join in a political party; there was so much going on. I was involved in and around many of the demonstrations that took place then."

Beverley Hughes took a degree in liberal studies with science and later on a diploma in social administration.

res us

degree but then faced the harsh realities of life as a woman in the early 19th century. Her gender prevented her from developing a career as a barrister and she decided to leave Manchester and join the suffragette campaign in London, turning away from the mainstream political parties and advocating direct action.

After winning the vote for women (and unsuccessfully standing as an MP for the Women's Party) Christabel Pankhurst went to America and joined the Seventh Day Adventist religious movement.



Dame Christabel Pankhurst, National Portrait Gallery, London



Ellen Cicely Wilkinson, National Portrait Gallery, London

Another 1960's student was the late Patsy Calton MP, who read biochemistry at UMIST, before getting involved in political life full-time as a Liberal Democrat MP for Cheadle. A health campaigner, Ms Calton will also be remembered for her remarkable bravery in battling cancer, winning two General Elections before being sworn in again as an MP only days before she died in 2005. Her neighbouring constituency of Stockport is still represented by Labour's Ann Coffey, a Manchester post-graduate in 1976.

Ms Coffey studied for an MSc in psychiatric social work: "It was a vocational course so there was not so much contact with student life. But what I do remember is that there was a real sense of being a part of what the women's movement was all about. We would sit at meetings on the floor in dungarees. I remember the elegance of the buildings and the sense of being in a real student quarter.

I was always very conscious of the contribution to political life of the women of Manchester and coming up to Manchester in those days you had a real sense of industrial history. You could still see the mills, you could almost hear that conflict and sense it in the fabric of the building."

Manchester's highest woman political achiever to date is Margaret Beckett,

the first-ever female Foreign Secretary, who studied Metallurgy. Deputy Labour Leader and briefly Leader of the Labour Party after the death of John Smith, Mrs Beckett has also served as Defra Minister and Leader of the House of Common.

Beverley Hughes pays tribute to her as "a fantastic person, someone who is regarded as a concrete political symbol of women's achievement and who has come through into one of the highest offices of State."

So what would those early pioneers make of today's crop of women politicians?

Claire Annesley, Lecturer in European Politics, has just published a new book *Women and New Labour: Engendering Politics and Policy*, on that very issue.

She said: "I think they would be pleased at the record number of women politicians in Parliament. We now have the minimum wage, more caring family policies, less sexual inequality, civil partnerships, and this Government has done more than any other party to change things. However, there's a conflict there because of the economic agenda, which preserves the status quo. That still impacts on women, and the less wealthy and disabled. But yes, they have made a difference."

Margaret Beckett recalls combining her student life at Manchester with some hard graft on the factory floor

Rt Hon Margaret Beckett MP

The engineer Foreign Sec

As the first female Leader of the Labour Party - she was at the helm in the interim between the death of John Smith and the election of Tony Blair - Margaret Beckett has one of the most distinguished careers in British political history. And despite once describing herself as a "terrible pessimist" her experience in the labour movement has, she reflects, been a happy one.

Britain's first female foreign secretary arrived first at UMIST and then at the John Dalton Polytechnic in the early 1960s having already established a track record as a hard-working sort who could be relied on. Born Margaret Mary Jackson in Ashton under Lyne, she was Head Girl at her convent school in Norwich and came through some very difficult family circumstances (her father Cyril died when she was just 12 years old) to attain what in those days was a rare achievement for a woman. After secondary school, she was selected for



Ann Coffey MP



Beverley Hughes MP



Courtesy of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Engineering apprentice turned Secretary

an engineering apprenticeship, specialising in metallurgy, at AEI Manchester. Of the 2,400 apprenticeships available at that time, only about 20 were held by women.

Looking back, she concurs that her early experience of such inequalities shaped her lifelong commitment to furthering life chances for women. She was an early advocate of all-women shortlists for aspiring MPs because "it needed such measures to drive the aspirations of women forward and give them the self-confidence to enter political life."

As a young woman, Margaret was inspired by female role models like Barbara Castle and first became involved in the Labour Party at the 1964 General Election. "I was active in Politics when I was a student and was on student council alongside the former MP, now Lord David Clark. But I was much more active with the Labour Party at home in Swinton, where I was Branch Treasurer."

Unlike most of her contemporaries, Margaret had to combine her years as a student with some serious graft on the shopfloor. "I have very fond memories of the University, but as an engineering student I was often on six-month placements in factories, sometimes away from Manchester, during the five years of my degree."

She went on to become a metallurgist running an electro-microscopic laboratory at the University before starting work for the Labour Party as a researcher in industrial policy and special adviser to Minister Judith Hart.

In the February 1974 General Election she took on Labour defector Dick Taverne – and lost. But there were two General Elections that year and with typical tenacity the young candidate came back to fight again and was elected Labour MP for Lincoln in October 1974. She lost the seat in 1979 but was returned as MP for Derby South in 1983.

For much of her early career, Margaret Beckett was a renowned left-winger. She vigorously supported Tony Benn in his bid to become Deputy Leader in 1981 and for some years was a member of the dissident Campaign Group of MPs. But opposition to the status quo does not usually lead to high Government office. In Margaret Beckett's case, her views may have modified but she is said to have retained the friendship and regard of her former colleagues on the left. Her appointment as the first female Foreign Secretary in 2006 was the culmination of a long track record as a loyal servant both in Government and the many Shadow Cabinets in Labour's long years of Opposition.

Her other top-level roles include Secretary of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), and a stint as Leader of the House of Commons for which she won praise. But she has never forgotten her 'very ordinary' roots - one of her proudest achievements has been helping to bring about the minimum wage. Another is her pioneering work on climate change.

Unlike other high achievers in Government, Margaret Beckett retains an unpretentious lifestyle. She has continued to live in one of the less flashy areas of her Derby constituency and, until security issues made it a logistical nightmare, she and her husband Leo were probably the most famous caravanners in Britain. A couple of years ago, she opened the Camping and Caravanning Club's new HQ in Coventry and described her favourite pursuit as a "cool" thing to do.

When John Smith died, Margaret Beckett faced the immensely difficult task of delivering a eulogy to him only hours later in the House of Commons. She described the much-loved Labour figure as "the best leader the country never had". At time of writing, she is one of the safest pairs of hands in Tony Blair's Cabinet. As the country looks forward to the interesting prospect of a new Prime Minister, this feisty survivor of troubled political times is likely to prove as indispensable as she always has been throughout her political life.



Some Scurrilous Stories

Life on a student newspaper veers between scandal-mongering and some more serious journalism

The history of student journalism at Manchester has ranged from some professional award-winning publications to some perhaps rather less prestigious efforts.

Back in the 1930s, for example, the students' union's first News Bulletin veered between the solemn commentary of a broadsheet and a tabloid's appetite for scandal. It lasted until 1960 when it was axed by the Vice-Chancellor who had by then had enough of its scurrilous news stories published, it was said, with little attempt at verification. One which attacked the University Registrar and another impugning the morals of students in lodgings had proved to be the final straws. The paper had been widely circulated and assaults on the University's reputation were not easily forgiven.

Students needed a journal however, and the Manchester Independent took the place of the News Bulletin in 1961. Chastened by the crisis of 1960, the union ventured cautiously back in to news and started putting out, albeit sporadically, a modest free newsheet called the Mancunian which was designed to explain the activities of Union officers and the Council to their constituents.

During the 1970s The Independent was plagued by financial troubles and began to founder and finally collapse. The Mancunian swiftly acquired many of its rival's good qualities and its offerings of features, reviews and sports reports came forward to fill the void.

Early editions of the Mancunian resembled a 'borrowed set of sociology

notes' churned out by a photocopying machine but soon it became professionally printed as a tabloid.

The Mancunian was generally critical of the University establishment and inclined to accuse it of conspiring with the government against students' interests – sometimes infuriating readers by its overt political bias. But the paper itself, and some of its editors and feature writers, won national prizes helping the Mancunian to equal the record of the Independent.

And by the early 1990s the Mancunian was more inclined to publish good humoured satires on the posturing of left wingers or cheerful accounts of student hedonism as prospects for graduate employment improved. Drink, be brave and merry, for tomorrow we start a career!

A Manchester graduate turned successful newshound

Many a distinguished newspaper editor got their first taste of the thrill of the scoop on a student paper. And Manchester has produced more than its fair share of household names in the world of publishing and broadcasting - Anna Ford, Sophie Raworth, Mathew Engel and David Aaronovitch for example all began their careers at Manchester, as did Phillip Crawley, publisher of the Canadian Globe and Mail.

Mr Crawley can still recall the excitement of his first front page splash more than forty years ago. In fact he can still remember the story.

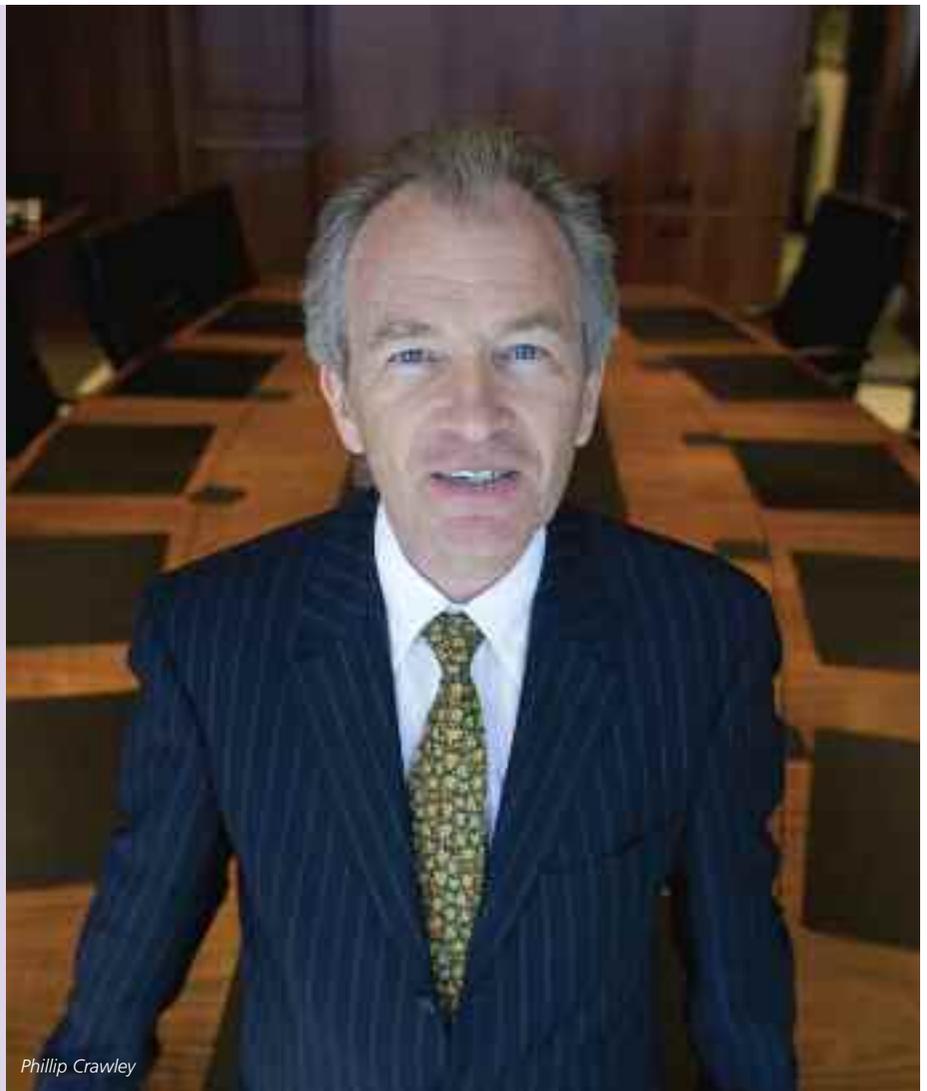
An English undergraduate arriving in 1963, Mr Crawley had started work on the then newly formed Manchester Independent. As its name suggests the paper was detached from both the students' union and the University authorities and quickly gained a reputation for high quality journalism.

His first front page by-line was a story which cropped up during an interview with the University Registrar Vincent Knowles. Mr Knowles happened to mention that there were still significant numbers of unpaid student grant cheques waiting to be picked up.

"For a working class lad from Gateshead this was deeply shocking to me," Mr Crawley said. "I was eking out every penny of my grant and in that moment I realised that not all students were having to live like that."

The story was splashed on the front page and Mr Crawley succumbed to the addiction of breaking news. The Independent went on to acquire widespread respect for its content and presentation and in 1967 it won the highest Daily Mirror prize awarded to student papers, breaking a stranglehold held for some time by Oxford and Cambridge.

"The Independent was edgy because it was not a university mouthpiece and we had some really excellent journalists," he said.



But the paper was running 'on fresh air' during the early 1960s. There were no proper premises and the Independent was put together in bedrooms and on kitchen tables: "We really had to be self-sufficient and were flying by the seat of our pants most the time," Mr Crawley said. "I remember taking the paper to Macclesfield during lunchtimes to be printed, then standing on the union steps selling it a few days later."

Mr Crawley's early success led to a high flying career in journalism. He got his first graduate job, at the Newcastle Journal, on the back of his student

paper experience and then his career really took off. After working for the Daily Telegraph in London he became Editor of the South China Morning Post in Hongkong (1988-93). He returned to London to become Managing Director of The Times Supplements before moving to New Zealand for 18 months as Managing Director of The New Zealand Herald. He arrived in Toronto in 1998 to be Publisher of The Globe and Mail, Canada's national newspaper, during its battle against Conrad Black's new paper, The National Post.



Move over Edinburgh...

The Manchester International Festival is on the way, and it rocks

Could Manchester become a serious threat to Edinburgh as an arts capital?

This summer the international arts world will be focusing its spotlight on the city as it becomes the first ever to hold a festival of completely new and original work.

From June 28 - July 15, the city's cultural capital is set to soar as the Manchester International Festival is launched with a programme of events featuring leading musicians, artists, actors and writers.

And if at first it seems a brave move for a place which entices thousands of applications for its university each year purely on the allure of its pubs and clubs, let's not forget that it was Manchester that gave birth to the Hallé, it was where Annie Horniman started her revolutionary Gaiety Theatre and that it once had its very own 'Jollywood' film industry based at Dickenson Road.

Festival Director Alex Poots explains that while many may be questioning the wisdom of staging yet another arts festival, Manchester's will be truly unique.

"As the original modern city, Manchester is well placed to launch the first ever international festival, presenting new work, new commissions and new ideas," he said. "And for a city to have committed to such a festival shows real vision."

It is Manchester's industrial past and its musical heritage which have provided the impetus for this extraordinary event and, undeniably given such criteria, it's a festival that could happen nowhere else. All the works which have been commissioned from across the spectrum of the arts, popular culture and music reflect these themes.

For example, there will be a new stage adaptation of *The Pianist*, best known

as an Oscar-winning film by Roman Polanski and based upon the story of Wladyslaw Szpilman's survival in the Warsaw Ghetto during the Nazi occupation.

Using Szpilman's original text and the ravishing music of Chopin this moving account will derive its power from its distinctive Manchester setting for the location.

With an audience of only 200 on each of its ten performances, world renowned pianist Mikhail Rudy will be seated before a Baby Grand in the atmospheric attic space of the 1830 warehouse in the Museum of Science and Industry. Not your average venue for a piano recital, but one that will surely conjure up a sense of the isolation which Szpilman felt as he moved from derelict building to derelict building with only memories of the music he loved keeping him sane.

Another commission which is site

specific is *Il Tempo Del Postino*, which involves a remarkable gathering of ground-breaking talent for an exhibition, not in a gallery, but at the Manchester Opera House. It's a show curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist and Philippe Parreno that asks: what if art was not about occupying space, but occupying time.

It will be a relief to many to discover that the Manchester International Festival is not about 'dumbing down', but that doesn't mean it's all conceptual art and classical music.

Opening the Festival is *Monkey: Journey to the West*, an astounding million pound circus opera that derives much credibility from the collaborative efforts of the duo behind the award-winning virtual band Gorillaz - Damon Albarn, who has written the score and Jamie Hewlett who has been responsible for the visual concept. Under the direction of Chen Shi-Zheng they are bringing the Chinese Monkey legend to life with a mixture of martial artists, circus acrobats and Chinese vocalists.

There's a new feature film by Greg Hall with music by Steve Martland that has been entirely shot in Manchester, gigs at Manchester Central, a family event featuring lots of interactive performances and a science-meets-the-arts slot by The University of Manchester.

The Hallé Orchestra will be playing a significant role in the Festival which also draws on the city's musical heritage and takes as its theme 'urgent stories of our time'.

"To create the world's first festival of original, new work is a new concept and a new context that is wholly appropriate for a city that has embraced innovation across a wide range of art forms and popular credible culture. For us to focus on music particularly and what I call the urgent stories of our time, important issues, is very relevant to this city I think." Said Alex Poots.

The Manchester International Festival has also forged a special relationship with The University of Manchester.

Rachel Davies, who is participating in the Manchester Firsts strand, is visiting John Thaw Fellow in the University's School of Arts, Histories and Culture. It is anticipated that Iranian Theatre Director Amir Reza Koohestani will start an MA in Theatre Studies in September as the result of a John Thaw Fellowship offered jointly by MIF and the University and additionally, the Exodus Refugee Orchestra, which is supported by the In Place of War project at the University's Centre for Applied Theatre Research, will also be appearing at the event.

The University has also created an innovative higher education festival post that's the first of its kind. The current incumbent Dr Jennifer Cleary said: "This position will build on the relationship between the Festival and the University. The aim is for greater collaboration between us both in future festivals."

The special relationship forged between the University and MIF is also reflected in the offer of festival membership at £15 for University staff, students and alumni.



To apply for membership visit www.manchesterinternationalfestival.com/membership and follow the instructions. You will be asked for your password, which is – UNVR01. This password entitles you to buy tickets at the reduced price.



Dr David Hessayon
OBE
(PhD Soil Science 1954)

You probably have at least one of his books on your bookshelf. David has written a record-breaking series of gardening books which has led to his being recently awarded an OBE in the New Year Honours 2007.

He initiated a major innovation in gardening publications in 1959 with the first of his Gardening Expert guides. These best-selling guides have had an unparalleled influence on gardening over the past 50 years.

In 1999 he received a Guinness World Record Award as Britain's best selling living author of the 1990s.

Despite the success of his books, David continued his work at Pan Britannica Industries (the makers of Baby Bio) as Chief Scientist and later as Chairman from 1955 until his retirement in 1993. He now lives in Essex and has two daughters and four grandchildren.



Lord Burns
(DSocSc 1992,
BA (Econ) 1965)

Lord Burns was recently charged with heading the structural review of the Football Association. The Government ordered the review following a year of controversy for football's governing body in England. The conclusions and recommendations have been

presented to the Chairman and the Board of Directors of the Football Association and are being acted upon in full.

Lord Burns was appointed Chief Economic Advisor to the Treasury and Head of the Government Economic Service in 1980. In 1991, he became Permanent Secretary to the Treasury and was made a Life Peer when he stepped down from the Treasury in 1998. He was appointed Chairman of Abbey National plc in 2002 and was appointed a Non-Executive Director of Banco Santander Central Hispano SA in 2004. He is also Chairman of Marks and Spencer Group plc and Glas Cymru Ltd. (Welsh Water) and a Non-Executive Director of Pearson Group.

Alumni in the spotlight



Tim Booth
(BA Drama 1982)

Tim has rejoined Manchester indie band, *James*, for a comeback tour after a five-year break, and played five arena concerts in the UK this April, including one in Manchester, which was sold

out within hours of the tickets going on sale.

The Manchester band, led by Tim Booth, formed in 1981. The single *Sit Down*, released in 1990 during the Madchester pop boom, catapulted them to fame before the release of radio favourites *Laid*, *Come Home*, and *She's A Star* assured their position as one of the most successful bands.

After nine studio albums, the band split in 2001 and Tim pursued a solo career and also appeared as Judas in the BBC's *Manchester Passion* last year.



Andrea Catherwood
(LLB Law 1989)

Andrea is a broadcaster and journalist and has been presenting ITV's new politics show, *The Sunday Edition*, with political commentator Andrew Rawnsley.

Andrea previously presented ITV News bulletins after returning from maternity leave earlier last year, having given birth to twins.

The Belfast-born journalist has spent most of her working life bringing the public up-to-date with current affairs, including reporting from war zones. She was the first British reporter to enter Mazar-e-Sharif in Afghanistan after it was captured from Taliban forces.



Professor George Maxwell Richards
(MSc 1957, BSc Applied Chemistry 1955)

The President of Trinidad and Tobago recently returned to the University to help mark the fiftieth anniversary of its chemical engineering degree.

Professor Richards was Principal of the St Augustine Campus of the University of West Indies in Trinidad in 1996. He previously worked for Shell Trinidad Ltd before

joining the University of the West Indies in 1965. He was sworn into the President's office on March 17 2003 for a five-year term. Professor Richards is the first Head of State in the Anglophone Caribbean of Amerindian ancestry.

Although the position of President is a primarily ceremonial one, Professor Richards has been outspoken in his criticism of upsurging crime in Trinidad and Tobago and is also well known for his involvement in Carnival.

He is married to Dr Jean Ramjohn-Richards, an anaesthetist and cousin of former President Noor Hassanali. They have two children - a son Mark, who is also a medical doctor and a daughter Maxine, who is a businesswoman.



Peter W Mount, CBE
(BSc Mechanical Engineering 1961)

The Chair of Central Manchester and Manchester Children's University Hospitals NHS Trust has been awarded a CBE in the New Year Honours 2007 for services to the National Health Service.

Peter's early career began in industry as a production engineer for Rolls Royce Ltd and after five years he then moved to PriceWaterhouseCoopers as a

Management Consultant. By 1984 he had become CEO of Thorn EMI Fire Protection Ltd and Director of Thorn Security Ltd.

On the sale of Thorn's business he became Chairman of Salford Royal Hospitals NHS Trust from 1993 to 2001 and moved to chair the merged Central Manchester and Manchester Children's University NHS Trust. He also chairs the NHS Confederation and serves on the Department of Health Audit committee.

He was also instrumental in setting up the Manchester New Hospitals Appeal and in 2003 was founder of a charity called Helping Uganda Schools, which has provided support towards the building of a school near Mubende and to assist one near to Gayazza. They are helping to educate nearly 700 Ugandan children.



Simon Lloyd
(MusB Music 2006)

Westminster Cathedral's organ scholar, working alongside the Choir of Westminster Cathedral, is recognised as one of the finest organists in the world.

Simon began his musical development at an early age, teaching himself the piano when he was four. Two years later he began organ lessons and has been playing regularly for church services since he was seven.

In 1996 Simon moved to Wells Cathedral School, one of the five Specialist Music schools in the UK, as a DfES Specialist Musician, receiving the highest scholarship to study organ with Rupert Gough. He performed regularly as a soloist and continuo player in venues such as Wells Cathedral, St. George's Bristol and St. James' Piccadilly. Whilst at Wells, he also undertook studies in cello, harpsichord and composition.

Simon graduated in July 2006 with first-class honours, playing the organ for his own graduation ceremony. During his MusB (Hons) degree course, he continued his organ studies with Gordon Stewart. He also held conducting positions with the University Sinfonietta and String Orchestra, as well as forming his own chamber orchestra.



Angela Pell
(BA Education 1991)

Angela's first screenplay, *Snow Cake*, has been turned into a film starring Sigourney Weaver, Alan Rickman and Carrie-Anne Moss.

The film, released in September, is about an autistic woman called Linda Freeman, (played by Weaver) who strikes up an unusual friendship with Alex Hughes (Rickman).

The script is noted for being warm and witty and draws on Angela's own experiences with her son, Johnny, who was diagnosed with autism.

"Before then I'd been writing scripts of all sorts and having them rejected," she said.

"When Johnny was diagnosed with autism, I basically stopped that and launched into running a home programme with him. That was many hours a day running around a white room, dressing up as a ghost or a monster or Spiderman and trying to be the most fun and exciting thing in the room in order to engage my son. So, when I sat down to write this script a couple of years ago, it was cathartic because I'd been thinking about autism for a while.

"Although some people might think it's a big responsibility writing about autism, after about 15 years of writing and constant rejection it didn't even occur to me that anyone would make a film I'd written. Ultimately, it's not really a film about autism, it's a film about acceptance - about a man learning to live with and to love somebody who's autistic."

Our friends in the US

It has been a good year for the deepening of the University's academic and alumni links across the Atlantic

The ability to form strategic alliances where the University enjoys complementary expertise with academic colleagues across the pond has always been a great source of strength at Manchester. The new initiative on social capital (see page 14) with the University of Harvard builds on a range of recent partnerships and appointments, including that of Nobel Laureate Professor Joseph Stiglitz of Columbia University as Chairman of the Brooks World Poverty Institute (see the last issue of Your Manchester).

Research collaborations are developing across the sciences at an accelerated rate as well. For example, pioneering research carried out by Manchester scientists from the Faculty of Life Sciences, together with researchers at the University of Iowa, have helped identify the crucial faulty gene that causes Van der Woude syndrome - an inherited form of cleft lip and

palate that can cause severe facial disfigurements in babies. Further research is being carried out by the Manchester team with scientists at the Stowers Institute for Medical Research in Kansas.

Over in the School of Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering (MACE), senior lecturer, Andrew Gale, has pioneered a successful MSc distance learning programme which has now inspired the development of a 'sister' programme at the University of Pennsylvania. The innovative, web-based programme on Project Management is an industry-led partnership with four of the world's leading companies: Rolls-Royce, Goodrich, AMEC and EDS.

MACE is also at the heart of a £1.5 million project to develop new composite technologies and materials for future aircraft design in partnership with The University of Washington (Seattle). A major focus is to develop more fuel-efficient aircraft in order to reduce carbon emissions. The partnership has formally established the Manchester Seattle Composite Partnership which is now working with the Northwest Aerospace Alliance, Airbus, Boeing and a wide range of businesses in the UK and US.

A thriving Alumni Association plays an

important role in maintaining relations with the US. At the moment there are active regional groups in Northern California, Southern California, New York, Four Corner States, Texas, Mid-Atlantic States and New England.

Elizabeth Pole (BA Economics 1990), State contact for Southern California and Regional Coordinator for the US, comments: "There are over 3,500 alumni living in the US, including numerous business and academic leaders and our members are increasingly lending support to Manchester's 2015 goals. We're thrilled that leading academics from Manchester are talking more and more with our groups when they are in the States. We are currently working with the Careers Service to identify work placement opportunities in America for Manchester students, helping those returning and relocating to the US and otherwise doing whatever we can through our alumni networks to facilitate US-UK academic links".

Far from resting on its laurels, the University is now determined to build on these activities in the US, and has created a strategic board, chaired by Professor Simon Gaskell, Vice-President for Research, to co-ordinate all its activities in the USA and promote top level partnerships.

A Record Breaking Year

The North American Foundation for The University of Manchester (NAFUM) has offered invaluable support following a record-breaking year when more than 200 donors gave \$540,000 (up from \$153,500 in 2005).

An independent, not-for-profit corporation, NAFUM supports a range of scholarships at Manchester including PhD and Masters scholarships for North American students as well as specific research initiatives and academic appointments.

Directing this programme is NAFUM's Board of Directors, the majority of whom are fellow Manchester alumni who live in the US.

The Board has adopted the following key research themes for their philanthropic priorities: World Poverty, Cancer 2015, Science 2015, Regenerative Medicine, Sustainable Civil Society, Transforming Futures. Visit:

 www.manchester.ac.uk/alumni/donorprogrammes/nafum

A new focus for NAFUM in 2006 was its support for undergraduate Welcome Scholarships for Greater Manchester students from non-traditional backgrounds. This was complemented in 2006 by a gift to NAFUM of \$500,000 over three years from the Goldman Sachs Foundations in order to assist the creation of the Sutton-Goldman Masterclasses (a series of summer schools for students from backgrounds which are under represented in higher education) at the University.





Your Manchester Online is Launched

More than half of Britain's internet population is busy with social networking, and now Manchester's alumni can connect with each other online. So get searching, and bring some memories to life!

Almost everyone who uses the Web will have heard of Friends Reunited, the UK's first mass-market taste of social networking which allows users to search for former school mates online.

The wider crop of major networking sites in the UK includes Bebo, Facebook and MySpace, with each site receiving more than two million visitors every month. They offer far more interactive features and have become hugely popular with young people, allowing them to create personal profiles, upload photographs, add links to other sites, write blogs, and send instant messages or emails to other people's profiles. Other sites include Friendster, Orkut and MSN Spaces.

Fans claim that these online communities are the future face of Web 2.0 and so it seems that the climate has never been better for the launch of The University of Manchester's own brand new alumni online community: Your Manchester Online (YMO) - specially designed to easily reconnect our alumni with their University friends.

The interactive website is free to use and provides password-protected areas. Special features include a popular alumni directory where you can access details of other alumni; an events

booking system where you can book to attend events and pay as necessary using a secure credit card facility; classnotes; discussion forums; e-newsletters; special alumni benefits; and Email for Life - the University's email forwarding service, so that you never need to remember to tell your friends when you change your email address, only us! In addition to this, we have also made it easier for you to update your alumni record by registering address changes etc.

Further down the line, plans for the site include a new alumni careers and business network facility. This aims to encourage alumni who have found success in their chosen line of work to assist younger alumni and current students by providing mentoring opportunities, work placement and advice on finding work or choosing a career.

YMO will also become a valuable and easy way for our international networks to plan and organise their activities - giving co-ordinators the ability to manage their own pages with photographs and notice boards.

YMO was launched in a pilot phase to a small segment of our alumni community in December 2006 and more than 5,000 alumni have signed up so far.

How do I register for Your Manchester Online?

1 Log on to

 www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester

2 Click on the Registration button in the left-hand menu

3 Enter your alumni ID number. This number appears on your membership card and is also printed on the address sheet with this magazine.

4 You will gain immediate access to some parts of the website and will then need to wait for us to validate your information before having complete access to the secure features such as the alumni directory. As soon as this is done you will be informed via email - we aim to do this on the same day, but it may take up to three working days.

Why should I update my profile?

- 1 To keep in touch with your graduation year and friends and to enable them to contact you.
- 2 To keep us informed of your career moves and address changes, allowing us to post or e-mail you information directly relevant to your interests and requirements.
- 3 The more alumni who update their profile, the more effective YMO will become!

For comments, feedback and enquiries please email alumni@manchester.ac.uk



Alumni benefits

Your Alumni Association membership card entitles you to over 40 special discounts and offers (see www.manchester.ac.uk/alumni/benefits for a full listing). We have highlighted below some of the latest benefits we have negotiated for you:-



Cox and Kings

Cox and Kings is the longest established travel company in the world. Their holidays range from the luxurious to the adventurous and combinations of both. Cox and Kings are pleased to offer a 10 per cent discount on both escorted group tours and private journeys from their India, Latin America, Africa, Far East, Middle East and European brochures. Brochures can be downloaded from www.coxandkings.co.uk or requested by calling 0870 225 03 22 (UK only). Please quote 'Manchester' in order to receive the 10 per cent discount.

Vision Express

Vision Express is offering members of The University of Manchester Alumni Association substantial savings on their eye care requirements. There is a saving of up to £50 with a free eye examination when purchasing spectacles and £30 off complete spectacles if the frame is £69 or over. The contact lens package costs £45 but is worth nearly £90 giving a 50 per cent discount. Included in the package is an eye exam, contact lens consultation and three months supply of enhance™ contact lenses when joining the direct debit scheme. Monthly payment thereafter is £14.95. Other lens options apply, simply pay the difference. The offer also extends to all family members of The University of Manchester alumni. To obtain a leaflet containing the discount vouchers please contact the Alumni Relations office or visit any Vision Express store with your Alumni Association membership card and the store will then give you the discount leaflet. www.visionexpress.com



Mountain Heaven

Mountain Heaven offers a superb selection of luxury, self-catered chalet style apartments in the traditional French village of Montalbert. This is one of the ten villages making up La Plagne, now one of the world's biggest ski resorts. The apartments are all within one minute off the piste. University of Manchester Alumni Association members qualify for a 10 per cent discount on all holidays, except for peak weeks when the discount is 5 per cent. Please contact Mountain Heaven for large group rates. For more information please visit www.mountainheaven.co.uk or telephone + 44 (0)151 625 1921 and quote 'Manchester University'.

Gardening Express

Members of the University of Manchester Alumni Association can take advantage of a 5 per cent discount on all orders placed at www.gardeningexpress.co.uk.

To take advantage of the offer please input the code MANCHESTER_ALUMNI in the offers box at the end of the checkout when placing your order.



YHA (England and Wales) Ltd

YHA has provided affordable accommodation for the budget traveller throughout the past 75 years and now operates at more than 200 stunning locations in England and Wales with a huge range of buildings to choose from – cottages, mills, mansions, castles and lodges. Members of The University of Manchester Alumni Association can join the YHA and qualify for half price membership, costing £7.95 (that's a saving of £8 off individual membership) and for just £11.50 can take out family membership. Membership is also valid in around 4,500 other properties throughout the world. For more information please call 0870 770 8868 (UK only) or email customerservices@yha.org.uk quoting reference MANUNIVERSITY www.yha.org.uk

The Co-operative Bank

The Co-operative Bank has developed a range of products for The University of Manchester Alumni Association. For further details please visit the 'benefits and services section' on Your Manchester Online and follow the link.

Terms and conditions apply.

Disclaimer:

The benefits and services listed do not imply endorsement of the listed companies, nor their products or services nor is this list exhaustive. While as much care as possible has been taken in compiling this information these descriptions may not truly represent the full capabilities or function of the respective company, which may be determined more fully by contacting the company in question.

Trio awarded for outstanding achievement

The achievements of three former students have been recognised with Outstanding Alumni Awards in 2006

Professor Alan Emery, Dr Rajesh Jeetah and Robert Hertz were each presented with the Award over the summer months.

Outstanding Alumni Awards 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.

Professor Alan Emery, who graduated from Manchester in 1952, is one of the founding fathers in the field of Medical Genetics, having enjoyed a highly distinguished career in Neuromuscular Genetics. He has held a number of prestigious positions throughout his career including President of the British Clinical Genetics Society and Chief Scientific Advisor for the European

Neuromuscular Centre. He is also a Fellow of Green College, Oxford.

Dr Rajesh Jeetah, a 1984 Textile Science and Technology graduate, received his award in August while in the UK in his role as Minister of Industry, Small and Medium Enterprises, Commerce and Cooperatives – within the Government of Mauritius.

The third recipient of the Award was Robert Herz, a 1974 Manchester Business School graduate and now Chairman of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), in the USA.

An additional award has been accepted by John Cheffins, who is the Chief Operating Officer at Rolls Royce Group plc.

The Outstanding Alumni Awards take place annually. If you have any suggestions for future recipients please send these to Annette Babchuk by emailing alumni@manchester.ac.uk or telephoning +44 (0)161 306 3066.

The Alumni Register

In accordance with the Statutes of the University, there is provision for the maintenance and review of a list of Alumni Association members who wish to be kept informed of the proceedings of the Association and who are thereby entitled to be sent notices and papers relating to its business and to participate in elections by the Association. Such elections include:- an Alumni Association representative on the Board of Governors (cyclic), representatives on the General Assembly (annual), and the election of a Chancellor (cyclic).

Only those Alumni Association members who are on the list will be sent relevant notices relating to elections so if you do wish to participate you are encouraged to register on the list. This list currently includes the names and contact details of those members who have, over recent years, shown an interest in alumni programmes and activities. To ensure you are included please keep the Division of Development and Alumni Relations updated with your current email address by registering with the alumni community website

 www.manchester.ac.uk/yourmanchester

and you will then be notified when the relevant ballot documentation becomes available.

If you do not have access to the internet then please contact the Division of Development and Alumni Relations at the address shown on page 3, providing your details (including the date of your award) and indicating that you wish to be kept informed of the proceedings of the Association.

Save the dates!

Forthcoming alumni events

<p>Investigations of concepts and meaning: the case of the four-legged duck Wednesday, 20 June 5.30pm for 6.15pm Professor Matthew Lambon Ralph School of Psychological Sciences The University of Manchester</p>	<p>Radio Astronomy at Jodrell Bank, 50 years old and poised for the future Wednesday, 7 November 5.30pm for 6.15pm Professor Phil Diamond Director, Jodrell Bank The University of Manchester (See page 9 for article on Jodrell Bank).</p>
<p>The Moral Obligation To Improve on Evolution: The new possibilities for human enhancement Thursday, 6 September 5.30pm for 6.15pm Professor John Harris Institute of Medicine Law and Bioethics The University of Manchester</p>	<p>Alumni Dinner in London with the University's President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert Thursday, 29 November 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm One Great George Street Home of the Institute of Civil Engineers</p>

For more details, costs, and how to book see www.yourmanchester.ac.uk and click on 'events'.

Transforming Futures



The University's new Alumni Fund has made great progress in its first year, supporting access into undergraduate and PhD study for almost 100 students - thanks to your generous support. A very big Thank You!

Many of you will have been telephoned by one of our student callers over the past few months. Thank you for sharing your fond Manchester memories with them - and for starting or renewing your support for Manchester!

Since October 2006, 950 alumni, have committed to donations which totalled over £230,000. Calling was principally focused on the UK, but alumni in the USA have generously donated to NAFUM (the North American Foundation for The University of Manchester) with 151 alumni contributing over \$39,000. This helped NAFUM reach a record-breaking total of \$540,000 and to release funding for ten new scholarships (see page 36 for further details).

We should like to thank all of you for your generosity. Your commitment is having a genuine impact on individual students, and on the overall student experience at The University of Manchester.

You may remember from the last edition of *Your Manchester* that we have launched a number of new

themed Fund Areas. Here is a reminder of these five priority areas and an overview of the progress your generosity has facilitated:

Alumni Welcome Scholarships

The University of Manchester provides one of the most generous programmes of scholarships in the UK for high-achieving students from low income backgrounds, with the purpose of making Manchester a magnet for outstanding people, irrespective of their social or financial background.

Professor Alan Gilbert, President and Vice-Chancellor, said the University was committed to attracting and supporting the very best students. "If students have the talent, we want to ensure that they have the opportunity to study here regardless of their financial circumstances."

The Alumni Fund has provided additional scholarship support for 73 students from some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in Manchester, who achieved the demanding grades required to study here.



Sean Curley

Among the recipients is Sean Curley who is studying Philosophy and has wanted to study at Manchester ever since he was 14. "The scholarship has already helped me a great deal," he said. "I come from an area of poverty and the scholarship helps me - and similar people from underprivileged backgrounds - get into higher education by alleviating some of the financial issues we face. Education is the best way to break the poverty trap."

Developing Country Scholarships

While The University of Manchester is committed to giving financial support to home students, it also has a target of providing 750 'equity and merit' scholarships for students from developing countries by 2015.

The Alumni Fund is playing a pivotal role in this programme by providing funding for living costs and international travel. A pilot programme is being launched in 2007/8 for students from Uganda and Malawi, and we look forward to reporting back on this next year.

Emergency Student Hardship

It is inevitable that during the course of their studies, some students will be affected by unforeseen financial difficulties.

Following a rigorous review process, the Alumni Fund assists students who are faced with acute financial difficulties, ensuring that they have sufficient income to complete their studies.

So far the Annual Fund has allocated £70,000 towards the Student Hardship Fund from which 22 awards of varying amounts have been made to date.

Student Resources

The Alumni Fund continues to provide equipment and resources across the campus and in halls of residence.

Projects for funding are prioritised on data collated through the University's annual student satisfaction survey so that they are of maximum benefit for the student body as a whole. These include a 'Time Out Zone' to be added to the library, which will provide students with a comfortable and safe environment in which they can have a break when studying outside 'normal' working hours.

Another distinctive feature of the Student Resources Fund is support for student-led initiatives within Manchester's 'Manchester Leadership Programme'. This aims to encourage students to show leadership in community-based projects in the Greater Manchester area. A 'Pod Cast' facility within the Careers Service is being funded which will allow students undertaking leadership projects to share their experiences on-line with



Sadia Mohammed

other students and with the many external partner organisations involved in the programme.

Research for Society

The Alumni Fund also supports outstanding Manchester graduates who want to continue their studies at the University via PhD study across the Fund's five priority research themes: World Poverty, Cancer 2015, Science 2015, Regenerative Medicine and Sustainable Civic Society (see www.manchester.ac.uk/alumni/donorprogrammes). This year there were nine award recipients, including Sadia Mohammed.

Sadia is currently researching ways of relieving poverty in Ghana's artisanal and small-scale mining communities which are blighted by illegal activity, environmental degradation and HIV/AIDS. "I could only have fulfilled my dream of undertaking doctoral research on poverty in Ghana if there was necessary financial assistance", she said. "Apart from my work contributing tremendously to the University and to the policy sector of Ghana, the Alumni Fund offers hope for anyone in the world committed to facilitating change through research."

Andrew Spinoza, Chairman of the Alumni Association and of the Alumni

Fund Steering Group which allocates the funds said the on-going and increasing generosity from alumni was a good sign. "We are feeling increasingly involved and engaged in the current life of the University and its students," he said. "It has been very rewarding to see how our gifts are being put to highly strategic use on campus, and I would like to encourage alumni worldwide to get behind our efforts."

President Alan Gilbert added: "Our alumni have always been our key ambassadors worldwide. The fact that so many feel moved to provide additional support for these student-related priorities means a great deal to all of us on campus. We are beginning to build the sort of base of support that can give us vital additional flexibility as we strive to make the University as a whole, and the student experience, among the very best in the world."

For more information on the University's philanthropic priorities and programme of donor relations, please contact Chris Cox, Director of Development, Division of Development and Alumni Relations, on +44 (0)161 275 2620 or email chris.cox@manchester.ac.uk

ALUMNI FUND FOR MANCHESTER

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

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

Please complete in block capitals and return to
The Division of Development and Alumni Relations
The University of Manchester
Oxford Road
Manchester M13 9PL
tel +44 (0)161 306 6250

Name	<input type="text"/>	Tel	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>	Email	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	Postcode	<input type="text"/>

Regular Gift by Standing Order (please do not send this form to your bank)

Name of bank	<input type="text"/>
Bank address	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>
	Postcode <input type="text"/>
Your account number	<input type="text"/>
Sort code	<input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/>
Please pay	£ <input type="text"/>
Amount in words	<input type="text"/>
Each month / quarter / year* to The University of Manchester Annual Fund donations account number 30924369: *Delete as appropriate Barclays Bank plc, 7th Floor, 1 Marsden Street, Manchester M2 1HW (Sort code 20-55-34)	
Signature	<input type="text"/>
	Date <input type="text"/>
Commencing on the	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
for	<input type="text"/> years OR <input type="text"/> Until further notice (please tick)

OR

Single Gift by Cheque or Credit Card

I wish to make a donation of

£50 £200 £1,000

£100 £500 Other

I enclose a cheque made payable to 'The University of Manchester'

Please charge the above amount to my

Visa Mastercard Maestro CAF

Card No

Expiry date / Start date / *

Issue no * * Please note not all cards have a start date or issue number.

Signature

Date

The purpose of your gift

The Alumni Fund for Manchester

To benefit the five student support priority areas at the discretion of the Alumni Fund Steering Group

OR

the following Student Support area: (please tick)

<input type="checkbox"/> Alumni Welcome Scholarships	<input type="checkbox"/> Student Resources	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Developing Country Scholarships	<input type="checkbox"/> Research for Society	
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Student Hardship		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="text"/>	

Donor Acknowledgement

Please tick here if you would prefer your name not to appear in any future list of donors

Gift Aid Declaration

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 28% at no extra cost to you. Please see the reverse of this form for details and guidelines.

I would like The University of Manchester to treat all donations I have made for the last 6 years prior to this year, (but no earlier than 06/04/2000) **and** all donations 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.



Barbara Smethurst

Your Vision Your Values

Without its strong tradition of charitable support, The University of Manchester would not be the great institution of learning it has become today

It was back in 1824 that a group of businessmen and industrialists founded the Manchester Mechanic's Institute to teach artisans the principles of science. The Institute grew into the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST). Similarly, in 1846, Manchester textile merchant John Owens left £96,942 in his Will (over £6 million in today's money) to establish a college which was later to become the Victoria University of Manchester.

Today, many of our alumni and friends, choose to show their appreciation of the University and its role in wider society, by remembering us in their Will.

Mr Joseph Andre Hamilton generously left his estate to the John Rylands Library because of the kindness shown to him by former Librarian Henry Guppy - who died in 1949. Mr Hamilton first applied for his reader ticket in April 1948 and continued to renew his readership annually through the 1950s. In his renewal letter dated April 1950 he wrote, "Some of the happiest hours, for the past three years of my life, have been spent within the walls of the Rylands Library. For all these, thank you, with all my heart."

Barbara Smethurst, is a three times graduate of the University, having gained her Certificate in Education followed by her Bachelors and Masters in Education. She enjoyed a long and distinguished career teaching students from a variety of racial and religious backgrounds. Strongly believing in the importance of promoting and fostering cross-faith and inter-racial understanding, co-operation and communication, she has established a bequest to the University that will support scholarships for students demonstrating this: "It is my dearest wish that people from all races, religions and different cultures will live in harmony and peace and I believe that education is crucial to achieving this."

Emeritus Professor Arthur Porter - BSc (Hons) Physics, 1933; MSc 1934; PhD 1936 and Honorary DSc 2004 - and his wife Patricia, have chosen to support the North American Foundation for The University of Manchester (NAFUM) by establishing a Charitable Remainder Trust (a vehicle for deferred giving available in the USA). Professor Porter explains why he and his wife chose to donate in this way: "Two reasons predominated. First, as an expression of our profound gratitude to a university which provided me with wonderful opportunities to enjoy a long life filled with so many exciting challenges. And secondly, because having benefited

virtually 70 years ago from a two-year post-doctoral fellowship at MIT I am powerfully aware of the importance of providing opportunities to US graduates to study in UK universities, and especially at Manchester. Suffice it to add that such an exchange programme not only enhances scholarship and research but just as importantly facilitates understanding between our two countries."

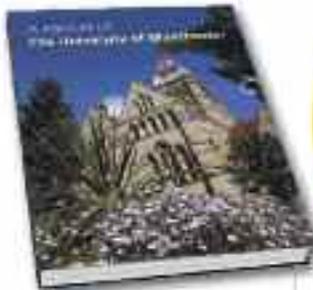
As you can see, legacy donors can engage in a shared vision with the University, and the University is honoured to be the selected partner for such far-sighted generosity. The University is committed to maximising the thoughtfulness and efficiency with which it manages resultant funds - and to meeting your stated preferences to the fullest extent possible.

If you would like to speak directly to someone in confidence about leaving a legacy to the University, please contact Louise Hancock, on Tel: +44 (0)161 275 7230, Email: louise.hancock@manchester.ac.uk

Or, we can send a copy of the University's new legacy brochure: *Your Vision, Your Values, Your Manchester – a legacy for learning and discovery*. It is intended for alumni and others who may want to consider leaving a gift to the University in their Will.



A Portrait of the University of Manchester



SPECIAL OFFER PRICE
£40*
PLUS UK POST & PACKAGE

Produced with the assistance of Professor Brian Pullan, this fascinating new book offers a full-colour panorama of University life in Manchester over more than 150 years.

Richly illustrated with archive images and specially commissioned photography, accompanied by more than 100,000 words of text, the book includes anecdotes, memoirs and memorabilia contributed by alumni along with informative articles by current and former members of staff.



Hardback
280 x 240mm
100,000 words
208pp
Over 300 images in colour and black and white

How to Order

Visit www.tmltd.com (see Forthcoming Titles) to order securely online or contact the publisher, Third Millennium Information: tel +44 (0)20 7336 0144 email manchester@tmltd.com

Order your copy by Friday 27 July 2007 to take advantage of the special pre-publication offer. Please quote reference ALM1 when you order.

*contact the publisher for overseas delivery prices.

MANCHESTER
1824

The University
of Manchester

GiftShop@Manchester

The official online store for university-branded clothing, and a wide range of gifts



www.manchester.ac.uk/giftshop