

# BULLETIN

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ANNIVERSARY PRIZES  
1994



# Leicester University

APRIL 1997

## HONORARY DEGREES TO BE AWARDED BY THE UNIVERSITY

THIRTEEN distinguished people are to be honoured by the University in Leicester and Northampton degree ceremonies in the summer.

In honour of the double Jubilee the University is celebrating during the current academic year, the list includes a total of five former students and members of staff who, in achieving high public distinction, have brought credit to the University over the years.

Vice-Chancellor Dr Kenneth Edwards said: "Honouring individuals who have achieved distinction in their careers and given great service to the community is an integral part of our degree ceremonies and adds lustre to what is a very happy occasion for all those graduating.

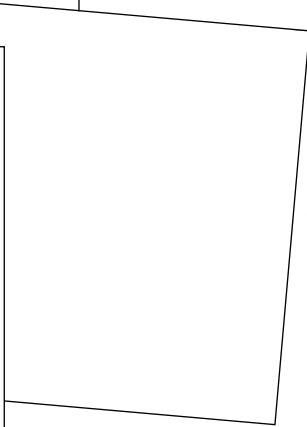
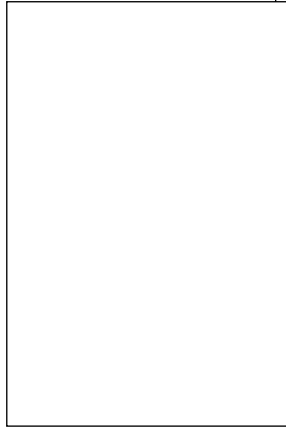
"This year's degree ceremonies are especially significant as they fall in the University's double Jubilee Year, marking 75 years since the establishment of the University and 40 years since the granting of

the Royal Charter, giving Leicester its own degree-awarding powers.

"It is therefore especially significant that we are including in the ceremonies former University students and staff who have achieved distinction in their respective fields across the world. They have done their former University and city proud.

"Degree ceremonies are a very important event in

*Continued on page 2*



*Top, Sue Cook, left, Dai Rees, and far left, Heather Couper. More pictures on pages 16-18.*

### JUBILEE OPEN DAY A SUCCESS

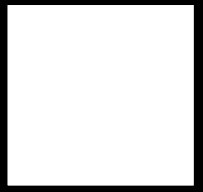


**LIGHT FANTASTIC:** *The University's Open Day proved to be a great attraction (more pictures inside - pages 14 and 15).*

### I N S I D E

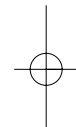
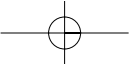


**UP AND RUNNING:** *Graduate runs for charity page 6*



**APPEAL UPDATE:** *Money pledged for Orton Papers page 3*

**BULLETIN: Your award-winning newsletter - Heist Marketing Awards 1996**



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NUMBER 7**

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**BULLETIN**

The Bulletin aims to publish news and features which inform staff and students of developments affecting the University, and to report on the decisions of Council and Senate.

Tell us your news! We welcome stories and pictures from individuals and departments, so send your copy to the Editor in Press and Alumni Relations, Registrar's Office. The closing date for the next issue is **Wednesday 16 April** for publication in the first week of May. The Editor reserves the right to amend or abbreviate copy without notice.

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**Editor: Ather Mirza (Extn 3335)**  
 e-mail: am74@le.ac.uk

**Deputy Editor: Barbara Whiteman (Extn 2676)**  
 People, Books, Research, Cuttings, Notices, Artstop.

**Reporters: Judith Shaw/Jane Pearson**

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**NEWS**

*Continued from front cover*

our calendar and represent the culmination of the academic year. Students whose degrees will be conferred at various ceremonies will have the opportunity to listen to the honorees, some of whom were students on their courses, talking about their careers and how a degree from a first-class institution like Leicester University has helped them.

"The degree ceremonies provide an opportunity for the University as a whole both to demonstrate something of its achievements in producing its graduates and also to state its values."

The honorees are:

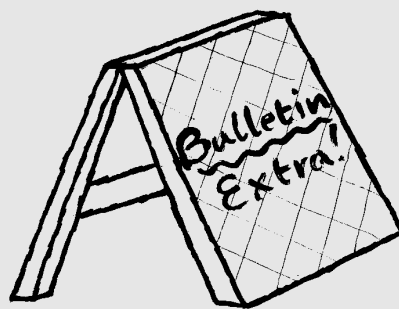
**Leicester ceremonies:**

- Professor Raymond Baker*
- Mr Jack Birkenshaw*
- Ms Sue Cook*
- Dr Heather Couper*
- Miss Carol Galley*
- Dame Rosalyn Higgins*
- Dr Jeff Hoffman*
- Sir Dai Rees*

**Northampton ceremonies:**

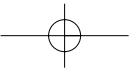
- The Rt Hon Sir Stephen Brown*
- Mr Patrick Coldstream*
- Sir Richard George*
- Mrs Anita Tasker*
- Commander LLM Saunders Watson CBE*

■ **Biographical details of honorees and more pictures on pages 17-19.**



**ON-LINE BULLETIN**

Issues of the Bulletin in 1997 are accessible on CWIS via the following web address: <http://www.le.ac.uk/bulletin/>



# NEWS

## DONATIONS FLOW IN FOR ORTON PAPERS APPEAL

THE Library's Orton Papers Appeal, launched in mid-February, has attracted a considerable amount of coverage in the Press.

Interviews with the University Librarian, Dr Timothy Hobbs, and with Joe Orton's sister, Leonie Barnett, have been carried in a wide range of national and local newspapers, and the BBC have featured the Appeal on both radio and TV.

As a result of a piece by Richard Brooks in *The Observer* on 2 March, the Librarian received a written pledge for £1,000, and other donations have also been received following widespread publicity. As announced in the February *Bulletin*, the University needs to raise £80,000 by the end of June in order to acquire, catalogue and preserve the Collection, which includes Orton's annotated typescripts and production scripts of all his published plays, and eight

unpublished novels and plays, as well as other personal memorabilia.

If the Appeal is successful, the Orton Papers will form a valuable addition to the growing collection of rare books and manuscripts held in the University Library, and

will provide an important resource for Orton scholars and for literary and theatrical research.

Lord Attenborough (whose father was Principal of the University College from 1932 to 1951, and who, with his brothers

David and John, grew up in College House) and Sir Peter Hall (Artistic Director of the Old Vic, former Director of the National Theatre and honorary graduate of the University) have both agreed to become Patrons of the Orton Papers Appeal, and approaches are being made to grant-giving funds and trusts.

But, as Dr Hobbs points out, "we have frighteningly little time in which to raise a very substantial sum of money. It would be a tragedy if the papers of one of Britain's leading playwrights of the 20th century were not to be saved for the nation, for scholarship, and for Leicester."

■ Donations to the Orton Papers Appeal should be addressed to the Librarian. A sample of Press cuttings from the Orton Papers Appeal have been displayed on the Press Cuttings noticeboard outside the Senior Common Room.



**VALUABLE PAPERS:** Leonie Barnett shows some of the Edna Welthorpe letters - part of the Orton Papers Appeal - to University Development Manager Mr Peter Allen.

## INTERNATIONAL POLICE OFFICERS VISIT UNIVERSITY

THE latest group of police officers attending The Police Staff College, Bramshill, paid a visit to the University.

The College is known internationally as a centre of excellence in the training

and development of senior police officers. Since 1970 Bramshill's international reputation has been particularly enhanced with the attendance of more than 1,000 high-

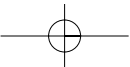
ranking police officers from over 83 countries on overseas command courses.

This course has been further developed and is now known as the International Commanders' Programme (ICP). It is taught as a ten week, full-time course at the Police Staff College with three or more intakes each year. The ICP is seen as the international leader in the provision of management and operational command skills training for senior police officers.

At the end of the course successful officers receive the University of Leicester award of Postgraduate Certificate in Criminal Justice and Police Management. The International Commanders' Programme combines the highest levels of professional training with postgraduate academic accreditation through the Scarman Centre for the Study of Public Order at the University.



**ON COURSE:** Officers from Bramshill College on a visit to the University.



# NEWS

## MILLENNIUM COMMISSION TO VISIT LEICESTER

MILLENNIUM Commission representatives considering a bid to build Britain's first National Space Science Centre in Leicester will visit the city this month before reaching a final decision on this project of national importance.

The decision to meet with the steering group behind the £47 million bid, whose main partners include Leicester University and Leicester City Council, was made following

consideration of the detailed business plan at a recent meeting of the Commission in London.

At the London meeting Commissioners agreed the National Space Science Centre project was very distinctive and that the theme of space science was attractive.

Millennium Commissioners, Professor Heather Couper and Sir John Hall,

together with Commission staff, will now travel to Leicester to meet the steering group to review all aspects of the business plan.

If the bid is successful, the National Space Science Centre would represent the largest successful Millennium project to be supported in the East Midlands.

The forward-looking Space Science Centre would be built on a site at Abbey Meadows on Corporation Road - jointly owned by Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council and Severn Trent Water. The project would not only regenerate an obsolete and decaying sewage treatment works but also create a unique visitor centre expected to attract up to 300,000 people a year from across the UK and employing 80 staff.

Opening in time for the new Millennium, the Space Science Centre would keep education very high on the agenda. Facilities

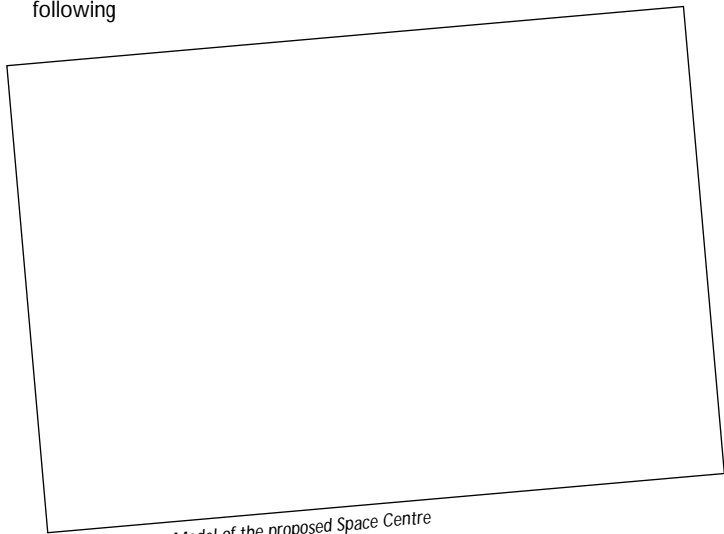
at the new centre would link with Leicester University's research programme, housing the only Challenger Learning Centre outside North America, a planetarium and research



suite. Shops, eating places and ample car parking facilities would also be developed at the site which would be open 12 months a year.

A detailed public consultation process was begun last year involving the local community. A series of public exhibitions and open forum sessions were held to seek the views of local people.

Benefits from the Abbey Meadows site include: improved quality of local life; regeneration and economic development; a significant education resource for local and countrywide schools and colleges, and environmental enhancement of the riverside.



FUTURISTIC: Model of the proposed Space Centre

## GLOBE-TROTTING JOURNALIST RECOUNTS ADVENTURES

by Chris Smith

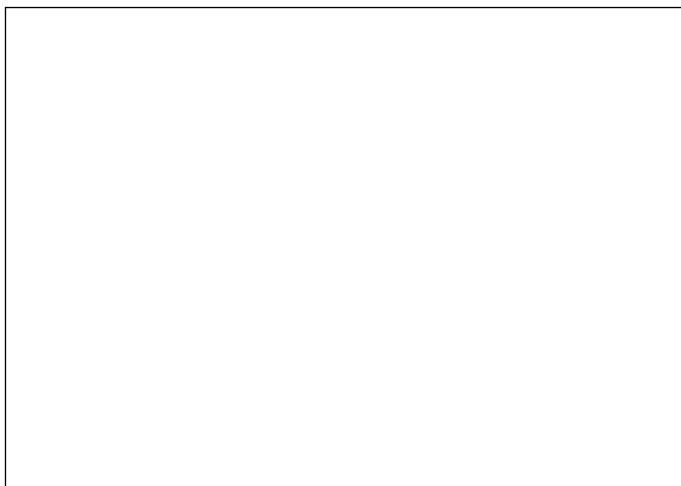
BBC Foreign Affairs Editor John Simpson gave a lecture to a capacity audience at the University as part of the Jubilee Year celebrations.

His talk on *Strange and Difficult Places* was organised by the Leicester branch of the Royal Geographical Society.

The award-winning journalist recounted tales of his journeys around the world and told of the heavy price that is often paid by people who help to report stories.

One such occasion involved going behind the lines in Afghanistan shortly after the Russian withdrawal. This included a car ride thorough the streets of the capital, Kabul, carrying a home-made rocket-launcher and an escape across mountains under fire.

Other topics included a 'non-interview' with Libyan leader Colonel Gaddafi and reporting the Tianamen Square Massacre in China. He also gave a brief insight into the current situation in Iran - a country from which he is now banned following a border dispute with the Ministry for Islamic Guidance.



CELEBRITY LECTURE: BBC Foreign Affairs Editor John Simpson, gave a talk to a capacity audience in the Ratray Lecture Theatre. He is pictured with his wife.

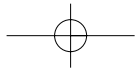
Part of the evening included a questions and answers section in which the future and the current changes to the BBC were candidly discussed. There was also a reluctant account of what it is like to work alongside fellow correspondent Kate Adie.

Simpson was quick to dispel the myth that the life of a foreign correspondent is easy. "I aim to create an informed view of what real life is like. I don't do it for an ego trip. The act of being on TV is only part of the job. There's also the writing and gathering information.

"It's not glamorous - life at times is frightful, stupid, dirty, noisy and unpleasant. However, it's the

best way to see the real world."

He also admitted to a dislike of being an anchorman. "I've worked in a studio - I've done the *Nine O'Clock News* - and been petrified as you're reading a script you haven't written."



# NEWS

## UNIVERSITY SPEARHEADS UNIQUE TRAINING QUALIFICATIONS FOR HEADTEACHERS

HEADTEACHERS in England and Wales are being given the opportunity to train for a unique qualification being made available in this country for the first time.

The University, in partnership with Northamptonshire Inspection Advisory Service (NIAS), has been awarded a contract from the Teacher Training Agency (TTA) to assess aspiring headteachers in the East Midlands for the award of National Professional Qualification for Headship.

The TTA contract will lead to the establishment of a regional assessment centre, located at the University Centre in Barrack Road, Northampton. The Centre will have the responsibility for providing the needs assessment and final summative assessment for aspiring heads for the counties of Bedfordshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Nottinghamshire.

The news comes at a time when headship qualification is high on the political agenda. Chief Inspector of Schools, Chris Woodhead, criticised headteachers in his annual report in February. He said leadership was 'weak and ineffective' in one in seven primary schools and one in ten secondary schools.

The development at Leicester will mean

aspiring headteachers can work towards a qualification which meets national standards.

Professor Tony Bush, who is Director of the Educational Management Development Unit, said: "The NPQH will provide aspiring heads with a qualification in Headship that meets national standards. This new qualification will start by assessing the skills and experience of potential headteachers covering five key areas of leadership. These areas are: strategic direction and development, accountability, learning and teaching, people and relationships and development and deployment of people and resources.

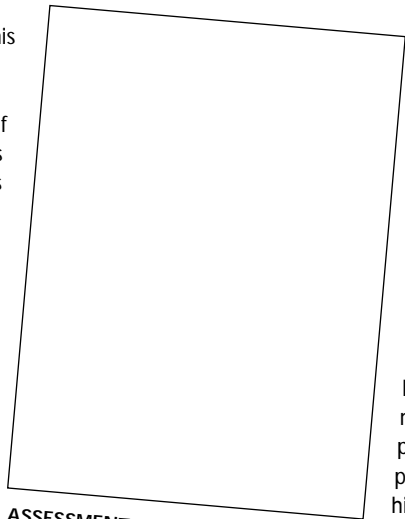
As applicants' prior achievement can be taken into

account, the qualification can be taken over a period of one, two or three years."

Professor Bush added: "This year will see an initial trial scheme starting with 24 aspiring heads across the region. The purpose of the trial is to refine and develop approaches to the

NPQH prior to implementation in the Autumn. It is not a statutory requirement at the moment but may eventually be compulsory for those wishing to become headteachers of the 24,000 schools in England and Wales.

"The NPQH is an important new qualification which will provide rigorous assessment of the qualities and skills of aspiring headteachers. This is one of the major strands in the TTA's programme of continuing professional development. It is highly significant because there has never been a requirement of this kind in Britain until now."



**ASSESSMENT:** Professor Bush said the new qualification will provide rigorous assessment of the qualities and skills of aspiring headteachers

## RETAIL CRIME: ISSUES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

US style civil recovery was just one of the topics discussed at a recent one-day conference on crime in the retail sector organised by the Scarman Centre.

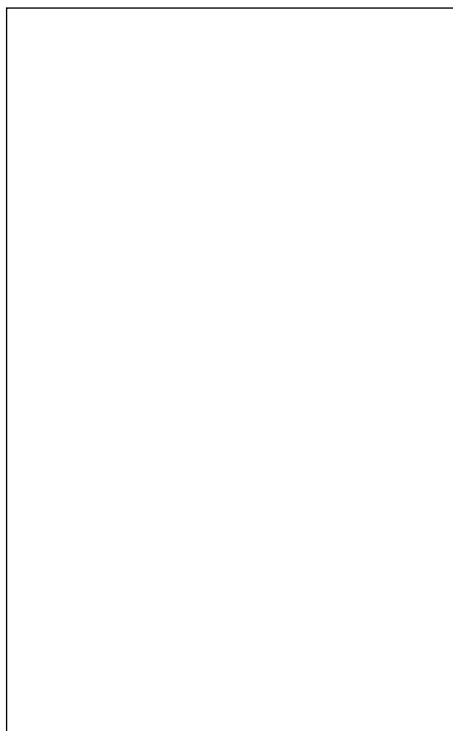
Delegates attending the conference were told that retail crime was now costing £2 billion a year and that over 1.7 million people were apprehended by retailers for shoplifting although only 0.2 per cent of these cases resulted in a prison sentence.

Shop theft was not being seen as a priority by the criminal justice system, delegates were told. This has led some retailers to consider using civil recovery as a method of recouping losses. This controversial approach, which has been in use in the USA and Canada for the last

two or three years, aims to recover the cost of shoplifting incidents directly from the offender using the civil courts.

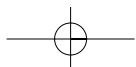
The conference also looked at the increasing use of private security in retailing and the effectiveness of closed circuit television in tackling crime. Adrian Beck, the conference organiser, said: "The retail sector is an important part of the economy, now employing approximately 10 per cent of the UK workforce. Last year retailers were the victims of 5.3 million criminal incidents. The aim of the conference was to look in detail at some of the key issues retailers need to be aware of over the next few years if they are to reduce the massive losses they currently suffer through crime".

## CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS



Pic: Chris Smith

THE Chinese New Year was recently celebrated in style at the Students' Union by over 300 members of the local Chinese community. This year is the year of the Ox and was celebrated with firecrackers and the traditional Lion Dance. The ceremony aims to bring good luck and ward off evil spirits.



# NEWS

## BIOLOGICAL WARFARE WEAPON OFFERS HOPE AGAINST DISEASE

A WEAPON of biological warfare is being investigated by University scientists for its potential in fighting crippling illnesses.

Innovative research into anthrax is being conducted by a small team headed by Professor Robert Liddington, of the Department of Biochemistry. The research, published in *Nature*, suggests that anthrax could be used in the treatment of genetic diseases like muscular dystrophy and cystic fibrosis.

Professor Liddington and his colleague Dr Carlo Petosa, in the X-Ray Crystallography Unit, are studying the crystal structure of a vital component of the toxin secreted by the bacterium which produces anthrax.

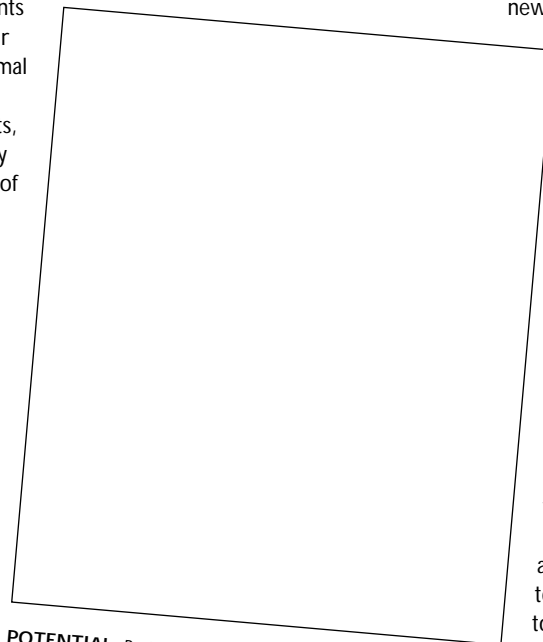
Their research is part of a programme of international collaboration between Harvard Medical School and the National Institute of Health in Maryland, USA. The Leicester aspect of the research involves the study of the proteins that make up the lethal anthrax toxin.

One of three proteins, protective antigen (PA), carries the two others to cause havoc inside a human cell. But Professor Liddington said PA could be used to carry healthy proteins

into cells of patients who lack them, or who carry abnormal forms. Muscular dystrophy patients, for instance, carry shortened forms of the protein dystrophin in muscle cells.

Professor Liddington said that delivering proteins by PA could be an alternative to gene therapy, in which unhealthy genes are modified or replaced.

PA normally recognizes most kinds of cells, but the



**POTENTIAL:** Professor Liddington is involved in an international research programme into the potential of anthrax to fight crippling genetic diseases

new research should allow modified forms of the toxin to be engineered which can target specific cell types, such as muscle cells or cancer cells, and deliver proteins directly to them. In a cystic fibrosis patient, for example, every cell of the body carries the gene that is faulty, but it has a deleterious effect only in key areas - notably the respiratory tract.

Despite the link with anthrax, there is no risk to humans as the toxicity arises from the other two proteins.

## AMPUTEE MAKING HISTORY IN THE SAHARA

GRADUATE Chris Moon, aged 34, who lost his right arm and leg while working to remove landmines in Mozambique, will be the first person with false limbs to take part in the Great Sahara Run this April. Last year Chris completed an MSc in Security Management at the University's Scarman Centre.

The Run, which starts in Morocco, is billed as 'the toughest foot race on Earth' attracting hundreds of competitors every year. It covers 145 miles of some of the most inhospitable terrain on the planet, requiring participants to cover on average the equivalent of a marathon a day in a landscape of sand dunes up to 200 feet, rocky desert and dry river beds. All competitors also have to carry all their equipment on their backs throughout the Run between 7 - 13 April.

Chris's history-making attempt will raise funds for Red Cross orthopaedic centres around the world. The Red Cross provides emergency medical and surgical

care in war zones and runs orthopaedic workshops in affected countries, providing free artificial limbs and physiotherapy to mines victims and others who have lost limbs.

Within a year of losing his arm and leg in 1995, Chris completed the London Marathon which he

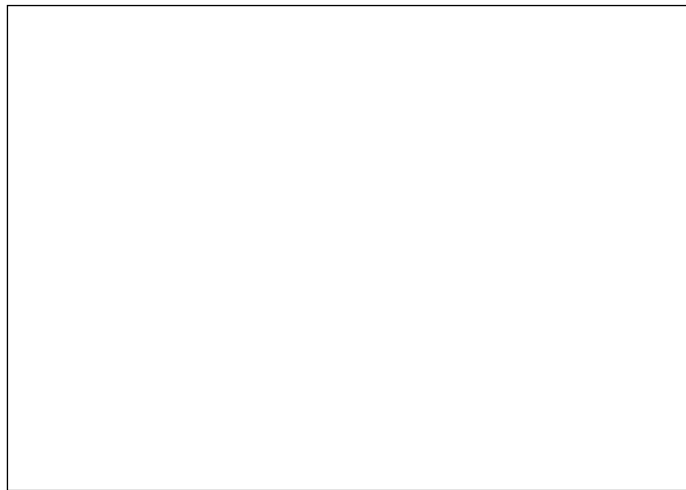
says "left even my plastic leg aching". He then went on to run the New York Marathon. The ex-army officer is now following a tough training regime making full use of a false running leg made at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, Surrey. Chris raised £50,000 for landmine victims by

taking part in the London Marathon and he was recently awarded a Star of Gold award from Princess Diana.

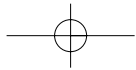
Princess Diana, who has called for a worldwide ban on anti-personnel mines, said: "Chris truly symbolises what selfless bravery is." His was one of a number of awards made by the Daily Star newspaper.

Chris says: "I have been very lucky in that I have had good medical support since my accident and a lot of personal encouragement too - I want people to think about others who are trying to overcome disability but who don't have the same kind of support and assistance. Many amputees have to wait years or a whole lifetime for an artificial limb."

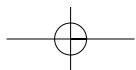
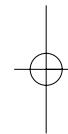
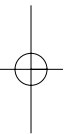
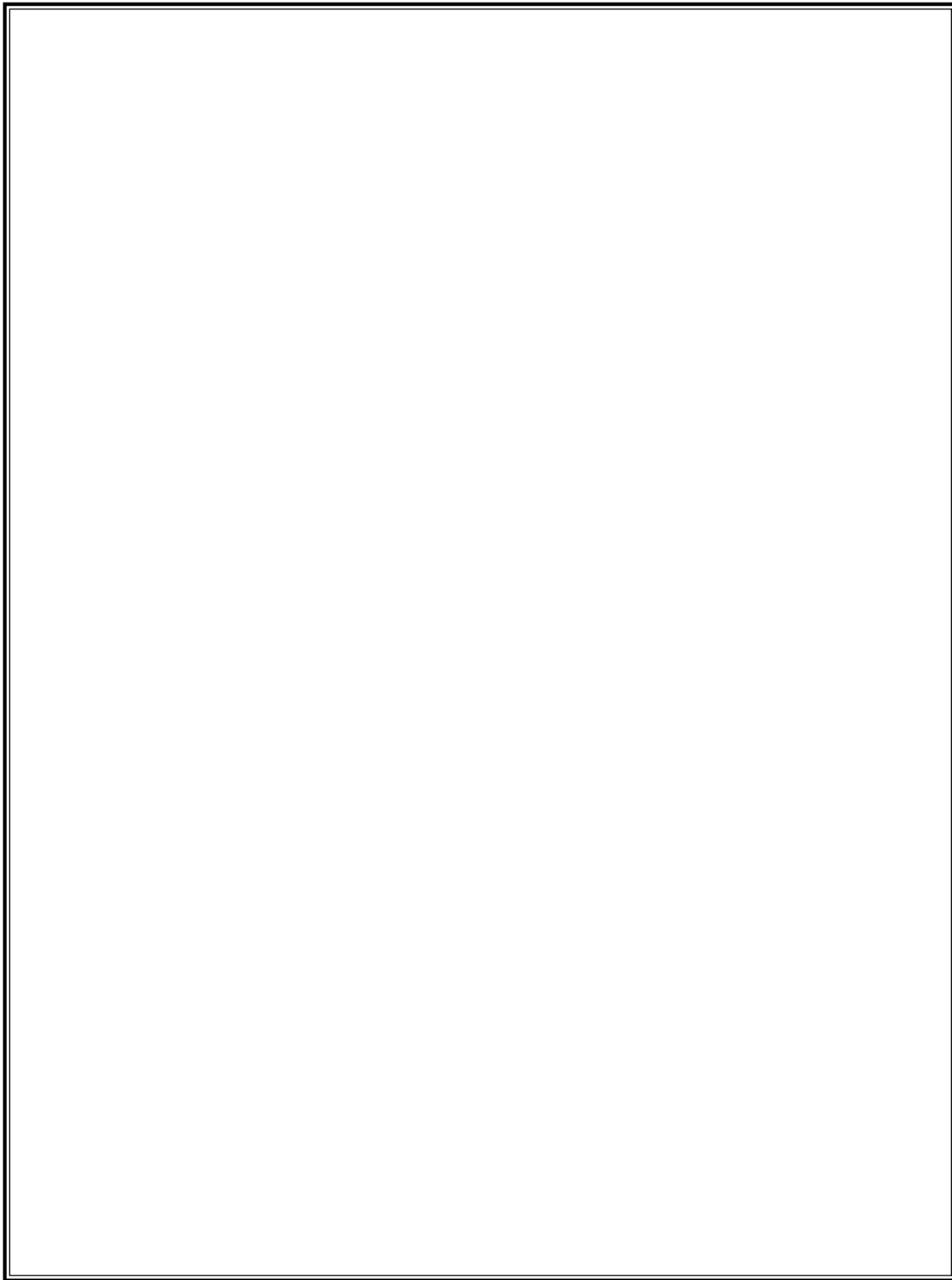
■ You can support Chris Moon by telephoning 0171 201 5064 or by sending a cheque made payable to "British Red Cross" to: Chris Moon, Room SM97, British Red Cross, FREEPOST, London, SW1X 7BR.



**WINNER ALL THE WAY:** Brave Chris Moon, a University graduate, is taking part in The Great Sahara Run in aid of landmine victims



# NOTICES



# NEWS

## MINISTER BACKS UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

SCIENCE and Technology Minister Ian Taylor backed a national report prepared by staff in the School of Education assessing successful strategies for attracting girls into science, engineering and technology.

*Breaking the Mould*, published on 13 March, was put together by Dr Mel Vlaeminke, Chris Comber and Frankie McKeon from the University. This review of international research projects reported by the Gender and Science and Technology (GASAT) network over the past 15 years highlights strategies which have been successful in overcoming the barriers to young women.

Mr Taylor visited Hackney College which has achieved outstanding results in its efforts to increase the uptake of A-level science by girls. Mr Taylor said: "The outstanding success of Hackney College shows beyond doubt that the major improvements in the participation of women in science and engineering can be achieved.

"Many of the strategies adopted by Hackney are those highlighted in the new report *Breaking the Mould* which shares the lessons learned from over 100 international research

papers. I would encourage all schools and interested organisations to read this report."

The report identifies barriers preventing women entering science and technology and solutions to overcome these barriers. It found:

- women are alienated by the impersonal and value free content of science
- girls have different value systems and interests from boys and in particular disliked teaching that has no significant personal or social context
- girls prefer subjects where there is a level of involvement through discussion and opportunity for personal creativity
- even at primary level, boys had more experience of practical tasks, and were more able to recognise and name common tools. Girls and boys were found to work in highly gendered ways in technology exercises.
- girls tended to work collaboratively and follow rules while boys worked individually and challenged authority
- girls benefit from single sex groups where the absence of boys encourages greater participation and confidence
- in using IT, boys are more interested in the

mechanics of the computer and playing games while girls see computers as a vehicle for learning and prefer, for example, word processing or business applications

- very few girls met a female engineer or other female role models in science and technology. However, placements in traditionally male workplaces increased the confidence of girls and raised the awareness of managers and instructors

The authors said: "The main finding of the report is a very positive one - that the alienation of girls from the world of science and technology is neither inevitable nor irreversible.

"What we learn from the research is that the barriers to participation are now well understood, and can be, and have been successfully overcome. There is a clear message here for educators, employers and policy makers - girls and science and technology do go together. The report offers them the opportunity to learn from the experiences of others, and to work towards creating the conditions where this can happen."

## UNIVERSITY HOLDS BIGGEST CELEBRATION FOR SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY WEEK

THE University hosted one of the biggest festivals of learning as part of the Science, Engineering and Technology Week, SET97.

The fourth national celebration of science, engineering and technology, SET97, was held from 14-23 March and was organised nationally by the British Association.

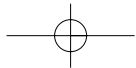
The University has consistently been the biggest participant of SET97 in the county putting on a huge variety of events of interest to the public.

This year, on Saturday March 15, more than 10,000 people visited the campus for the University's Jubilee Open Day when all aspects of the University were on exhibition.

Also as part of SET97, on Wednesday 19 March, Dr Heather Couper, Scientist and Broadcaster, spoke on *Black*

*Holes* at the Snibston Discovery Park where the University has a major exhibition. Dr Couper is a graduate of the University and is returning to the campus later this year to receive an honorary degree.

In the Department of Physics and Astronomy, *Touching the Future*, a newspaper to celebrate SET97, was produced. The eight-page publication featured articles on the electron's centennial year, the Hubble Space Telescope, astrophysics and space science at the University, a feature on Comet Hale-Bopp and the Spectrum X-Gamma Mission, among others. Edited by Jean Collins, of Bridge School, Leicester, it featured articles by lecturer Martin Barstow.



# NEWS

## GLOBAL ENTERTAINMENT

THE University branch of the International Students' Association (ISA) celebrated its tenth anniversary in style as part of the University's double Jubilee celebrations.

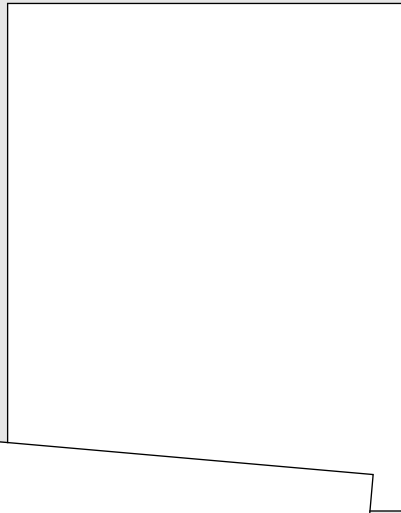
An action-packed Cultural Night, held as usual in February, included an array of colourful performances from around the world, presented by international students at the University, as well as a fashion show, the Park Lane

Jazz Band and a Global Disco.

Professor Robin White, University Pro-Vice-Chancellor, and Rosa Abdul Hamid, President of the ISA, introduced the evening, which was the culmination of the Students' Union Global Unity Week and which was attended by more than 500 students from fifty countries.

Paying tribute to the ISA Committee, current Vice-President-

International Students PT Ben said: "They worked very hard, especially Oscar Calvo-Golzalez, who took on a lot of responsibility for the event. And they got what they deserved - a very good evening. Everyone I spoke to said how much they had enjoyed it."



Lively scenes from the Cultural Night. (Photographer, Chris Smith)

## COMMON COLD MORE SEVERE AND LASTS LONGER IN THE ELDERLY

THE common cold is more severe and is responsible for more deaths in the elderly than in adults of working age according to University research funded by the British Lung Foundation.

The research, conducted at Leicester, studied 533 men and women aged 60-90 years over a two year period. Subjects were telephoned weekly to monitor cold symptoms. Rhinoviruses (HRVs) were the most frequent virus identified in the 706 colds studied.

Almost two-thirds (62%) experienced lower respiratory complications and one in five of the cases (20%) experienced severe activity restriction and were confined to bed. More than one in four (27%) were unable to cope with normal household duties during their illness.

The average length of colds was 16 days and in subjects experiencing lower

respiratory complications, the average duration of the cold was 18 days.

The research found that chronic ill health increased the risk of lower respiratory complications by 44% and smoking increased the risk by 49%.

Senior lecturer in infectious diseases Dr Karl Nicholson, who headed up the research, said: "The findings from this research suggest that although this strain of the common cold is less severe than influenza it is far more common and causes more debility to the elderly over all."

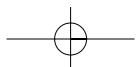
Dr Nicholson, of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, added: "The common cold can leave the elderly confined to bed, unable to cope with routine household duties and prescribed to antibiotics. As there is no cure for the common cold, it is important that elderly people are aware of the importance of

stopping smoking and avoiding contact with people with colds.

"Further research to investigate lower respiratory illness following a cold will be important in reducing possible complications that can occur in the elderly after a bout of the common cold".

### BULLETIN DISTRIBUTION

Press and Alumni Relations Office (2415) should be notified of any change in the number of *Bulletin* copies required per issue. Please note that copies for clerical/technical staff should be included in the total number requested per section of the University.



# NEWS

## LEADING SPEAKERS

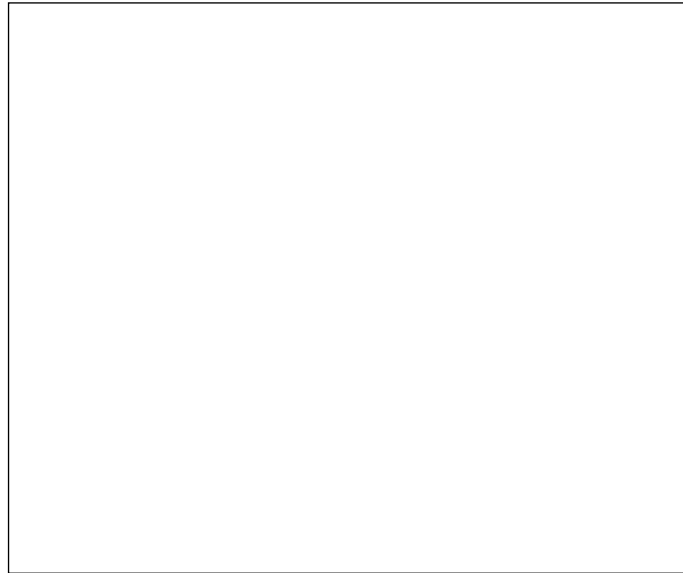
TWO women who have reached the pinnacle of their respective professions were among the star-studded celebrities giving public lectures at the University

during its double Jubilee Year. Her Excellency Dame Rosalyn Higgins, DBE, - who receives an honorary degree from the University this summer - was appointed in

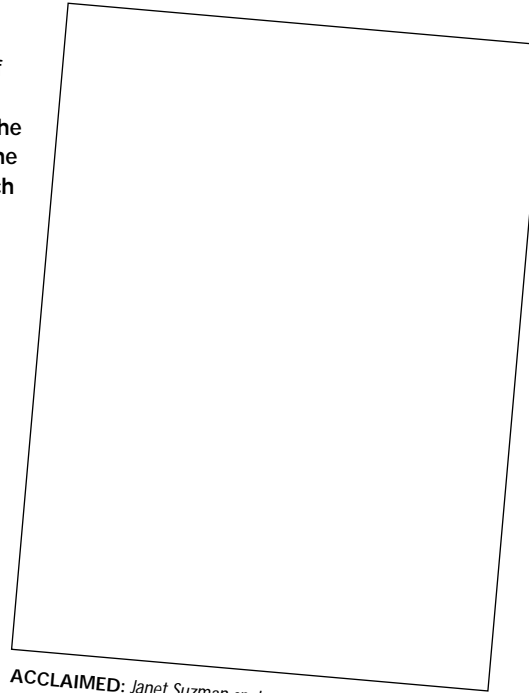
1995 as the first woman ever to become a Judge of the International Court of Justice (the World Court) in the Hague. On 5 March she gave a talk entitled *Into the Next Millennium: The International Court of Justice in the 21st Century*.

Also appearing as part of the University's Jubilee Year celebrations was the internationally acclaimed actress, Janet Suzman in *An Evening with Janet Suzman*.

She received an honorary degree from the University in 1992.

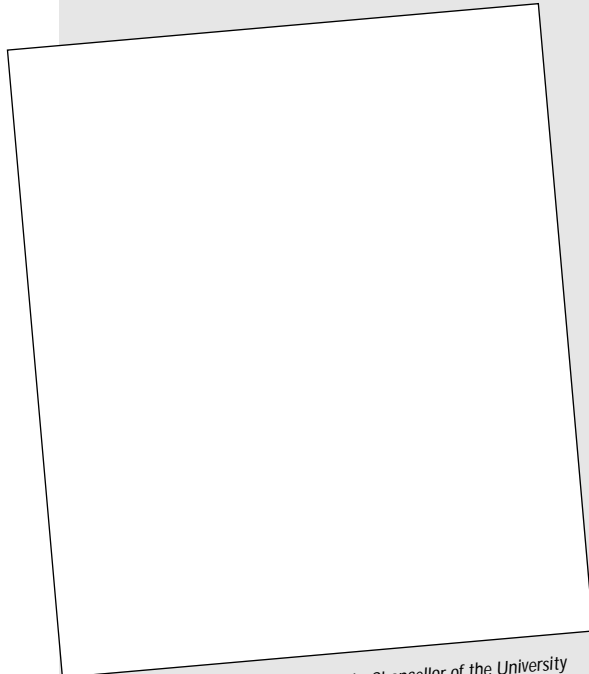


**MEETING:** Professor Robin White and Professor Malcolm Shaw welcomed Her Excellency Dame Rosalyn Higgins, DBE.



**ACCLAIMED:** Janet Suzman spoke at the Richard Attenborough Centre.

## DISTINGUISHED CHANCELLOR TO CONTINUE AT LEICESTER



**DISTINGUISHED:** Sir Michael Atiyah, Chancellor of the University

SIR MICHAEL Atiyah, the Chancellor of Leicester University, is to step down as Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, at the end of September. He has announced, however, his intention to continue as Chancellor at Leicester.

Sir Michael retired from the post of Director of the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Science at Cambridge University last October and completed his term as President of the Royal Society at the end of 1995.

Sir Michael was educated at Victoria College, Egypt, Manchester Grammar School and Trinity College, Cambridge where he gained a double first in Mathematics and later went on to teach as a Fellow of Pembroke College. He has also held posts at Oxford and at Princeton in the United States.

He was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Science by this University in 1991, and has honorary degrees from, among others, the Universities of

Bonn, Chicago, Helsinki and Salamanca. He became a member of the Order of Merit in 1992.

He was elected to a fellowship of the Royal Society at the age of 32 in 1962 and four years later he received the Fields Medal, regarded as the mathematical equivalent to the Nobel Prize. Among his many other distinctions are the King Faisal International Prize for Science (1987), The Copley Medal of the Royal Society (1988) and the Franklin Medal of the American Philosophical Society (1993).

The Vice-Chancellor of Leicester University, Dr Kenneth Edwards, said: "We are delighted that Sir Michael has happily agreed to continue as our Chancellor. We look forward to his continuing support which has been so valuable to us."

# NEWS

## Business Bulletin

### Open Meeting on Leicester BioSciences Ltd

The Vice-Chancellor chaired an open meeting on Leicester BioSciences Ltd in March. The aim of this meeting was to inform staff about the company structure, strategy and progress to date, and to give them an opportunity to ask questions. Presentations were made by Laurie Phillips, the University's advisor on Technology Transfer, and by Howard Thomas and Bill Dawson who are Directors of Life Sciences Associates Ltd.

Leicester BioSciences is a unique joint venture, formed almost a year ago between The University of Leicester and the University's partner, Life Sciences Associates Ltd, which consists of a group of people who have all had recent top-level experience with major companies in the Health Care sector (e.g. SmithKline Beecham, Eli Lilly, Abbotts, Glaxo). Their knowledge of the technology requirements of the industry, the nature of the market and their managerial skills are a major asset to the joint venture.

The University owns 40% of the equity, Life Sciences Associates owns 30%. The remaining 30% is being held for future inward investment. The University contributes Intellectual Property (IP) in which it has the exploitation rights, together with laboratory facilities; Life Sciences Associates Ltd contributes business, marketing and management expertise, evaluates projects and secures finance.

The Board of Directors of the company consists of:

The Chairman, Sir Edwin Nixon (Chairman of the University Council, formerly of IBM, National Westminster Bank and Amersham

**Business Bulletin examines some of the main business stories from the University, and is compiled each month by LUCENT, to whom any stories or ideas should be sent (ext.2696, E-Mail: lucent1@le.ac.uk).**

International)

Professor Frank Harris (Dean of Medicine)

Mr Keith Julian (Registrar of the University)

Dr Chris Stanley (Life Sciences Associates and IVOTECH)

Mr David Gibbons (Life Sciences Associates and Chairman of General Healthcare and Theraxis, formerly of Pfizer and Abbott).

Mr Dick Bailey (formerly of Eli Lilly, alternate to David Gibbons)

The company has been formed to address a

specific need, namely how best to exploit the IP, generated from research and owned by the University of Leicester, in the fields of the Life and Medical Sciences. There are basically two types of research funding:

Private funding from industry for specific projects. This is subject to contracts which define IP ownership (usually the University) and exploitation rights (usually the funding company on an exclusive basis, but not always).

Public funding from HEFCE, Research Councils and Charities. The University owns both the IP and the rights to exploit it. MRC and some charities have a well developed exploitation pathway for the University to follow, but the other Research Councils and HEFCE do not.

It is this latter category of research, in which the University has the IP and exploitation rights but there is no clear exploitation pathway, that Leicester BioSciences is designed to address. The

intention is to add a new dimension to the way in which we exploit inventions.

It is in the very nature of this type of research that an academic wishes to publish the results as soon as possible, but it is a missed opportunity if the University does not protect any potentially valuable IP (usually by

patent). It is LUCENT's role to help identify such possibilities at an early stage, and to secure a patent without holding up open publication unnecessarily. For this reason University patents are usually filed at

a much earlier stage than those resulting from research in industry, and are usually less complete.

When the University tries to find an industrial partner to exploit the invention, the usual response is that there is a need for more data, or for stronger evidence to convince the prospective partner that there is something worthy of investment. Industry sees it as the province of the University to provide this evidence before committing any funds, but the University has no resources to finance this type of work, and it is outside the remit of the public bodies to do so. It may also be that the academic is not particularly interested in the type of intellectual challenge that is posed; it may be seen as repetitive, or simply something which deviates effort and resource from the mainstream of research.

There is a clear gap which has to be filled, and it is the mission of Leicester BioSciences to find resources to do so for selected projects which it regards as commercially attractive. The objective is then to add sufficient value to a project to make it attractive to an outside investor, and to do so in a way which minimises the impact on the University's resources and on the academic's freedom to continue his or her basic research.

Leicester Biosciences has now completed a Business Plan with a view to attracting very significant funding from commercial sources. It is based on the premise that the publicly funded research base of the University of Leicester is a sustainable source of potentially-exploitable inventions in the Life and Medical Sciences area. A portfolio of projects has been assembled; three of these have been subjected to sufficient investigation to be given high priority, and there are another four which look very promising but require more evaluation.

The proposed funding level will, if realised, be sufficient to take all of these projects to a stage where they may be licensed-on. It should also be possible to provide some funding for more speculative areas.

*Laurie Phillips, Advisor on Technology Transfer*

# NEWS

**Bulletin is pleased to receive contributions from across the University for **Out and About.****

**Drop a note about what's happening in your department/unit to **Out and About, Bulletin, Press and Alumni Relations.****



## BOOKSHOP

The College & Professional Publishers Marketing Committee of the Publishers Association for the first time this year presented a series of awards to academic bookshops throughout Great Britain and Ireland.

Leicester University Bookshop was voted as the best academic bookshop in the Midland Region beating off stiff competition from 26 other shops including the campus bookshops at other universities in the region.

*Colin Marshall*

## ECONOMICS

Professor Kevin Lee of the Economics Department recently presented a paper at a symposium in Bombay, India. The symposium on Financial Liberalisation - Impact on the European Community and India was sponsored by the British Council who co-hosted the event with the Department of Economics of the University of Bombay. Delegates included members of the State Bank and the Reserve Bank of India, the Indian Merchants' Chamber and various financial institutions in India. The keynote address was given by Lord Desai of Islington.

## Can China feed her people?

China with its rapidly increasing population is seeking ways to increase food supplies to feed its people. The Government wants to 'consolidate' the land by taking the land from farmers and investing in proper irrigation, drainage and farm roads, returning the plots to the local people when the work is completed. Dr Mingquan Liu and his research associate Dr Ziping Wu have just returned to the Department of Economics after visiting two townships in each of three provinces in central, eastern and northern China. The purpose of the field work was to look at basic farming conditions and methods and to study the impact of 'consolidation' on production in the short run, and, in the long run, if production can be maintained or even increased if labour supply is to be reduced, through movement into the cities where wages are higher. In the central province of Hubei, the Deputy Director

of the Planning Commission of the county acted as guide to Dr Liu and Dr Wu. A conference, to which 15 experts from various Government organisations were invited, was held during January in Beijing to report the findings. There are still 8 months for the project to run, and Dr Liu is hopeful that the findings, together with the research that he is also undertaking in Taiwan, will influence the Chinese

Government in the way it 'consolidates' its farm land. The project is sponsored by the Overseas Development Administration of the UK.

*Janet Wimperis*

## LAW

The presentation of the Victoria Fisher Memorial Prize, awarded for the best essay on any title relating to Women and the Law, took place on 14 March 1997. The prize of £150 was this year awarded to Jane Swann, who submitted an essay on the subject of pornography. Jane Swann, formerly of New Hall Cambridge, completed the Legal Practice Course at the School of



**AWARD:** From left, Mrs Fisher, Ms Carole Lyons, (Judge), Jane Swann,, Dr J Fisher and Ms Tracey Varnava, (secretary of the Victoria Fisher Memorial Prize Fund).

## LEICESTER UNIVERSITY PRESS

### 1995-1996 Activities

LUP (as part of Pinter Publishers) was acquired by Cassell plc in February 1995 and its offices moved to the Strand, not far from Pinter's offices in Covent Garden. The objective on the part of Cassell was to build a strong academic publishing division to complement its existing strengths in the general trade market. For LUP the advantages of the re-alignment are access to Cassell's extensive marketing network, especially in the USA, and its infrastructure of editorial specialists at the offices in the Strand.

Within Cassell, LUP operates as a separate imprint and is Cassell's vehicle for the majority of its humanities and a large percentage of its social science publishing. It sits alongside three other "academic" imprints - Pinter, Cassell and Mansell - which each specialise in different subject areas or types of book (for example Mansell specialises in reference books and Cassell in religious studies and linguistics).

Cassell's academic editorial team of five people, headed by Janet Joyce, propose new book projects to the LUP advisory board which meets six times a year in the University (currently chaired by Sue Pearce, Dean of Arts). In order to be contracted, books must be approved by the board and by Cassell management. In 1996 editors undertook major commissioning trips to the United States and Australia as well as covering the UK, the fruits of which are to be seen in the catalogues published regularly by the Press.

Since 1995 we have published 48 new LUP books and have forecast a total of 42 new books for 1997. The growth reflects Cassell's ability to expand the publishing programme in a relatively short period of time, and the health of the enterprise. Like all other areas of academic activity, academic publishing is going through exciting times. However, the affiliation with the Press is a substantial asset for the University, as highlighted by the number of universities which are starting up similar enterprises. We look to see Leicester University Press, now on solid financial footing as part of an old-name publishing house, continue to expand.

*Susan Pearce*

# NEWS

Law in London, and is now a trainee solicitor at Mischon de Reya.

The Prize was presented to Ms Swann at a buffet lunch attended by Dr and Mrs J Fisher and members of the Law Faculty.

Barbara Goodman

## MODERN LANGUAGES

Deputy Editor of *The Spectator* Anne McElvoy, a former correspondent for The Times in East Berlin and Moscow, delivered the Annual Modern Languages Lecture.

Ms McElvoy, who witnessed at first hand the tumultuous events that led to German unification, spoke on *Forty Years of German Communism: Reflections on a Lost Republic*.

Ms McElvoy joined a group of distinguished journalists and media figures who are visiting the University during its Jubilee Year. They include the BBC's John Simpson, ITN's Michael Nicholson, Sue Cook, David Attenborough, Dr Patrick Moore and many more.

## MRC INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

The MRC Institute for Environment and Health hosted a meeting of the International Programme on Chemical Safety from the 3rd to the 8th of March on behalf of the World Health Organization. The meeting, held in the meeting rooms at the new premises of the Institute on Regent Road, discussed the adverse effects of pesticides on human health and the environment. Paul Harrison, Head of the Environmental Toxicology Group at the Institute said: "This is the first time that the Institute has hosted a meeting of this kind. I am delighted that we were chosen as the venue for this prestigious event, bringing our activities to the attention of an international audience."

Sarah Badley

## PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

The six best entrants into the Department of Physics and Astronomy for 1996-97 were recently presented with their Velan Scholarships and Departmental Bursaries at a ceremony held in the Physics and Astronomy Building. In addition, the Leicester Space Centre Scholarship, determined from an essay competition, was also awarded.

In the absence of the Head of Department, Professor Tudor Jones, the presentations were

made by the Dean of the Science Faculty, Professor John Beeby. Also in attendance were Dr Emyr Evans, Senior Admissions Tutor, Dr Alan Howe, Departmental Senior Tutor and Dr Richard Cole, Leicester Space Centre Manager.

The exceptional quality of the 1996 undergraduate entry into the Department is highlighted by the fact that all six winners of the Velan Scholarships and Departmental Bursaries averaged more than 44 A-level points each. They were: Alexander King, Sinead Quinn, Simon Good, Stuart Nelson, Lindsay Robinson, Deborah Brown, Kim Page.

## RICHARD ATTENBOROUGH CENTRE

Just published, the Summer Term programme of the Richard Attenborough Centre for Disability and the Arts buzzes with a variety of opportunities. Although people with disabilities are a priority at the Centre, it is open to everyone who would like to participate in the arts and attend arts events.

Week 1 of the July Fortnight is Art Week, which offers the luxury of more time than usual to explore and tease out an individual approach to painting and drawing, with problems set by tutors Alan Caine and Sian Thomas. During the same week, a practical introduction to playing traditional folk songs from the Caribbean on steel drums is open to all. There is no need to be able to read music - tunes will be improvised and remembered. During the second week, Midsummer Motion (creative dance and drama) continues, and a composing

workshop takes place in the afternoons.

Besides the July Fortnight's activities, many daytime and evening courses and workshops run through into June, and full details of these appear in the programme. Copies of the programme can be obtained by phoning the Richard Attenborough Centre on 0116 252 2455.

In February, the RAC welcomed internationally acclaimed clarinettist Emma Johnson, who appeared with pianist Gordon Back. She performed a programme of music by Weber, Schumann, Saint-Saens, Poulenc, Gershwin and Giamperi.

## SCARMAN CENTRE

Since 1993 the Scarman Centre for the Study of Public Order has specialised in producing publications in the areas of public order, crime, policing

and related fields. The Centre now publishes its own Crime, Order and Policing (COP) series of occasional and research papers. Closet backbench Eurosceptics worried about European infringement of civil rights can find out the truth in the occasional paper: *Identity Cards in the European Union: The British debate*. Those with a more friendly attitude to our European partners, who cannot understand the xenophobia of the ever amenable British press during the recent European football championships, might try *War Minus the Shooting?: Jingoism, The English Press and Euro '96*. The Scarman Centre's publication list now includes thirteen Occasional Papers, seven Research Papers and various books. Further details of how to order these publications can be supplied by Julie Evans, Publicity Officer at the Scarman Centre.

The Centre printed its first Scarman Centre News, with the headline, 'Another Successful Year!' This newsletter analyses the Centre's progress in 1996, including reports on its inauguration in April with the associated visit by Lord Scarman. Inside is a mixture of information about the Scarman Centre, such as postgraduate courses, current research undertakings, and an e-mail address for a monthly on-line bulletin. This is blended with lighter features such as the first staff profile: this month it's the turn of Edward Borodzicz, Lecturer in Crisis Management, who is the subject of a witty interview.

SOUND SUCCESS: Emma Johnson in concert at the RAC.

RECOGNITION: Scholarship and bursaries winners in the Department of Physics and Astronomy with members of staff

# FEATURES

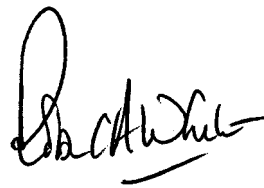
## JUBILEE OPEN DAY: SOME REFLECTIONS

**E**ACH Open Day seems to take on its own character. The 1990 event is remembered for temperatures above 20°C, while the record-breaking crowds of 1994 produced a carnival atmosphere. No such records were broken this year, and initial estimates suggest that somewhere between 10,000 and 12,000 people visited the University on March 15. They were delighted by the range of events, activities and displays available to inform and entertain them.

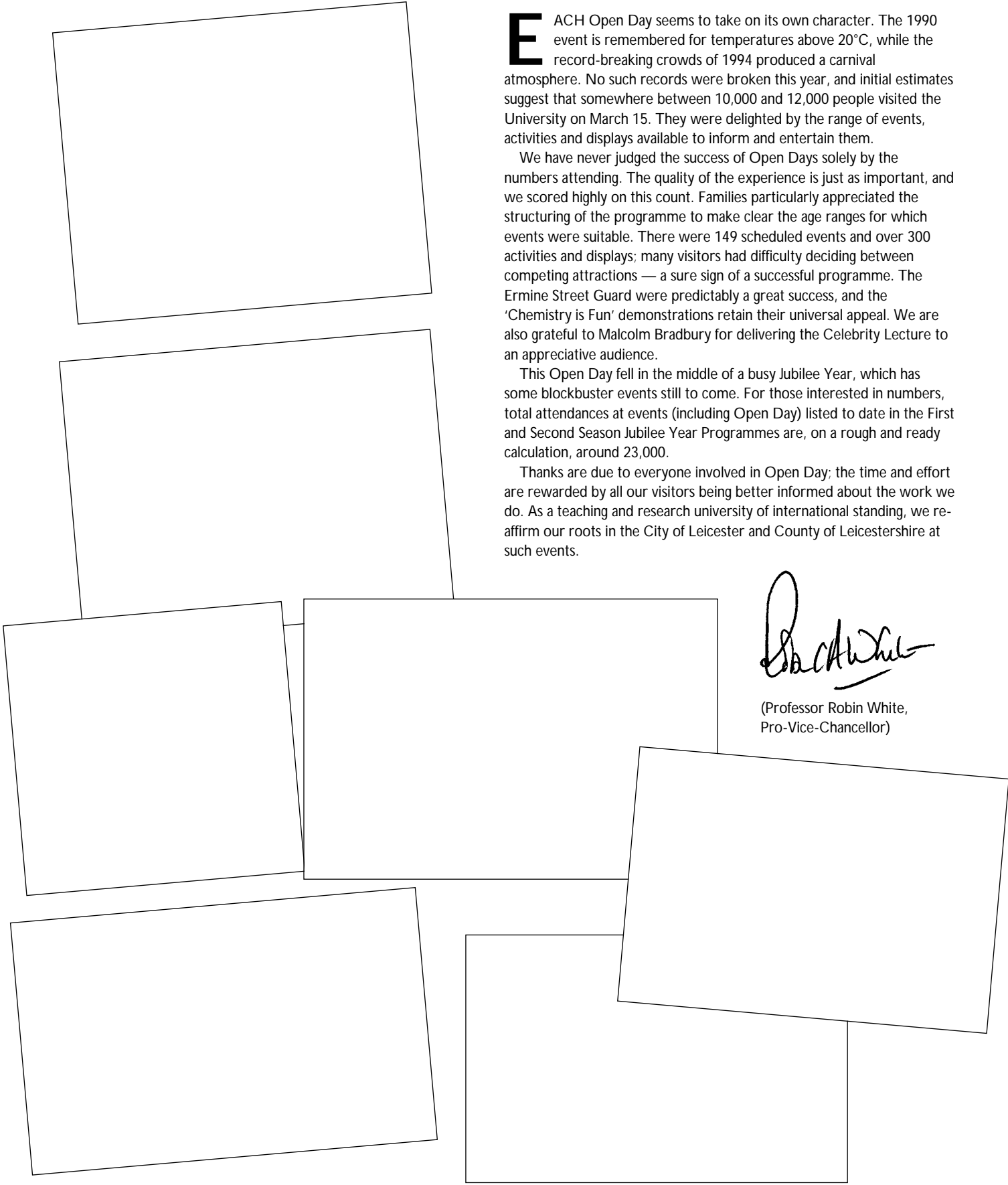
We have never judged the success of Open Days solely by the numbers attending. The quality of the experience is just as important, and we scored highly on this count. Families particularly appreciated the structuring of the programme to make clear the age ranges for which events were suitable. There were 149 scheduled events and over 300 activities and displays; many visitors had difficulty deciding between competing attractions — a sure sign of a successful programme. The Ermine Street Guard were predictably a great success, and the 'Chemistry is Fun' demonstrations retain their universal appeal. We are also grateful to Malcolm Bradbury for delivering the Celebrity Lecture to an appreciative audience.

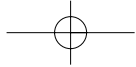
This Open Day fell in the middle of a busy Jubilee Year, which has some blockbuster events still to come. For those interested in numbers, total attendances at events (including Open Day) listed to date in the First and Second Season Jubilee Year Programmes are, on a rough and ready calculation, around 23,000.

Thanks are due to everyone involved in Open Day; the time and effort are rewarded by all our visitors being better informed about the work we do. As a teaching and research university of international standing, we reaffirm our roots in the City of Leicester and County of Leicestershire at such events.

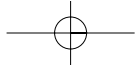
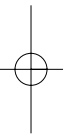
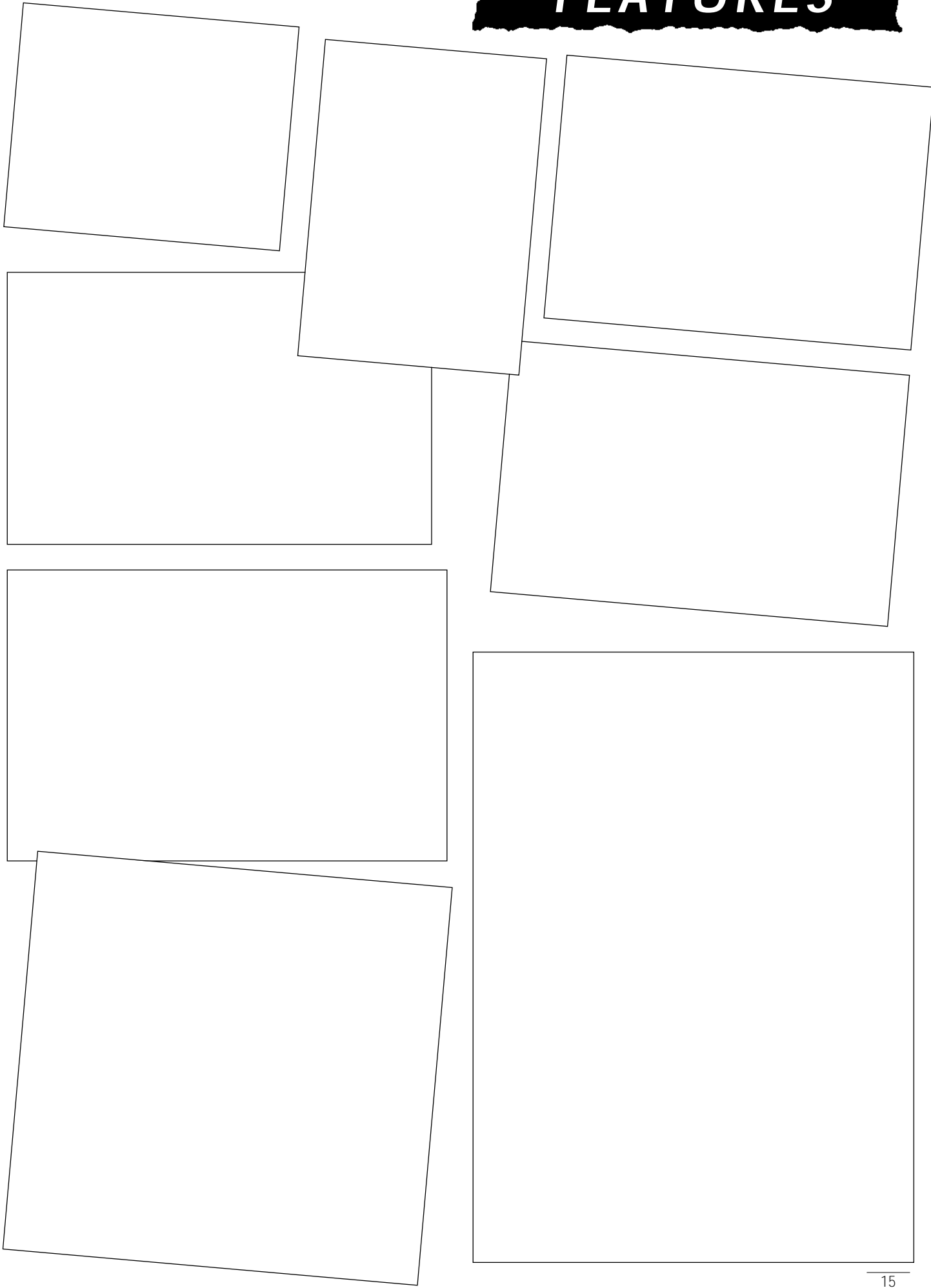


(Professor Robin White,  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor)





# FEATURES



# JUBILEE FEATURE



## STEPS IN TIME

### A FEATURE RECORDING ANNIVERSARIES IN THE UNIVERSITY'S JUBILEE YEAR

This year marks the anniversaries of several departments and sections of the University. In this issue, 30th, 40th and 50th anniversaries are featured, looking back over the years as well as forwards.

#### 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTRE FOR MASS COMMUNICATION RESEARCH

The Centre for Mass Communication Research is one of the oldest centres in the field in Britain, and we celebrated our thirtieth anniversary in 1996-97. The Centre was established with Home Office support in 1966 to promote social scientific research into a topic of immediate social concern: the impact of television portrayal of sex and violence on society. In 1996-97, these general concerns remain a focus of lively social debate as well as part of the Centre's research agenda.

However, as the importance of the media in everyday life, political debate and international markets grows, our research agenda has also expanded. We focus on the the production and consumption of media forms and genres in local, national and international contexts, and research issues such as the mediated nature of political communication, the impact of media coverage on the public understanding of science, and the global imbalances in news. Current research projects have benefited from funding by the ESRC, the Home Office, Broadcasting Standards Council and MAFF, and have helped inform debate within the BBC and Channel 4 about multicultural portrayal and to support the global monitoring of the representation of women.

Over the past five years, the Centre has changed radically from being primarily a research institute into a fully-fledged university department. Our undergraduates produce programmes for Leicester Cable; our residential master's degree attracted students from 21 countries this year, while our distance-learning master's degree offers the best of international media scholarship in specially-prepared materials for what is already a global student body and our first cohort of students haven't yet graduated!

The Centre is a very lively multicultural setting in which to study and research, and we look forward to the next thirty years with enthusiasm!

*Professor Annabelle Sreberny-Mohammadi*

#### 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAW DEPARTMENT

It was 1966 when the Department of Law opened its doors to students - all thirty of them with a staff of four, led by Professor Grodecki. Never since have we had such a healthy staff-student ratio! Our first premises were in a cramped annexe to College House, which was then part of H Block; its demolition soon afterwards was mourned by no-one. From there we moved to what is now the Engineering Annexe, then to College House (where the writer occupied Sir David Attenborough's former bedroom) and finally, in 1975, to our present abode in the Fielding Johnson Building.

During the past 30 years, the Department has grown out of all recognition. Originally part of the Faculty of the Social Sciences, we acquired Faculty status in 1973. This session, there are over 750 undergraduates studying Law, Law/French, and Economic & Law courses, with a full-time staff of 41. There are also over 400 distance-learning students enrolled with the International Centre for Management, Law & Industrial Relations (established in 1987). Close academic links have been forged with universities in overseas countries,



including France, Italy, Germany, Poland, and Singapore.

We can be justly proud of our students' successes, both before and after graduation. To mention a few - our undergraduate mooting teams have won the National Observer Mooting Competition on six occasions - no mean feat. Recently our Client-Interviewing teams have reached the Finals of the Competition. Many graduates have prospered as solicitors or barristers, earning sums far in excess of what their teachers can ever hope to earn! A few have taken Silk. Several have become academics (one a professor), and another a chief constable. We await the day when we can acclaim our first graduate High Court Judge.

What, I wonder, of the next thirty years?

*Professor D G Barnsley*

#### 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEPARTMENTAL STAFF COMMON ROOM ASSOCIATION

The Departmental Staff Common Room Association was formed in June 1957, before the opening of the Percy Gee Building in 1958, with the sole intention of asking the Principal to provide us with a Common Room in the new building.

This facility was granted, and the Committee then took over the responsibilities of running the new Common Room and organising an events programme.

Originally, the guiding principle of the DSCR Association was to gain recognition for the non-

academic staff as a body throughout the University, and to

bring them together as the University grew and departments became physically more widespread.

In December 1957, the first social function was held at The Hotel Victory in Great Central Street - this became the annual New Year Dinner Dance, which has been held in the Percy Gee Building, Beaumont and Clare Halls, and the Charles Wilson Building.

A varied programme now includes evening lectures, industrial visits, day trips, weekend trips, garden visits, theatre outings, badminton and tennis. Its interest in cricket (part of the programme in early years) and, more importantly, the fact that the DSCR kit was available to other teams, gave impetus to the growth of inter-departmental fixtures and the Gilmore Lee Knockout Cup.

During its lifetime, the Common Room has been in four different locations; on the first floor of the Percy Gee Building (facing the car park), then to the corner turret - ground floor of the Fielding Johnson Building (now Admissions), then back to the Percy Gee and a short period in the Redfearn Room, before moving permanently in 1967 to the second floor (city side) of the Charles Wilson Building.

In 1957, there were 45 members. Today, there are more than 500. There is a flourishing and well-supported programme. Looking back over the past 40 years, the Association can be proud of its achievements.

*Terry Garfield*

**THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE DOUGH BUSINESS:** DSCR members trying their hands at pork pie making during an evening visit to Dickinson & Morris, Melton Mowbray last December.

# FEATURES

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY DEPARTMENT

Since this Department was established with E A Stewardson as the Foundation Professor, its achievements in both teaching and research feature a very large number of highlights.

In 1972, the Department was the first in the UK to establish an undergraduate degree course in Physics with Astrophysics. Another innovation, the Space Science and Technology degree course, was the first in the UK in 1990, and has now been widely copied by other universities.

In research, the Astronomy group has always been particularly strong in the field of theoretical astrophysics and was the first to show that an entire class of binary stars contained Black Holes. The X-ray Astronomy group has had instruments in space continuously since 1962, which must be a record for any university! The ROSAT Wide Field Camera, constructed in this section, undertook the first comprehensive survey of the sky at extreme ultraviolet wavelengths, and, as a result, discovered some of the hottest stars within our galaxy. A key role will be taken in the construction of a camera for one of the X-ray telescopes connected with the project XMM, a Cornerstone Mission of the European Space Agency, to be launched in 1999.

The Radio and Space Plasma Physics group is unique as it is located in two departments (Engineering and Physics and Astronomy) and its important cross-disciplinary research has enhanced the wealth creation process. Recent scientific highlights include the completion of the CUTLASS radar in 1996, and pioneering work into modifying the ionosphere by means of very high power radio waves. This has created a whole new field of plasma physics, in which the Leicester group has played a leading role.

Major studies, both experimental and theoretical, of the properties of surfaces have been undertaken by our Condensed Matter Physics group. Outstanding new results have been produced by the Theory group, using the application of RHEED. Experimental studies of surfaces have been undertaken at the Synchrotron Radiation source at Daresbury laboratory. In this field, the development of muon spectroscopy is a unique contribution by this group.

Three years ago, a new Earth Observation Science unit was formed, and has since been successful in developing an MSc course in Earth Observation Science. This group carries out cross disciplinary research into the properties of the Earth and the oceans from space, paying particular attention to ocean waves and the interaction between the sea surface and the atmosphere.

The latest exciting development, the Department's Space Centre, will house the Space Management and Technology groups, and will provide the technological services for all space missions within the Department, and other departments within the University. New projects are currently being undertaken on behalf of the X-ray Astronomy, Radio and Space Plasma Physics and Earth Observation Science groups.

*Professor T B Jones*

## HONORARY DEGREES AT LEICESTER UNIVERSITY

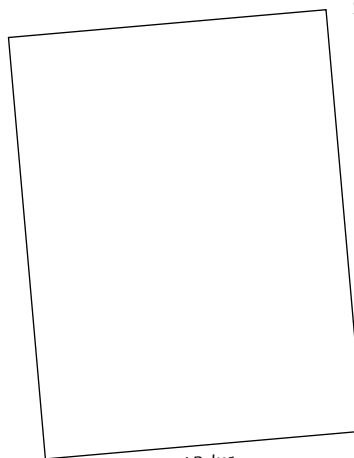
The following will receive honorary degrees from the University at ceremonies in Leicester on 9, 10 and 11 July:

Professor Raymond Baker (Doctor of Science); Mr Jack Birkenshaw (Master of Arts); Ms Sue Cook (Doctor of Letters); Dr Heather Couper (Doctor of Science); Miss Carol Galley (Doctor of Laws);

Dame Rosalyn Higgins (Doctor of Laws); Dr Jeff Hoffman (Doctor of Science); Sir Dai Rees (Doctor of Science).

**Professor Raymond Baker (DSc)**

Professor Raymond Baker



*Professor Raymond Baker*

is currently Chief Executive of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council. He read Chemistry at Leicester and graduated with first class honours in 1959. He obtained his PhD in 1962. He was appointed Lecturer in Organic Chemistry at the University of Southampton in

1964, became Senior Lecturer in 1972, Reader in 1974 and Professor in 1977. He was appointed Executive Director of Research at Merck Sharp and Dohme in 1989. He was elected to Fellow of the Royal Society in 1994 and was the University's Adrian Visiting Professor in the

*Continued overleaf*

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# FEATURES

Department of Chemistry between 1990 and 1993.

## Mr Jack Birkenshaw (MA)

Jack Birkenshaw has been Cricket Manager of Leicestershire County Cricket Club since 1992. The Club won the County Championship in 1996 and came second in 1994. It reached the finals of the NatWest Trophy in 1992 and the semi-finals of the Benson and Hedges Cup in 1993. The second XI has won the Bain Clarkson Trophy in three of the last four years. As a player, Jack Birkenshaw was a middle/lower order left-hand batsman and right-arm off break bowler. He played for Yorkshire before joining Leicestershire in May 1961, playing a total of 420 matches until his departure in 1980. During his career he scored 12,203 runs (including four centuries), took 1050 wickets and 300 catches. He played five Test Matches for England between 1972 and 1974.

## Ms Sue Cook (DLitt)

Sue Cook graduated from the University of Leicester in 1970 with a degree in Psychology. She spent two years at Capital Radio presenting and producing consumer and current affairs programmes and music shows before she joined BBC Radio. She presented *You and Yours* for Radio 4 and many other individual programmes and documentaries for both Radio 4 and Radio 1. In the late 1970s she moved to television as a reporter and presenter on BBC's *Nationwide* and has since presented many series for BBC Television including *Out of Court*, *Daytime Live*, *Children in Need*, and *Crimewatch*. She has retained her links with BBC Radio and occasionally hosts

The *Jimmy Young Programme* and *Radio 4's Afternoon Shift* and also a series on assertiveness for *Radio 5 Getting Through*. She is President of the London Union of Youth Clubs, Patron of Parents at Work and an Ambassador for the Prince's Trust.

## Dr Heather Couper (DSc)

Heather Couper was educated at St Mary's Grammar School, Pinner, and graduated from the University

of Leicester in 1973 with a degree in Astronomy/Physics. She became a Lecturer at the Greenwich Planetarium in 1977. Since 1983 she has been a full-time broadcaster, TV producer and writer and has been wholeheartedly involved in science-related public relations. She was Professor of Astronomy at Gresham College between 1993 and 1996 and was President of the British Astronomical Association (1984/86) and the Society for Popular Astronomy (1987/89). She is a member of the Millennium Commission. She has published widely in many journals and is the astronomy columnist for *The Independent*. Publications include *The Restless Universe* (1982), *Guide to the Galaxy* (1994) and *Black Holes* (1996). She has received numerous awards including the New York National Academy of Sciences Award 1979, National Science Teachers' Association Award 1979 (for Outstanding Science Books for Children), Gold Medal, New York TV Awards 1994 (for *ET - Please call Earth*) and 1996 (*Electric Skies*).

## Miss Carol Galley (LLD)

After graduating from the University of Leicester in 1971 with a degree in German, Carol Galley joined merchant bankers SG Warburg, initially as a librarian. She joined Mercury Asset Management, a division of Warburg's which was later separately floated. She specialises in the management of pension fund portfolios, is Vice-Chairman of Mercury Asset Management Group plc, and Chairman of its UK Institutional Division, which is responsible for the management of over £50 billion of UK pension funds, including those of more than 40 of the UK's largest quoted companies or their subsidiaries.

## Her Excellency Dame Rosalyn Higgins, DBE (LLD)

Dame Rosalyn Higgins took office in 1995 as the first woman to be appointed a judge of the International Court of Justice (World Court) in The Hague. She was educated at Burlington Grammar School in London and at Girton College, Cambridge, where she graduated in Law in 1958. She subsequently obtained a doctorate

from Yale Law School. She was called to the Bar in 1975 and became one of Her Majesty's Counsel in 1986, and has practised in human rights law and international law, appearing many times before international courts. She became a

Bencher of Lincoln's

Inn in 1989. She was Vice-President of the American Society of International Law from 1972-74. Prior to her appointment to the World Court, she served first as Professor of International Law at the University of Kent, and from 1981 as Professor of International Law at the London School of Economics. Between 1985 and 1995 she was a member of the United Nations Committee on Human Rights. She has written widely in international law, including a four volume seminal work on United Nations Peacekeeping.

## Dr Jeff Hoffman (DSc)

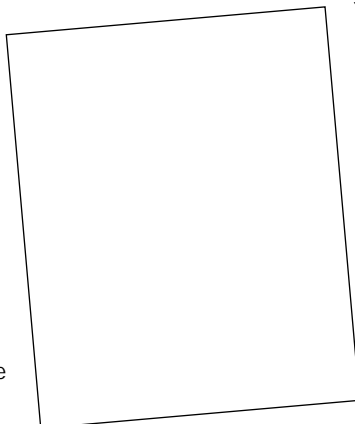
Dr Jeff Hoffman was born in Brooklyn, New York, USA, and was educated at Scarsdale High School, New York. He graduated from Amherst College in 1966 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Astronomy. He obtained a Master's Degree

in Materials Science from Rice University in 1988 and studied at Harvard University to become a Doctor of Philosophy in Astrophysics in 1971. Between 1972 and 1975 he undertook postdoctoral work in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Leicester. He worked on several x-ray astronomy rocket payloads and in 1972 he was project scientist for the medium-energy x-ray experiment on the European Space Agency's EXOSAT satellite, playing a leading role in the proposal and design studies for this project. He was selected by NASA in 1978 and became an astronaut in August 1979. He made his first space flight as a mission specialist in April 1985 on the Shuttle *Discovery*. He has made four space flights since, the most recent in March 1996. This mission was completed in 252 orbits, covering 6.5 million miles in 377 hours and 40 minutes. He has logged more than 1,211 hours and 21.5 million miles in space.

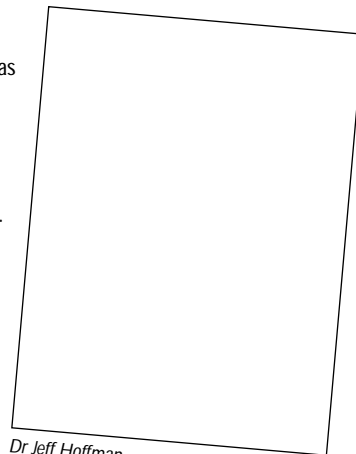
## Sir Dai Rees (DSc)

Sir Dai Rees was Secretary to the Medical Research Council from 1987 to 1996. He was educated at Hawarden Grammar School, Clwyd, and the University College of North Wales, Bangor, where he obtained a BSc in 1956 and PhD in 1959. He became DSIR Research Fellow at the University College, Bangor, in 1959. He was appointed to a Research Fellowship at the University of Edinburgh in 1960, becoming an Assistant Lecturer in Chemistry in 1961 and a Lecturer in 1962. From 1970 to 1982 he worked at

the Unilever Research Laboratory, initially as Section Manager and then as Principal Scientist. He was Chairman of the Science Policy Group for Unilever Research between 1979 and 1982. He



Dame Rosalyn Higgins



Dr Jeff Hoffman

# FEATURES

was Director of the National Institute for Medical Research from 1982 to 1987. He has published widely on carbohydrate chemistry and biochemistry and cell biology.

**The following will receive honorary degrees from the University of Leicester at ceremonies in Northampton on 7 and 8 July:**

Rt Hon Sir Stephen Brown (Doctor of Laws); Mr Patrick Coldstream (Doctor of Laws); Sir Richard George (Doctor of Laws); Comdr Michael Saunders Watson (Doctor of Letters); Mrs Anita Tasker (Master of Laws).

**The Right Honourable Sir Stephen Brown (LLD)**

Sir Stephen Brown is President of the Family Division of the High Court of Justice. He was educated at Malvern College and Queens' College, Cambridge. He was called to the Bar in 1949, became one of Her Majesty's Counsel in 1966. He became a Bencher of Inner Temple in 1974. After serving as Recorder of West Bromwich and Deputy Chairman of Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, he was appointed a High Court judge in 1975 and served in the Family Division and Queen's Bench Division. He was presiding judge on the Midland and Oxford Circuit from 1977 to 1981. In 1983 he was appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal and in 1988 became President of the Family Division. In this capacity he has presided over a number of high profile cases, including Airedale NHS Trust v. Bland concerning the withdrawal of treatment of a victim of the Hillsborough disaster.

**Mr Patrick Coldstream, CBE (LLD)**

Mr Patrick Coldstream was, from 1986 until June 1996, the Director of the Council for Industry and

Higher Education, a body of heads of large companies and universities which aims to agree and promote their common long-term interests. He was educated at Oxford and has been an officer in the Royal Marines and a columnist on the Financial Times. He was joint-founder of Fullemploy and South East Training, charitable companies set up to encourage business to take responsibility for training in inner city areas. He is an occasional broadcaster and journalist and has lectured on the relations of higher education and industry in Britain, continental Europe, the USA and Australia.

**Sir Richard George (LLD)**

Sir Richard George is the Chairman and Managing Director of Weetabix Ltd based in Kettering and is Chairman of Whitworths Holdings Ltd. He was educated at Repton School and Kansas State University. He joined Weetabix Ltd in 1968 and was Deputy Managing Director between 1976 and 1982. He is a Member of: the Board of the Environment Agency; the Executive Committee of the Association of Cereal Food Manufacturers and was Chairman from 1983 to 1985; the Council, Food and Drink Federation and was President between 1993 and 1995; he is Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Institute of Food Research. He is also a Member of the Management Board of the Prince's Trust and is Vice-Chairman of the Northamptonshire Prince's Youth Business Trust.

**Commander Michael Saunders Watson, CBE (DLitt)**

Comdr Michael Saunders Watson is the owner of Rockingham Castle, on the border of Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. He was Chairman of the British Library

Board between 1990 and 1993, and is Chairman of Kettering Hospital NHS Trust. He was educated at Eton and BRNC Dartmouth. He joined the Royal Navy and became Commander in 1969, retiring in 1971 on succession to Rockingham Castle Estate.

He was President of the Historic Houses Association 1982-88, Chairman of: Northampton Association of Youth Clubs 1977/91; National Curriculum History Working Group 1988/90; Heritage Education Trust 1988-; Friends of the British Library 1994; Northampton Board of Country Landowners' Association 1981/84, Vice-Chairman of

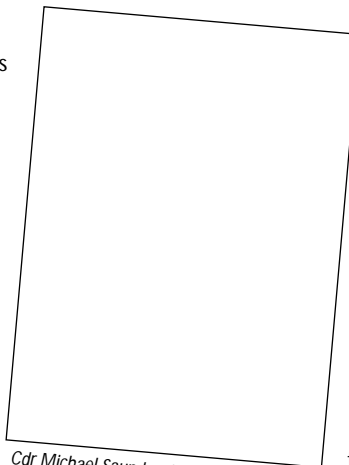
Northamptonshire Small Industries Committee 1981/84 and was a

Trustee of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew 1983/91.

**Mrs Anita Tasker, OBE (LLM)**

Mrs Anita Tasker was appointed as a Magistrate in 1963 and is one of the longest serving Magistrates in Northamptonshire. She was a member of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee on the selection of

Magistrates between 1984 and 1990 and was Chairman of the Northamptonshire Bench between 1984 and 1989. She was Chairman of the Northamptonshire Police Consultative Committee and was appointed Deputy Lieutenant in 1989.



Cdr Michael Saunders Watson

## LEICESTER DEGREE CONGREGATIONS

**Wednesday 9 July at 3 pm**

Dame Rosalyn Higgins (Doctor of Laws)  
Miss Carol Galley (Doctor of Laws)

**Thursday 10 July at 11 am**

Dr Jeff Hoffman (Doctor of Science)  
Sir Dai Rees (Doctor of Science)

**Thursday 10 July at 3 pm**

Ms Sue Cook (Doctor of Letters)

**Friday 11 July at 11 am**

Mr Jack Birkenshaw (Master of Arts)

**Friday 11 July at 3 pm**

Professor Raymond Baker (Doctor of Science)  
Dr Heather Couper (Doctor of Science)

## NORTHAMPTON DEGREE CONGREGATIONS

**Monday 7 July at 11 am**

Sir Richard George (Doctor of Laws)

**Monday 7 July at 2.30 pm**

The Rt Hon Sir Stephen Brown (Doctor of Laws)

**Monday 7 July at 6 pm**

Mrs Anita Tasker (Master of Laws)

**Tuesday 8 July at 11 am**

Mr Patrick Coldstream (Doctor of Laws)

**Tuesday 8 July at 2.30 pm**

Commander LLM Saunders Watson CBE (Doctor of Letters)

# ARTSTOP

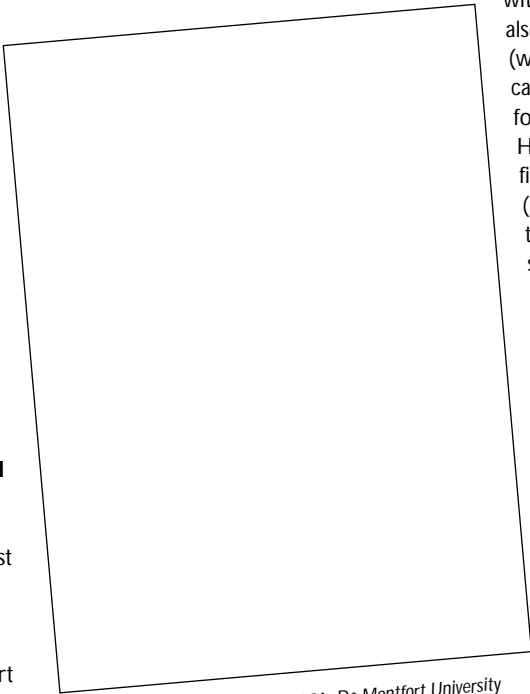
Artstop by John Fothergill, Engineering

So what's to do before the examination season is heralded in by the sight of students revising on Victoria Park ...

The Phoenix is full of films - far to many too mention (phone 255 4854 for a brochure). The variety is almost absurd. For example, on Saturday 26 April, contrast the classic 3D monster matinee movie: **The Creature from the Black Lagoon** (1954) with McKellen's creative star-studded adaptation of **Richard III** showing in the evening. Other highlights include Nils Lofgren, lead guitarist of Springsteen's E Street Band, playing in an unplugged concert on 13 April and the De Montfort University Dance Company '97 on the 15 and 16 May.

The lunchtime free concert programme resumes on St George's Day with performances both on campus and at the Richard Attenborough Centre. This comfortable, bright and very pleasant venue is only a seven minute stroll from the furthest extremities of the University campus. I look forward to more concerts there. The evening concerts are all "splendid examples of what Leicester and Leicestershire's soloists and choirs, together with the University Wind Band can achieve" according to the new Music brochure - phone 252 2781 for your copy or look at <http://www.le.ac.uk/music/> if you're wired up and enjoy surfing. Also check it out if you'd like to join rehearsals for the end-of-term concert. If you missed the highly-acclaimed performance by the University Singers of Handel's **Acis and Galatea** at the Phoenix (February/March), then come and hear the happy lovers (that's Acis and Galatea, not the Singers!) have their fun spoilt by the raging monster Polypheme in the concert version on 30 April. The

Singers join the Leicester Male Voice Choir for a wide-



**STRETCHING IMAGINATION:** De Montfort University Dance Company at the Phoenix

ranging programme which also includes **Britten's Hymn to St Cecilia** and popular arrangements of spirituals and folk melodies.

Of course if you did see **Acis and Galatea**, then you might have missed the Bardi playing Mahler's 4th Symphony. If you believe Mahler - "there are no great orchestras, only great conductors" - then you'll be pleased to know that Sir Simon Rattle and the great CBSO play it again at Derngate, Northampton on 2 May. Of the Viennese symphonic tradition started by Haydn, I suppose Mahler reaches the climax with his masterful orchestration and symphonies of gigantic proportions. The fourth, perhaps the most popular, is relatively cheerful and compact. It finishes in the wrong key with a setting of a poem Heavenly Life in which Paradise is imagined as a place full of good things to eat - sounds good to me.

At De Montfort Hall on the 24 April, the Leicester Symphony Orchestra concert includes the Brahms Violin Concerto and

## ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENTS IN THE REGION

Symphony No 2 by Sibelius. Brahms makes extraordinary technical demands on the soloist who seems to have to compete with the orchestra at times. It is also the last great concerto (written 1877/8) which leaves a cadenza in the first movement for the soloist to extemporise. Hum along to the theme of the first movement of the Sibelius (but not too loudly), grieve to the tragic second, twist and shake with the scherzo (if you can keep up) and leave with grace after the majestic finale. If that's not your scene, then Hank Marvin's there the following Tuesday.

At the Theatre Royal, Nottingham (21-26 April) is a production with rave reviews of Arthur Miller's Pulitzer Prize-winning play: **Death of a Salesman**. Willy Loman, played by Alun Armstrong, gradually loses his grasp on reality and, through the drama of

his family quarrels replayed in his head, we see the ways in which the mistakes of one generation reverberate on the next.

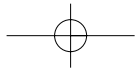
Hot Stuff continues at the Haymarket until 19 April. After this (1-24 May) verbal fireworks fly in Oscar Wilde's witty and audacious comedy, **A Woman of No Importance**: "One should never trust a woman who tells one her age. A woman who would tell one that, could tell one anything." **Dance Like a Man** is in the Studio (17 April - 3 May), a comic and poignant play moved from India to modern day Leicester which explores the status and rôle of male dancers in Indian society.

... or you could join those revising in Victoria Park!

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We are looking for contributors to this section. If you wish to review the cuttings, please contact Barbara Whiteman on ext 2676.

# CUTTINGS

## WHAT THE PAPERS SAY

**Hundreds of cuttings pour into the Press Office at Leicester University from around the world chronicling the activities of staff and students. CHRIS SMITH (on work experience with the Press Office) reviews a selection of cuttings from recent weeks.**

The problem for retailers is simple. "If shoppers perceive any threat of physical assault they will go elsewhere", explained Beck.

*Essentials* magazine featured a story about how people associate a moment in their lives with a piece of music. Dr Adrian North of the Psychology Department said that "It does us good to

get out our old favourites and reminisce, because it gives us a link to our own individual past".

Professor Liddington and his team in the Biochemistry Department also made local news with their research project into the anthrax bacteria (or KILLER BUG as the *Leicester Mercury* would have it). Their work may help people with genetic diseases such as cystic fibrosis through a technique called X-ray crystallography.

The cuttings yielded one gem that, in the style of the popular TV satire programme *Have I Got News For You*, allows me to introduce the feature of 'Guest Publication'. This month's venerable tome is the *Furniture and Cabinetmaking* magazine, which profiles the work of Dutch craftsman Peter van der Waals.

Waals worked in the Cotswolds at the turn of the century and is featured as part of a series of articles on 'The Cotswold Men'. The University is mentioned as it gave Waals a commission. Readers are informed that 'With such patrons Waals managed to struggle through the dark and difficult days of the depression of the 1930s'.

Dark and difficult days of the depression aptly describes the times in which we now live. It will pass, surely as 1 May is followed by 2 May. Normal service will resume shortly.

Do you remember the good old days? Think back - not too long ago - to better times when you were free - free to pick up a news paper without reference to the 'E' word. Once upon a time (I'm not telling fibs), the papers were full of interesting news and not just politicians spouting hot air.

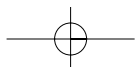
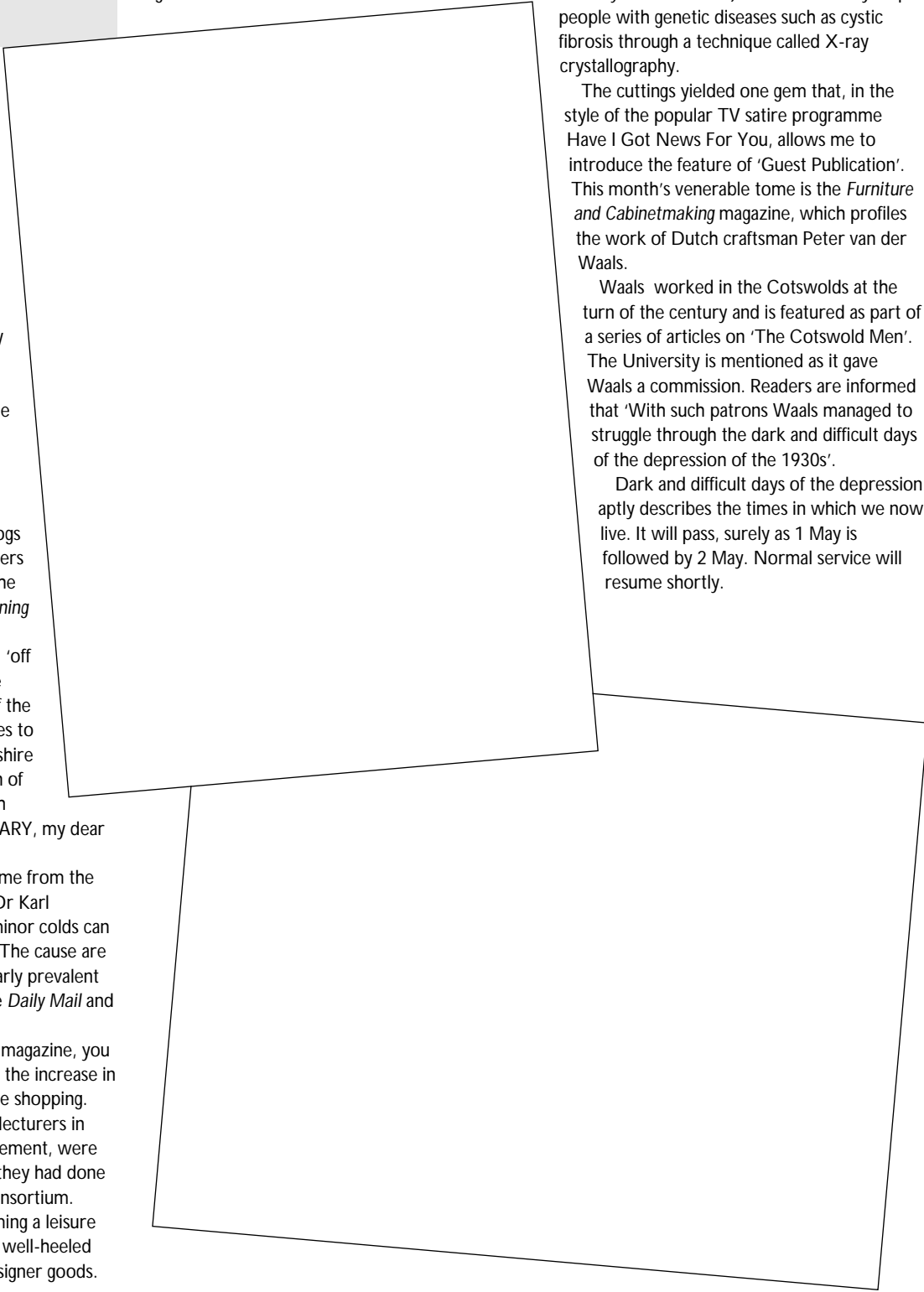
As we all know, the University likes to set trends rather than follow them. Foreseeing the decline, last month it 'went to the dogs' with a series of stories containing faeces. News that University researchers have chosen the Yorkshire town of Pocklington to attempt to link dogs to their dirt by DNA sent reporters 'barking mad.' The story ran in the *Hull Daily Mail*, the *Yorkshire Evening Post* and the *Evening Press*.

The sub-editors were allowed 'off the leash' to come up with some highly amusing headlines. One of the 'howlers' included 'Pet Detectives to Find Out Whodungit!' The *Yorkshire Evening Press* included a cartoon of Sherlock Holmes inspecting fresh 'evidence' and crying 'ALIMENTARY, my dear Watson!'

The big story of the month came from the publication of survey results by Dr Karl Nicholson, which showed that minor colds can be more serious for the elderly. The cause are 'rhinoviruses' which are particularly prevalent in winter. Coverage included the *Daily Mail* and several international journals.

If you picked up *Cosmopolitan* magazine, you would have seen a feature about the increase in attacks on women whilst they are shopping. Adrian Beck and Andrew Willis, lecturers in Criminology and Security Management, were interviewed about the research they had done on behalf of the British Retail Consortium.

Increasingly shopping is becoming a leisure activity and thieves are targeting well-heeled shoppers who buy expensive designer goods.



# PEOPLE

## STAFF DISTINCTIONS

Staff distinctions are published in the *Bulletin* after they have been before Senate and Council.

Professor E A Davis (Physics and Astronomy) has been appointed Chairman of the ISIS Muon Instrument Group by the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils.

Dr C J Dewey (Economic and Social History) has been invited to hold the James Pinckney Harrison Chair in History at William and Mary College in 1997-98.

Dr A C Kerr (Geology) has been awarded the Geological Society's President's Award for 1997.

Mr K Hearnden (Scarman Centre for the Study of Public Order) has been elected as Secretary of the Joint Security Industry Council.

## OBITUARIES

The University has learnt with regret the deaths of the following people:

### ROY BUCKLEY

*Senior Lecturer, Department of Mathematics, died 12 November 1996*  
Roy Buckley was educated at Alderman Newton's School and was a student at the Leicester University College from 1937 to 1940, when he was awarded First Class Honours BSc in Mathematics from the University of London. He taught for a short time and then served in the Army before returning to Leicester in 1946, whereupon he became the fourth member to be appointed to the Department of Mathematics at the University College. He was preceded by E C Rhodes, E V Whitfield and K A Hirsch. In 1957, he was awarded an MSc by the University of London, and in 1974 he was promoted to a Senior Lectureship. He retired from this post in 1983. Roy's service extended outside the University. For many years, he was a Governor of the Collegiate School through to its merger with Wyggeston Girls' School.

For those of us who were privileged to work alongside Roy, our memories are of a colleague whose peaceful disposition, coupled with his kindness and willingness to help, brought pleasure to the Department. Indeed, these attributes were also appreciated by colleagues in other departments with whom Roy worked, notably Physics and Engineering. His knowledge of advanced electromagnetic theory enabled him to become an effective supervisor for PhD students and allowed him to develop his own interests in the propagation of electric waves through the ionosphere and ionised media generally, interests which he pursued partly in collaboration with the Ionospheric Group in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. After his retirement from the Mathematics Department, he continued to work as an honorary research fellow with this group bringing his expertise, encouragement, and mathematical rigour to its activities.

Roy's concern for the well-being of students in the Department was manifest. He took a particular interest in Leicester students, so much so that he could recall names, courses, class of degree, and sporting prowess without hesitation. Needless to say, he was very popular as a personal tutor, spending many hours in attempts to relieve the individual difficulties of his students, and in encouraging them to greater efforts and to higher ambitions. As a teacher, Roy was very painstaking in his lectures on electromagnetic theory, dynamics, and vector calculus, and in his supervisions in general applied mathematics. His careful and sympathetic encouragement was of great service to the students, not least those who found the work difficult.

A major contribution which Roy made to the Department was his help in 1965 in setting up the very successful taught MSc course in Applied Mathematics, which ran until the mid seventies. He gave the initial impetus to its foundation, he helped to devise the details of the

course and to establish it by advertising and marketing, and he took upon himself the administrative burden. This course ran for several years with a stream of successful candidates, some of whom went on to read for doctorates. The postgraduate lectures also drew audiences from outside the Department of Mathematics.

One of Roy's great passions was rugby football. As a student, he played for the College team as a wing-forward and he maintained his interest in the rugby club throughout the years, being an enthusiastic and vocal supporter of the team, especially in UAU matches. Of course, he also followed the Tigers and was a member and regular supporter at Welford Road.

Roy's commitment to the University included service for many years on the Board of the Faculty of Science and as a member of Convocation. He was Chairman of Convocation from 1968 to 1971 and, as such, is remembered for his gentle and courteous manner towards other members of the Committee; qualities he combined with an industrious promotion of Convocation's interests and membership. Here also, he displayed his splendid memory for his contemporaries and other former students of the University College and the University. Through him, many kept up their contact with the University, and then, as now, Convocation embraced many generations of graduates.

Roy Buckley will be remembered with affection by a great many colleagues and graduates. He is survived by his wife Jean, son Ian and daughter Hilary.

*Dr John F Watters*

### DR CHRIS CHALLIS (1946 - 1997)

Chris Challis came to Leicester in 1970, and took a Combined Arts degree in 1973. In 1974 he was awarded an MA with distinction. His interests as a student anticipated his later development; he was one of the first to read American Studies as a three-year subject, and his MA involved work on Albee, Nabokov, Pound, e.e.cummings, Donleavy and others.

Although Essex-born, Chris developed an affinity with Leicester. As a creative writer, teacher and friend, he was to become well and widely known throughout the city and county. His poetry became - and will remain - well known in the region and beyond, and his writing for the Phoenix and the Theatre Trust is well remembered.

His talented writing was very much his own work. The way in which he shared his talents not only through publication but through teaching reflected his generous spirit. In the early years, he taught in local prisons, and showed an unusual gift in communicating with young offenders. Chris also taught for the University's Department of Adult Education and for the WEA. Many local writers owe their achievements to his encouragement and advice.

The streets of Leicester will seem that much emptier without the sight of his large and, at times, flamboyant progress. He offered a great deal and much was taken. Many will remember him as a poet, some as a teacher. We shall all remember him as a friend.

*Emeritus Professor W Forster*

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# RESEARCH

## GRANTS FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES

### ARCHAEOLOGY

Dr D J Mattingly  
The Fezzan Project

£11,400 Society for Libyan Studies

### BIOCHEMISTRY (MEDICAL)

Prof. D R Critchley

**Disruption of the gene for the cytoskeletal protein Talin.**

£192,882 Wellcome Trust

Dr S A Prigent

**Identification and characterisation of novel effectors for vascular endothelial cell growth factor receptors using the yeast two-hybrid system.**

Vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) is a protein which can promote the sprouting of new blood vessels from existing ones by binding to specific receptors in endothelial cells lining the vessels. This sprouting of new vessels, termed angiogenesis, is uncommon in the adult except in diseases such as cancer, where the formation of new blood vessels is essential to permit the growth and metastasis of tumours. This project aims to understand the mechanism by which VEGF promotes blood vessel growth, by identifying the proteins inside the endothelial cells which specifically interact with VEGF receptors following VEGF binding. These intracellular protein/protein interactions trigger the events leading to cell division and migration which are required for blood vessel growth. By this approach it may be possible to identify targets for the design of inhibitors for use in cancer therapy or prevention, or for treatment of other disease states such as diabetic retinopathy or rheumatoid arthritis, where angiogenesis is a problem.

£140,436 Wellcome Trust

### BIOCHEMISTRY

Dr N S Scrutton

**New diagnostic enzymes via the strategic manipulation of electron tunnelling pathways.**

As part of a programme to develop new diagnostic enzymes for the detection of various biomedical amines, the grant has been awarded to engineer electron tunnelling pathways in the enzyme trimethylamine dehydrogenase to enable its use in simple 'dipstick' colorimetric assays. The work will involve the identification of major electron transfer pathways in the enzyme and the display of new redox centres within these pathways to enable transfer of electrons to molecular oxygen. Using flavin-dependent chemistry, hydrogen peroxide will be the product of reduction of oxygen. Hydrogen peroxide will then serve as a substrate for a second enzyme, peroxidase, that

will elicit colorimetric changes. Target biomedical amines include pharmacologically active used and abused drugs and various natural bioactive amines.

£141,824 BBSRC

Dr A E Willis

**The regulation of C-MYC by translational control mechanisms - travel grant**

£900 Cancer Research Campaign

### BOTANY

Prof. J Draper

**Integration of defence responses to pathogen attack by salicylic acid signalling: Potentiation of gene expression.**

£168,328 BBSRC

Dr M R Grant

**The difference between disease or resistance: a study of plant disease signal cassette components interacting directly with the RPM1 adapter protein**

£145,852 BBSRC

### CELL PHYSIOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY

Prof. P R Stanfield

**Voltage-gated currents in neurones of the ventral cochlear nucleus**

£53,130 Wellcome Trust

### CHEMISTRY

Dr R S Atkinson

**Synthesis of useful chirons (including a-Amino acids and b-Lactams) ring opening enantiopure aziridines**

£49,221 EPSRC

Prof. J H Holloway

**Low-valent transition metal fluorides - direct facilities**

£111,254 EPSRC

Dr E G Hope

**Catalysis in the fluorous biphasic**

£86,357 EPSRC

Dr R D W Kemmitt

**European science exchange programme**

£1,500 Royal Society

### CHILD HEALTH

Dr C S Beardsmore

**Is Salbutamol effective in wheezy infants?**

£14,100 NHS Executive Trent

Dr C O'Callaghan

**The delivery of drug aerosols to the lung**

Delivery of drugs by aerosol is the mainstay of the treatment of asthma.

Many other drugs are now being delivered via the aerosolised route to treat other conditions such as cystic fibrosis.

In the Child Health Department we have established an independent medical aerosolised drug laboratory. We are able to characterise any drug aerosol in terms of the amount of drug contained in the aerosol that is likely to be delivered to the lower respiratory tract of children or adults. In addition to this we have modelling techniques which allow us to estimate the effect of the patient's breathing on lung deposition. We are currently evaluating lung deposition in children and adults by the use of pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic methods involving measurement of drug levels in plasma and urine following inhalation. The support from Glaxo Wellcome will allow us to develop this aspect further, particularly in relation to anti-asthma medications. The research award is an open one which will allow us to investigate any drug or drug delivery device on the market.

Such research is required as most prescribing physicians are unaware that the amount of drug their patients receive may vary by two to four fold depending on the drug delivery device prescribed.

£96,422 Glaxo Wellcome Plc

Prof. M Silverman

**Randomised controlled trial of self-management of childhood asthma**

£7,654 Glaxo R & D Ltd

### EDUCATION

Prof. A W Bush

**ESRC Seminar Series: Redefining educational management.**

The aim of this seminar group is to redefine the discipline of educational management in the light of the major changes in practice during the 1990s. The specific objectives are as follows:

1. To assess the impact of the 1988 Educational Reform Act on the management role of headteachers and senior staff in schools and colleges.
2. To consider the implications of recent Teacher Training Agency initiatives on the training of headteachers.
3. To clarify and redefine educational management theory and assess its applicability to self managing schools and colleges.
4. To review recent research in educational management and consider priorities for future programmes of research.

The series involves four two day seminars during 1997 and 1998. The first seminar will be held at the Stage Hotel in Leicester on 5/6 June. These seminars will be attended by most of the leading UK academics in this field and will also include contributions from senior international figures.

£15,380 ESRC

### ENGINEERING

Prof. A R S Ponter

**Failure of mechanical components under variable loading at high temperature.**

The grant has been awarded under the British-German Academic Research Collaboration (ARC) Programme jointly funded by the British Council and the German Academic Exchange Service (DADD).

The overall purpose of the ARC programme is to foster co-operation between British and German research groups with common interests. The mechanics of Materials group at Leicester have interests in theoretical methods of analysing the performance of engineering structures which are subjected to complex histories of load, temperature and environment. These methods form the basis for computer systems which help the designer arrive quickly and efficiently at a safe design. The research group at the Technical University of Aachen have similar interests. The grant will allow a series of exchange visits over a two year period.

£1,500 British Council

Dr E M Warrington

**DF as a beneficial addition to damson data analysis - studentship (C Jackson)**

£29,100 DRA

### EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Prof. M Clarke

**Research Training: Top up funds for senior lecturer in medical statistics**

£42,058 Cancer Research Campaign

Prof. M Clarke

**Research training at the Leicester unit of the Trent Institute for Health Services Research**

£556,666 NHS Executive Trent

Prof. M Clarke

**UKCCSG Administrative Office**

Cancer in childhood is rare but over 60% of affected children can now be cured and the results for treatment for some individual cancer diagnoses are very much better than this. The progress made in the last 20 years has been remarkable and much of it relates to the systematic evaluation of new treatment strategies between different children's cancer centres. The children with cancer in the United Kingdom are treated by its members. The administrative infra-structure and data management and statistical support for the collaborative clinical trials organised by the group is provided by the Data Centre in Leicester. An increasing amount of the group's work now involves international trials and collaboration in others. This group is also involved in establishing standards

# RESEARCH

for clinical practice and professional training, and in providing advice to government and health authorities about resources for the care of children with cancer. Financial support for the activities of the group comes from the Cancer Research Campaign and also from other sources including individual donations.

£241,360 Cancer Research Campaign

**Prof. M Clarke**

**UKCCSG Equipment grant**

£4,930 Cancer Research Campaign

**Dr C W McGrother**

**LD Re-Development Plan**

£32,000 Leicestershire Health

**Dr C W McGrother**

**Clinical database systems to support research: Prevention and treatment of osteoporotic and other fractures**

£42,650 NHS Executive Trent

## GENERAL PRACTICE

**Ms N Robertson**

**Subject specific strategies for improving management of depression in General Practice.**

£9,690 NHS Executive Trent

## GENETICS

**Dr C A Pritchard**

**Investigation of the role of the A-Raf protein kinase in growth oncogenic transformation and tumour genesis through studies of A-Raf deficient cells.**

£39,212 MRC

## GEOLOGY

**Dr P K Harvey**

**Wireline Logging in the Ocean Drilling Program**

This grant is to fund Leicester's continuing participation in the shipboard acquisition, shore-based processing, analysis and interpretation of wireline log data for the Ocean Drilling Program (ODP). This is the fourth (penultimate) year of the current ODP, which runs until the end of September, 1998. During the past three years logging scientists from Leicester have sailed on seven cruises, and carried out shore-based research on a range of problems including the sedimentary evolution of the Amazon Fan, the tectonics of transform plate margins, the volcanic architecture of oceanic crust and the interpretation of electrical borehole images. During 1997 two Leicester scientists will sail as part of this work, between them investigating world climate change through study of the sedimentary sequence along the Blake-Bahama Outer Ridge and Carolina Slope off the east coast of the USA, and the nature of the Ocean-Continent transition west of Iberia.

£129,032 Columbia University

**Prof. B F Windley**

**Cenozoic tectonics in the GOBI Altai-eastern Tianshan, central Asia: Rates magnitudes and styles of deformation**

£6,000 Royal Society

## MEDICINE AND THERAPEUTICS

**Prof. D P De Bono**

**Discretionary Chair Fund**

£2,689 British Heart Foundation

**Dr J Feehally**

**The molecular basis of abnormal o-linked glycosylation of IgA1 in IgA Nephropathy and Henoch-Schönlein Nephritis**

IgA nephropathy is the commonest type of nephritis and an important cause of kidney failure in young adults. Henoch-Schönlein purpura is common in children and causes rash, joint pains and nephritis; it may also lead to kidney failure.

In both these conditions the nephritis starts because IgA is deposited in the kidneys. IgA antibodies are part of the normal immune system. It is not known why a small proportion of the IgA should stick to the kidneys and start the inflammation which eventually destroys them.

IgA is a protein which also has sugars attached to it. The sugars are specific and alter the behaviour of the IgA molecule. The sugars on IgA in these two conditions appear to have the same abnormality. In this research we will measure the exact biochemical structure of these sugars in order to understand why they become abnormal, how this might start up the kidney disease, and eventually how treatment to halt or prevent these kidney diseases might be possible.

£63,958 National Kidney Research Fund

**Dr K M Khan**

**Nitric oxide and regulation of the renal Na/H exchanger isoforms... Junior Research fellowships (Dr K M Khan)**

Nitric Oxide may affect the balance of salt in the body by an effect on the kidney, and this may be of relevance to both hypertension and congestive cardiac failure. This project examines the mechanisms whereby nitric acid could affect salt transport by the Na/H exchangers in kidney cells. Such mechanisms may be functioning abnormally in cardiovascular disease.

£77,130 British Heart Foundation

**Prof. R J Playford**

**Effect of diets which increase luminal growth factor concentrations on intestinal growth and repair.**

£78,761 MRC

**Dr N J Samani**

**Prevention of the development of genetic hypertension: Investigation of renal mechanisms.**

£64,305 National Kidney Research Fund

## MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

**Prof. P W Andrew**

**The role of host factors & pneumolysin in the pathogenesis of bronchopneumonia**

£189,061 Wellcome Trust

**Dr W Schwaeble**

**Structure and function of masp 2 the third component of the novel antibody independent lectin route.**

£138,115 Wellcome Trust

## OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY

**Dr F Al-Azzawi**

**The safety effectiveness and subject based assessment of progesterone**

£184,000 ALZA Pharmaceuticals

## OPHTHALMOLOGY

**Dr J R Thompson**

**Grading photographs of the eye**

£800 BHF Via Dunn Nutrition LB

**Dr J R Thompson**

**Non salary costs of Melton eye study**

£24,575 Ulverschroft Foundation

## PATHOLOGY

**Dr P Furness**

**National external quality assurance scheme in renal pathology**

£5,575 Pathology Quality Assessment

**Dr J L Jones**

**Analysis of changes in tenascin isoform expression associated with breast cancer invasion**

Tenascin is an extracellular matrix protein which is highly expressed in situations associated with active cell migration such as embryogenesis. High levels of tenascin are observed in breast carcinomas, but are also observed in the normal breast at certain stages of the menstrual cycle, thereby precluding its use as a marker of malignant change.

It is now recognised that tenascin exists in at least 8 alternatively spliced isoforms, and studies have shown that these isoforms have discreet biological functions, and that there may be tumour-specific variants.

This study will analyse the pattern of tenascin isoform expression in the normal breast, and the key quantitative and qualitative differences that occur in pre-malignant and malignant breast disease with the aim of determining which isoforms mark the transition from normal tissue remodelling to tumour cell invasion.

The differential expression of tenascin in tumours has already been exploited in the design of novel treatment strategies for human gliomas. Determination of tumour-specific variants in the breast may make such therapeutic strategies a real possibility in the future management of breast cancer.

£45,973 NHS Executive Trent

**Prof. J Lunec**

**Oxidised LDL measurement in a Scottish Cohort following antioxidant administration with vitamins C and E.**

£157,721 Department Of Health - Scottish Office

## PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

**Dr C Binns**

**Embedded Assemblies of magnetic mesoscopic particles - direct facilities**

£272,401 EPSRC

**Dr C Binns**

**Strasbourg Collaboration**

£1,750 British Council

**Dr C Binns**

**A Fully characterised high resolution polarisation selectable synchrotron beam line for vuv science**

£243,152 EPSRC

**Prof. S W H Cowley**

**Exploitation of In Situ Space Data**

Following the launch failure of the European Space Agency's cluster space mission in June 1996, the grants that had been allocated for science data exploitation of the mission were terminated as of 31 October 1996. However, grant holders were invited to submit applications for follow-on grants whose purpose was to provide minor resources to allow the planning of recovery options. The resources of this grant allow the applicant to participate in planning meetings for Cluster recovery options, including new space missions which, at least in part, will replace the contribution which Cluster was to have made. ESA decides on the future of Cluster in February 1997, and the outcome of that will strongly influence our future programme. In the event of an early reflight of the Cluster flight-spacer spacecraft (Phoenix), substantial efforts will be devoted towards planning for that eventuality. Otherwise, our main planning will surround participation in the German Equator-S space mission, due for launch in the last quarter of 1997.

£1,050 PPARC

**Dr G W Fraser**

**Quantification of in-orbit hydrocarbon contamination on X-ray ccds**

This is an award of beamtime on station 1.1 of the Daresbury Synchrotron Radiation Source (SRS). The SRS will be

# RESEARCH

run in "low-ring current" mode to permit the further calibration of silicon-based X-ray detectors for use in X-ray Astronomy. This is the latest in a series of detector calibration runs at Daresbury which began in 1994.

£1,020 CLRC

**Dr S J Gurman**

**International workshop on high temperature superconductivity ten years after its discovery**

£3,557 CEC

**Dr S P Lawrence**

**Large-scale wave activity in the tropical Pacific and Atlantic Oceans: an in depth study using observatories and model results**

Recent changes in weather patterns over Britain have given rise to much public debate, particularly because of concern over climate change induced by human activity. As well as changes of this type, variations in our weather could be a natural tendency in the climate.

Natural climate variations can be brought about by large-scale waves in the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. These waves exist predominantly in the tropics, yet may modify the behaviour of the atmosphere across the globe. Regarding our own climate in northern Europe, the waves may give rise to adverse weather patterns by influencing the storm tracks

from North America to Europe, which form the very basis of our regional climate.

At Leicester University, satellite data along with state-of-the-art computer simulations are being used to provide details of these ocean waves, in a way which is impossible using surface based observations alone. The aim is to understand how the waves are generated and to predict how they affect the atmosphere across the globe.

£115,186 NERC

## POLITICS

**Prof. J Benyon**

**Gun Law: A comparative study of the control of firearms in the European Union**

The increasing use of firearms in criminal activity has led to campaigns for stricter controls on the private ownership and use of guns. The demands for tighter regulation rose to a crescendo following the Dunblane tragedy in March 1996 and the government's amendments to the Firearms Act are currently being debated in the House of Lords.

The Scarman Centre has been awarded a grant by the Leverhulme Trust to examine the control of guns in European Union member states, looking at legislation, regulation and licensing procedures in a social and historical

context. The project will also undertake a comparative examination of crime statistics on gun-related offences.

The study should produce information of interest to policy makers and practitioners which will increase knowledge and understanding of how guns are used in contemporary societies. It is hoped that the findings will help to control the use of guns in criminal activity and limit the occurrence of tragedies like Dunblane.

£52,270 Leverhulme Trust

## PSYCHOLOGY

**Dr N P Foreman**

**The use of Virtual Reality to improve Spatial Awareness**

This grant extends an earlier award from Action Research/BT, for the study of virtual reality (VR) computing and its application to the development of awareness of buildings and other spaces in children whose mobility is impaired. The project has already demonstrated that children with disabilities successfully acquire information about specific places from VR environments, and that virtual exploration has generally beneficial effects in improving children's spatial understanding, such that spatial features of novel environments are acquired more quickly if children have been given several successive virtual exploratory experiences. The work has involved the creation of a virtual representation of a part of Ash Field Special School in Leicester. Children visiting the school for the first time have been shown to understand its spatial layout from prior virtual exploration alone. The new grant will enable the construction of a virtual representation of a second school (Westbrooke Special School, Derbyshire), allow further investigation of the types of cue that need to be incorporated in virtual environments to optimise their usefulness, and explore the longevity following virtual training.

£9,982 Action Research

## ZOOLOGY

**Dr D M Harper**

**Lake Management research - Studentship**

Background

The 'trophic cascade' is a body of theory developed to explain the changes (which have been recorded in studies since 1964) in lake plankton structure and diversity when fish species composition is accidentally or deliberately altered. In outline it states that plankton community structure is determined by the degree of predation by planktivorous fish (which feed almost exclusively by sight on all continents) upon zooplankton. High planktivory results in zooplankton dominated by small bodied forms; low planktivory results in large-bodied forms because these latter are more efficient filter-feeders and competitively exclude the small-bodied species. If large

species dominate the zooplankton (typically species of Daphnia) then they can efficiently graze the phytoplankton biomass to low levels, and a transparent lake results. This latter consequence has led to the development of techniques for lake management called 'biomanipulation' which involve the deliberate alteration of fish communities to achieve large-bodied zooplankton dominance.

The importance of this project

Test of hypotheses arising from the theory of trophic cascade, and practical applications of biomanipulation, have usually been confined to either laboratory (or laboratory-scale field) microcosms or single lakes compared over time. Occasionally one lake has been successfully divided into two by heavy plastic curtain. Rarely have two connected, but not physically divided, lakes been available for investigation. In 1995-6 however, two adjacent gravel pit lakes near Lincoln, fed by the same nutrient rich source, were found to have markedly different plankton communities and water clarity. Theories about community structure developed from the Norfolk Broads and elsewhere suggest that shallow lakes may have two stable states under similar (moderately enriched) nutrient conditions. These are:

1. A clear water state, with rooted plant dominance of shallow water, maintained by the rooted plant zone providing refuge for zooplankton from planktivores and habitat for a healthy age-structure of pike, which maintain predation pressure upon planktivores.
2. A turbid water state which, in the absence of refuge, permits high planktivory, small-bodied zooplankton and high phytoplankton biomass.

These two states have been recorded many times in a single lake deteriorating under nutrient enrichment or restored by a combination of nutrient removal and biomanipulation. They have never been found side by side in two lakes. However, the effects of the two states are so marked in the Lincoln gravel pit complex (a nature reserve administered by the Lincolnshire & South Humberside Trust) that the names given to lakes are "coot lake" (clear water, rich in plants grazed extensively by coot) and "grebe lake" (turbid from phytoplankton but containing high density of small cyprinid planktivorous fish).

The project will investigate the food web ecology of these lakes and produce recommendations that will enable eutrophic lakes elsewhere to be biologically manipulated to achieve a stable, clear-water state.

£18,000 Environment Agency

**Prof. R H Smith**

**Functional significance of aggregation pheromone in *prosthephanus truncatus***

£1,850 Natural Resources Intl

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# NOTICES

## LEICESTER POETRY SOCIETY

### PRIZES FOR POETS

Prizes of £100, £50 and £25 are on offer in Leicester Poetry Society's second annual competition. Winners will be chosen by famous Midlands poet and broadcaster Roy Fisher. Poems up to forty lines long in any form can be submitted for an entry fee of £2 per poem. The closing date is 2 May 1997. Leaflets are available in bookshops and libraries, or by post (enclosing SAE) from the Competition Organiser, 15 Braunstone Avenue, Leicester LE3 0JF.

## UNIVERSITY ESTATES & BUILDINGS OFFICE

A planning application for alteration works and fire precaution works including disabled persons' access, and a lift at 6-12 Leicester Parade, Barrack Road, Northampton has been submitted to Northampton Borough Council.

A separate application has also been made for alteration works to car park and lift shaft construction at the same property.

A planning application for an extension to the Charles Wilson Building Coffee Shop has been submitted to Leicester City Council.

An application has also been made for the installation of fire escapes to Blocks 6, 7 and 8 at Beaumont Hall.

## ROYAL SOCIETY

### TECHNOLOGY LECTURE

Tuesday 20 May 1997, 5.30 p.m.

The Impact of Global Positioning System on Future Navigation

by Professor Vidal Ashkenazi

(Director, Institute of Engineering Surveying and Space Geodesy, University of Nottingham)

6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1.

## ADVERTISEMENT

### "ONE STOP SHOP" IRONSIDES COMBINE LEGAL AND FINANCIAL ADVICE

There are many occasions when a trip to seek advice from a solicitor is accompanied by a visit to a financial adviser. The purchase or sale of a house or a commercial property are obvious examples - but the same is true of all kinds of events, such as the receiving of an inheritance or dealing with the financial consequences of a divorce settlement.

The trouble is that few people manage to plan their individual or corporate financial affairs as effectively as they might. Financial advice tends to be sought in the heat of the moment without the benefit of planning in advance to ease the stress of sudden or crisis situations.

The reasons for this are many and varied. However, there is no doubt that people are put off by the vast and bewildering choices of financial advisers, each proclaiming why they are best!

Ironsides have recognised the benefits to clients of the "one stop shop" concept. As an established name in the area, they are well known for providing quality legal advice from their Leicester, Northampton and Oakham offices. By employing in-house independent financial advisers, they believe clients will welcome the opportunity of taking legal advice and coordinating their financial plans under one roof in the confidence that the combined advice will provide them with a far greater level of security than otherwise available.

Parry Leggett heads the Financial Planning Team from the firm's Leicester office, and has great confidence in the future. "I joined Ironsides because I really believe that more and more clients will come to appreciate the benefits of combining quality financial advice with quality level advice. For me, Ironsides have consistently proved over the years that their level of advice is second to none, and I had no hesitation in agreeing to develop this exciting new venture within the practice".

## SMALL ADS

### HOUSE FOR SALE

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#### DIVING EQUIPMENT

Leicester University Sub-Aqua Club has a range of diving equipment for sale.

For a list, valuation prices and more information please contact:

Annie Morgan, Sports Office, Students' Union  
Telephone:  
0116 223 1166.

### ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Researcher would like flat to rent in shared furnished accommodation but also offering to house sit; from 30th April for about 2 years. Near the University of Leicester. Will pay rent, very clean/tidy. Contact: Juha Nurmonen, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. Telephone: 0116 252 3883; Fax 0116 252 3604; E.mail: j.nurmonen@mcs.le.ac.uk

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### EVENTS ARE ALSO LISTED ON CWIS

**Tuesday April 22** - Inaugural Lecture: From Bridges to Microchips. Professor A Cocks, Engineering. 5.15 pm. Lecture Theatre 1, The New Building.

**Wednesday April 23** - Evening Concert: Italian music for guitar (Giuliana and Scarlatti) and American music for piano (Copeland and Bernstein). Alan Thomas (guitar) Anne Bolt (piano). 7.30 pm. Fraser Noble Building. Tickets: £5.00 (£4.00). For ticket sales and further details, phone the Music Department on 0116 252 2781.

**Wednesday April 23** - 25th Annual Botanic Garden Lecture. Revealing the Private Life of Plants. Sir David Attenborough. 8.00 pm. De Montfort Hall. Tickets will be on

# NOTICES

sale from the Booking Office at De Montfort Hall in March - £3 (£1 for students) and £15 (no concessionary rate for students). There will be a limited number of £15 tickets available and these will include seats in the Centre Circle followed by a Reception in the Garden Suite at which David Attenborough will be present.

**Tuesday April 29** - Inaugural Lecture: Genes, Behaviour and the Rhythms of Life. Professor C Kyriacou, Genetics. 5.15 pm. Lecture Theatre 1, The New Building.

**Wednesday April 30** - Department of Psychology Lecture: Virtual Reality in Neurological Rehabilitation. Professor David Rose, Dept of Psychology, University of East London. 2.00 pm. Room 120, Astley Clarke Building (Seminar Room)

**Wednesday April 30** - Evening Concert: The programme includes Venetian music of the seventeenth century, Britten's Hymn to St Cecilia and choruses and arias from Handel's *Acis and Galatea*. In contrasting style, the Leicester Male Voice Choir sings popular arrangements of spirituals and folk melodies. University Singers (Director, Anthony Pither), Leicester Male Voice Choir (conductor Richard Dunn). Tickets: £5.00 (£4.00). 7.30 pm. Fraser Noble Building. For ticket sales and further details, phone the Music Department on 0116 252 2781.

## MAY

**Tuesday May 6** - Leicester Early Modern Seminar. The domestication of the Renaissance. Peter Burke, University of Cambridge. 4.30 pm in the Gatehouse.

**Thursday May 8** - Celebrity Lecture: Exploring the Planets. Dr Patrick Moore. 7.30pm. Rattray Lecture Theatre.

# A.O.B.

## REVIEWING THE SITUATION

If, like me, you spend a large part of your weekend ploughing through the newspapers, pouring over the reviews, you might occasionally reach breaking point when you think, 'hang on, when was the last time I actually went to see a film, watch a play or buy and read a book?' And you realise that you haven't actually been out to see anything for years: reading a review of it has become an end in itself.

There are lots of different reactions of course; you might feel that you now know all you need to know about the latest artistic phenomenon - enough to avoid feeling left out at a dinner party for example. Alternatively you could feel that there is just so much going on and so much to be digested, interpreted and commented on over canapés and cocktails that you will never be able even to start.

Reviews, when seen as pre-views, would seem to have a place if they are saying "this is good, it might be worth your time and money to see it" or equally, "this is rubbish, don't waste your time or your money, go out and buy chocolate instead". But then, here's the rub, whom do you believe?

The review culture is, let's face it, quite seductive. The range of subjects covered makes you think you're some kind of arts superperson, flitting from a gallery reception to a film première, taking in a light supper with Michael Winner before sitting through an avant garde production of an obscure modernist opera. A brief designer beer later, you take a taxi across town clutching the latest Booker Prize winner (the book, not Graham Swift himself) and finding a cosy table for a nightcap of jazz/cabaret/Perrier Award winning comedy. Phew, and it's only 7.30!

I went to see the film *Mars Attacks* last week, having given up on the papers and other media to tell me whether it was worth seeing or not; Barry Norman thought it was good in parts, most of the British press thought it was a turkey and then the Irish Times said it was hilarious. The truth is of course far more complex than that but, hey, make up your own mind.

I'm thinking of going to see *Portrait of a Lady* which has suffered a similar fate - trounced in the nationals, the good old Leicester Mercury came to the rescue with a five star review. Are we any the wiser - I don't think so.

In a subtle twist my wife said she was glad she'd seen *Jerry Maguire* before reading reviews because now she could read them and see if she agreed with them. The review as "postview" - this is all getting far too complicated - or is it? I'll wait for the Sunday magazine articles before I decide.

Peter Allen



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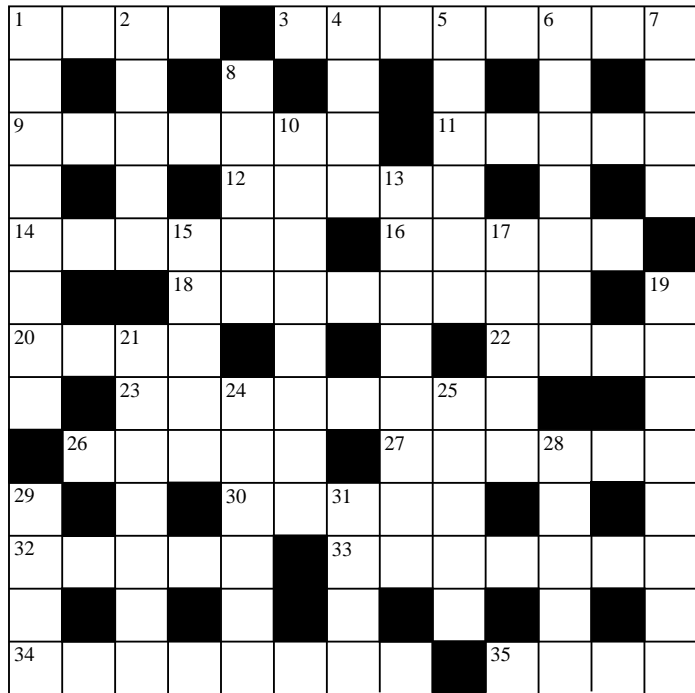
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Bulletin competitions are open to all readers except those involved in its production. Entries on photocopied paper please. Only one entry per person.

# CROSSWORD

## PRIZE CROSSWORD 13 by Seivador

A THREE-COURSE LUNCH FOR TWO IN THE CARVERY WILL BE AWARDED TO THE SENDER OF THE FIRST CORRECT ENTRY PICKED IN THE DRAW.



### CROSSWORD 13

#### Clues Across

1. Ruritanian author's dream (4)
3. Pain he's got before and after a rotter's return (8)
9. Starting school, badly teach learner carrying bag (7)
11. Man from Rome going to America and corrupting agent (5)
12. Raise spirits of the lately gone (5)
14. I left Persia, going to the East! (6)
16. Minister beheaded for 'light' crime (5)
18. Events I'd laid out, laid out for interest (8)
20. Leading people are concluding treaty, treaty (4)
22. None, excited, can be red with excitement (4)
23. Overactive advice to the underactive (8)
26. One road waves one wave (5)
27. He looks to review review (6)
30. Coach coaches (5)
32. Allow allow in (5)
33. Relative to an epithet relative to a dirty dog (7)
34. Cussed about bad route (8)
35. This is left in a signal (4)

#### Clues Down

1. See hippo cavorting where there's flowing water! (8)
2. Grimes making signal from bridge (5)
4. She's Italian, but contrarily all for the Germans (4)
5. Verdict's about to be delivered: it's wrong to turn aside (6)
6. Bar's in the middle - eat away! (7)
7. Wartime group involved in men's amusement (4)
8. Polish? She's a measure (5)
10. It's disturbing to reveal a lift (8)
13. Might it be vain to test wine poured therein? (8)
15. Put where tides break (5)
17. Could be common touch, e.g. (5)
19. Way into transport (8)
21. Forced to drink at sea (7)
24. Model's easy to take (6)
25. Because it's evil to Anglicans (5)
28. Big one's important, taken for a drive (5)
29. A dish that gets filled in Tampico (4)
31. Sally, e.g., chewed a nut (4)

#### PRIZE GIVEN BY LEICESTER UNIVERSITY CATERING SERVICES

Entries in a sealed envelope - clearly marked  
 PRIZE CROSSWORD COMPETITION, C/O LUSU RECEPTION, PERCY GEE  
 BUILDING BY NO LATER THAN NOON ON THURSDAY 17 APRIL.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DEPT: \_\_\_\_\_

EXT. NO: \_\_\_\_\_

#### PRIZE CROSSWORD 12 SOLUTION

**Across:** 1 Arch. 3 Cockatoo. 9 Tribune. 10 Penny. 11 Nil. 12 Duress. 15 Evil. 16 Purr. 19 Tack. 21 Bent. 22 Snob. 23 Idea. 24 Yellow. 28 Rip. 30 Recto. 31 Longbow. 32 Telegram. 33 Slay.  
**Down:** 1 Antedate. 2 Crier. 4 Omen. 5 Kepler. 6 Tensile. 7 Onyx. 8 Buss. 13 Elk. 14 Span. 17 Ruby. 18 Stowaway. 20 Codicil. 21 Bel. 22 Sarong. 25 Erne. 26 Label. 27 Trot. 29 Plea.

### EYE SPY COMPETITION

Our intrepid photographer from the University's Central Photographic Unit has again been roaming the campus for unusual views. If you can identify the location of the photograph below, you are close to snapping up a £10 book token!

Answers should be sent to Barbara Whiteman, Press & Alumni Relations, by Thursday 17 April. A draw will be held to determine the competition winner. The *Bulletin's* normal competition rules apply.



The winner of the first Eye Spy Competition was Mr C J Morrison (Department of Engineering). The photograph showed a view of the roof of the Mechanical Materials Processing building (Engineering Department). This building was formerly the Concrete Laboratory.

#### WINNER OF LAST MONTH'S WORDSEARCH COMPETITION:

Dr C Jagger, Epidemiology and Public Health

#### WINNER OF PRIZE CROSSWORD NO. 12:

Paul Smith, Engineering