



THE QUEEN'S  
ANNIVERSARY PRIZES  
1994

# PRINCESS OPENS UNIQUE CENTRE AT UNIVERSITY



**WELCOME:** The Vice-Chancellor greets the Princess and Lord Attenborough outside the Centre.



**OFFICIAL OPENING:** The Princess unveils the plaque to declare the Richard Attenborough Centre open.



**SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER:** The Princess greets Aamena Hajee who slipped past the crush barriers outside the front of the Richard Attenborough Centre.



**MAGIC MOMENT:** The Princess meets Mrs Margaret Gray inside the Centre.

More pictures and full story, see special supplement in centre pages.

<http://www.le.ac.uk/>

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JUNE/JULY 1997

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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 9 July** for publication in early August. The Editor reserves the right to amend or abbreviate copy without notice.

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## PROFESSOR IN PRESIDENTIAL MEETING



**MEETING:** The President of Ireland Mary Robinson, former Director of the School of Cosmic Physics Professor Brian Jacob and Professor Khan at Dublin Castle.

PROFESSOR Aftab Khan and other members of the Geology Department have recently returned from an international conference which was followed by a reception at Dublin Castle with the President of Ireland.

Professor Khan, whose meeting with the President of Kenya was reported in the Annual Report three years ago, was at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies for the conference on continental rifts.

Professor Khan has specialised in the study of the East African Rift where he is part of an international project carrying out controlled source seismic experiments in Kenya. He chaired a workshop on the subject at the conference.

Professor Khan is also the Chairman of the School of Cosmic Physics which is celebrating its Golden Jubilee this year. The School was established in 1947 as the third constituent school of the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies.

The primary duty of the School is theoretical, observational and experimental investigation of the problems of cosmic physics, including astronomy and astrophysics, cosmic rays, geophysics, meteorology and oceanography.

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### ON-LINE BULLETIN

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

## BELLS ARE RINGING FOR JUBILEE CAMPAIGN

PLEDGES for the telephone fund-raising appeal, launched in August 1996, have now topped the £600,000 mark. The appeal, headed by Leicester graduate and ITN Senior Foreign Correspondent, Michael Nicholson, is raising vital funds for improvements to the library and sports facilities for students and staff at Leicester.

Michael met up with some of the student callers when he visited the University to give a lecture, and he was quick to congratulate them on their great work.

From Monday to Thursday, every week in term time, 10 students gather at the calling room in the New Building to begin contacting alumni and parents. They are part of a team of



**GOOD NEWS:** Michael Nicholson with members of the student calling team and programme director, Andrea Greenwood, left..

around 30, all of whom are managed by programme director, Andrea Greenwood of IDC.

They follow up two letters that have been sent out detailing the

reasons for the campaign and asking for support through a substantial covenant over four years. The experience has been very positive for all concerned;

alumni have been able to chat about old times and learn how the campus has changed, and parents have been able to hear news of the forthcoming graduation ceremonies.

It is also an opportunity for them to commemorate their children's graduation with a gift that will benefit students in the future.

Plans are now well advanced for a direct mail campaign to around 16,000 alumni who have not been telephoned. It is hoped that support from the remainder of the alumni will bring the campaign total closer to £1m.

Development Manager Peter Allen commented: "It would be fantastic to raise £1m with this appeal and I am remaining cautiously optimistic. The campaign has already surpassed our expectations which is great news."

## 'ROBOT OLYMPICS' AT UNIVERSITY

A TOTAL of 120 students took part in a 'robot Olympics' in the University's Department of Engineering.

Student Tom Harrison, one of those in the competition, said: "Eight robots were entered into the race which involved flat sprint as well as climbing up inclines.

"The fastest sprint time was 23 seconds for covering a distance of nine feet, while one robot almost managed a sheer face climb.

"Many different types of robot were produced from a multi-legged caterpillar design to a hovercraft creation utilising a bicycle pump.

"The day was great fun and the majority of the Engineering Department were there cheering loudly."



**CREATION:** Another second year design project was a winch control. Chong Yen Tan is pictured with fellow students.



**THOUGHT PROCESS:** Engineering students discuss strategies for the race.



**ACTION:** The 'robot Olympics' saw contraptions of various sorts in competition.

Pictures: Paul Smith

## INAUGURATION OF THE GEZA VERMES LECTURES IN THE HISTORY OF RELIGIONS

THE University hosted a lecture by one of the world's foremost authorities on the Dead Sea Scrolls 50 years after their discovery in the Judean Desert by young Bedouin shepherds.

Professor Geza Vermes, FBA, Professor Emeritus of Jewish Studies at the University of Oxford, delivered the first of an annual lecture named in his honour to inaugurate the University's new Centre for the History of Religions, Inter-Faith Dialogue and Pluralism.

*The Discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls: 50 Years On* assessed the impact of the discoveries and fifty years of research on the Dead Sea Scrolls; provided an up-to-date verdict on the Scrolls for a study of the Hebrew Bible; discussed other contemporaneous Jewish religious literature; identified and characterised the Qumran community; and considered the relevance of the Scrolls for a better understanding of early Christianity.

The scrolls, and the ruins at Qumran, a complex of structures located on a barren terrace close to the cliffs where the caves are found, have been dated as coming from the late Second Temple Period, a time when Jesus of Nazareth lived, and are almost a thousand years older than other surviving biblical manuscripts.

The extraordinary manuscripts appear to have been deposited or hidden in the caves at Qumran by members of the Essene community, a Jewish sect in existence before and during the time of Jesus.

The lecture coincided with the publication date of Professor Vermes' eagerly awaited *The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls in English* (Allen Lane/Penguin) which is a completely revised and much-expanded edition containing all the scroll texts, including those which were released to scholars only in 1991.

The book is the most complete and authoritative Scrolls' edition available and it contains superb

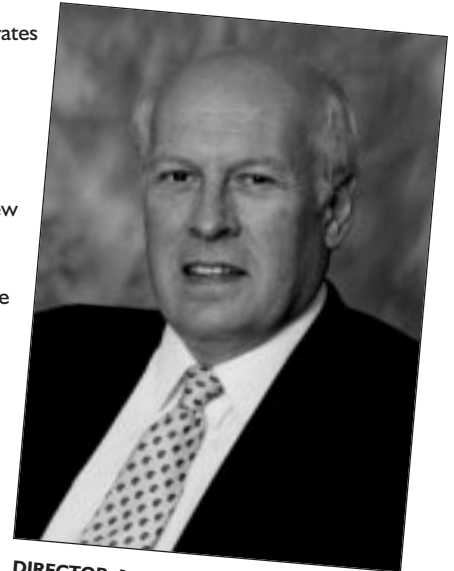
### LECTURE LAUNCHES NEW CENTRE AT UNIVERSITY

translations of all the texts sufficiently well preserved to be translated into English. It includes a number of hitherto unpublished texts. Of particular note are documents relating to the Essene Community's liturgical calendar, its rules and observances. There is also a crucial newly-discovered inscription from 1996 found among the Qumran ruins.

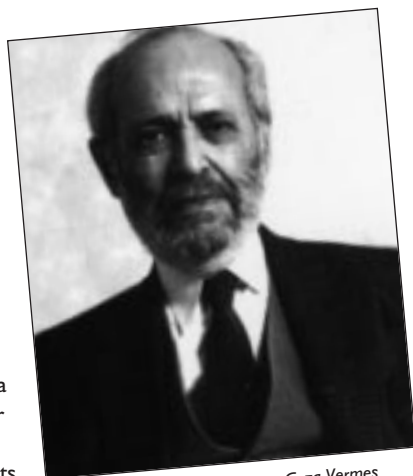
During the lecture Professor Richard Bonney, who is director of the new Centre, displayed selections from Oxford University Press's complete visual

Academy in 1985 and has received honorary doctorates from the Universities of Edinburgh, Durham and Sheffield. He has been director of the Forum for Qumran Research at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies since 1991.

The Lecture, part of the University's Jubilee series, took place on May 28 in the Rattray Lecture Theatre.



**DIRECTOR:** Professor Bonney is head of the new Centre for the History of Religions, Inter-Faith Dialogue and Pluralism in the Department of History.



**INAUGURATION:** Professor Geza Vermes

edition of the Dead Sea Scrolls on CD-ROM. "Since the value of this item is some £1,400, it is unlikely that many private individuals will have seen this," he said.

Professor Geza Vermes was born in Hungary in 1924. He studied in Budapest and Louvain and in 1953 obtained a doctorate in theology with a dissertation on the historical framework of the Dead Sea Scrolls. He has been teaching in England since 1957, first at Newcastle and since 1965 at Oxford where he is now Professor Emeritus of Jewish Studies. Professor Vermes was elected a Fellow of the British

## LEICESTER GRADUATES - DID THEY GET YOUR VOTE?

**AS THE dust settles on the recent General Election you will be interested to know that Leicester graduates were once more in the thick of it, fighting seats, advising politicians or covering the election in the media.**

**One of our best known graduates, Michael Jack (BA Economics 1967) was re-elected as MP for Fylde. For Labour, Bruce Grocott (BA Social Sciences 1962) retained his seat at Telford. He previously represented Tamworth and the Wrekin in the 1970s and 80s.**

**Three more Leicester graduates claimed Labour victories in long standing Conservative constituencies. Michael Foster, a graduate of the 60s, gained Hastings and Rye while Linda Perham (BA Classical Studies 1969) gained Ilford North. Closer to home, Philip Sawford (BA Applied Sociology 1985) gained the Kettering seat.**

**Beyond the two major parties, the Independence party were represented by graduate Richard Squires, who fought the Surrey Heath seat without success. For the record, all the Leicester seats are now held by Labour MPs.**

**A former member of the Politics Department, Keith Hill, was re-elected as Labour MP for Streatham. Congratulations to all of the successful candidates, perhaps one day a Leicester graduate will become Prime Minister!**

Peter Allen

# GAME THEORY QUESTIONS 'PRISON WORKS' PHILOSOPHY

## HOW THE GAME OF 'CHICKEN' HELPED TO EXPLAIN CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR

RESEARCH by University psychologists using game theory has suggested that an attempt to eliminate crime by imprisoning increasing numbers of offenders may be futile - because others will simply take their places.

Dr Andrew Colman, Reader in Psychology at the University, and Dr Clare Wilson, formerly of the University Department of Psychology, used a mathematical game—based on a whole society of people playing 'chicken' with each other—to study the evolution of antisocial behaviour.

Their study, funded by the ESRC, coincides with increasing attention being paid to 'zero tolerance' policing, credited by some for the drastic crime reduction in New York city. A major conference last month involving the University's Scarman Centre for the Study of Public Order also examined issues of crime and punishment.

The results of the Colman-Wilson study were recently published in *Legal and Criminal Psychology* and were featured in *New Scientist* and in *Pour la Science*, the French edition of *Scientific American*.

The study focused on the evolution of a behaviour pattern called Antisocial Personal Disorder (APD). People with this disorder—commonly described as sociopaths—tend to engage in persistent criminal behaviour and to be deceitful, manipulative, impulsive, aggressive, irresponsible, unable to hold down jobs, reckless to the safety of themselves and others, and lacking in remorse.

People with APD make up only 2 per cent of the population, but more than half the prison population. They are responsible for a large proportion of reported and unreported crime.

Dr Colman said: "The purpose of our research was to try to explain the relatively stable

prevalence of APD in diverse societies despite increasing resources devoted to reducing antisocial behaviour.

"We began with the game of chicken, which has often been associated with antisocial and dangerous behaviour. In its most familiar form, two drivers speed towards each other on a collision course unless at least one of them chickens out by swerving.

"In our research, the strategy of driving straight ahead equates to the dangerous, antisocial behaviour characteristic of APD, and swerving equates to the more cooperative, cautious behaviour of ordinary people.

"We scaled up the game into

one involving many people interacting with one another, rather than just two, and we examined how antisocial and cooperative behaviour evolves in

such a society.

We found that the population evolves to a stable equilibrium, where a fixed proportion of people behave antisocially.

"Antisocial behaviour probably evolves mainly socially rather than biologically—more through learning and imitation than through inheriting

genes. If so, then locking away antisocial people merely creates a vacuum that is quickly filled by others. As soon as the proportion drops below the critical level, potential thugs turn into actual

thugs until the stable equilibrium is restored. This suggests that the slogan "prison works" may be pie in the sky."

Dr Colman added: "An unexpected and rather sad finding of our analysis was that with the stable proportion of APD as low as it is, the reward for an antisocial act must on average be much less than the cost to the victim. That's just how the maths works out. A mugger may gain only a few pounds from a mugging, but the victim's life may be quite devastated, as happened to an elderly woman who lives near me in Leicester recently.

"Instead of locking up ever greater numbers of young people, our research suggests that a more promising approach would be to try to make antisocial behaviour less profitable, cooperation more rewarding, and victimisation less traumatic. Re-building a sense of community, especially in anonymous inner-city areas of society, could shift the equilibrium so that there would be fewer antisocial individuals in society."



ANALYSIS: Dr Andrew Colman

## REACHING OUT FOR CHARITY



**MEMBERS** of the University Rag have helped to raise £200 for the Laura Centre. The cheque was presented to Mrs Dana Simons, third from right, pictured with members of the Rag committee.

## PRAISE IN PARLIAMENT FOR UNIVERSITY PROJECT

PRAISE for a unique conservation project in Kenya by University zoologists has been voiced in the House of Lords.

The Earl of Enniskillen, making his maiden speech in the House on the contribution of young people to society, highlighted research by the University's Department of Zoology as "a unique initiative throughout the world."

Lord Enniskillen said the University, in partnership with other organisations, was involved in a pilot scheme 'of a sufficient quality to attract Kenya government and international support and by example has encouraged other initiatives.'

He said the success had been achieved 'by voluntary work and consensus building at community level with support from the World Conservation Union, the UK ODA and Leicester University researchers among others.'

The University is involved in a number of projects in Kenya, including environmental work spearheaded by Dr David Harper, senior lecturer in the Department of Zoology. His research group has been working in Kenya since 1982, and its main focus is Lake Naivasha - one of the few freshwater lakes in the Rift Valley.

Dr Harper said: "Lake Naivasha provides irrigation water for the rich volcanic soils of its hinterland, and their cultivation leads to the world's largest site for carnation production, as well as vegetables for export by air to Europe.

"The problem, all too familiar, is one of over-use of the basic resource, with more water taken out of the lake than is replenished by rainfall. This leads to instability in the biology of the lake's food web, a complex pattern of changes in plant and animal abundance which affect other uses of the lake such as commercial fishing and tourism.

"Cultivation of the shoreline of

the lake to the water's edge leads to the rise of potentially dangerous chemicals such as pesticides and fertilisers entering the lake directly during storms, and concentration of agriculture and settlement lead



LAKE WATCH: Project in Kenya.

to direct conflicts between people and 'dangerous' large animals - hippopotamus from the lake and buffalo from the plains.

"Once again, ecologists alone can never provide the complete solution to the problem, but an understanding of the ecology of the lake ecosystem offers the first essential step in formulating a management plan for its long-term use: only the people who live and work around the lake can provide the effective guarantee to its future."

David Harper's research is made possible by long support - since 1987 - by Earthwatch, a charity originally US-based but now worldwide in its operation. This unique organisation gives ordinary people - its membership of 75,000 come from all walks of life - direct experience of field research. Earthwatch approves some 100 field research projects each year, and members then join the project of their choice for a two-week spell, paying their own expenses and a share of the project's costs.

Dr Harper's project in Naivasha takes 48 Earthwatch members each year in groups of 12, training them over the first few days as field assistants and then using them for the remaining 10 days to count birds, record oxygen and temperature in lake water, input

data to computers, and carry out a host of other tasks that scientists could not achieve alone in the time available to them.

The project is one of Earthwatch's most popular, usually filling with volunteer enrolments several months in advance. Most volunteers are American, but usually 3-4 on each team are British or European. Between 1982 and 1987 Dr Harper ran the project in a similar fashion, using adult students from the

University's Department of Adult Education where Dr Harper also teaches.

Dr Harper's research is also supported by The Elsa Conservation Trust, endowed by Joy and George Adamson.



Further details of the project are at:

<http://earthwatch.org/x/Xharper.html>

Out and About features news of Sandy Davis from Genetics, who has recently received an Earthwatch fellowship (p17).

## BREAKTHROUGH IN DEFENCE OF BADGERS

**A DNA breakthrough by University zoologists could help ensnare cruel badger baiters and diggers.**

Research by Dr Terry Burke of the Department of Zoology can help match microscopic samples of badger blood and hair found on clothing or dogs with individual animal corpses. To date, some diggers and baiters have managed to avoid conviction by claiming they were digging for foxes.

Dr Burke said: "This technique is an important weapon in the armoury against offenders. People digging for badgers is a major problem. There is a problem of people suspected of that activity claiming they were digging for some other animal.

"Now we have a breakthrough in getting forensic evidence. Any blood stain or hair on clothing or on a dog can be matched with a corpse."

The development has come after years of research during which the zoology team worked closely with geneticists, including Professor Sir Alec Jeffreys, the pioneering University scientist behind the revolutionary discovery of DNA genetic fingerprinting.

Dr Burke said the crimebusting finding stemmed from an ongoing study into badger behaviour. The team is investigating how badgers interact and breed, and the DNA discovery will help further this study. Dr Burke added: "We are very keen to help protect badgers."



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## PERSONAL TRAGEDY SPURS ON GRADUATE



A UNIVERSITY graduate is gearing up for an ambitious personal challenge in June in aid of the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund. Rowena Thakore (22) has taken on the challenge of cycling 500 km in just 5 days across the harsh terrain of Iceland in support of what she regards as a very personal cause. After Rowena lost her grandmother to cancer, and very nearly lost her mother to the same disease, she has supported the valuable work of the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund and is committed to raising over £2000 for the charity. "Spending over 7 hours cycling up to 50 miles a day for 5 days, whilst camping at night in the harsh conditions of Iceland has to be the most crazy challenge I have ever accepted!" said Rowena, of Cranleigh, Surrey. "However, the motivation to know that I am able to help raise as much money as possible for the charity keeps me on my bike! It is a challenge in itself to raise the funds, but so far I am very grateful to have received really good support and have passed the half way marker." A sports enthusiast, Rowena was captain of the University badminton club and former treasurer of the Sports Association, and a member of the University swimming and netball teams. She gained a degree in Combined Science from the University. ■ Anyone interested in contributing to Rowena's cause can contact her on 01483 274673.

## 'ZERO TOLERANCE' POLICING ON AGENDA

EXPERTS in crime prevention met at a top level conference in Leicester to see if trans-Atlantic "Zero-tolerance" policing which has brought about a dramatic fall in crime in New York can do the same here.

The conference on May 20 was organised by the University's Scarman Centre for the Study of Public Order. It brought together speakers from New York, British police forces the Commission for Racial Equality, and Liberty.

Participants discussed the 'broken-windows' thesis which suggests that one broken window leads to further vandalism and then more serious criminal acts follow. Intervention against apparently mundane acts of anti-social behaviour can arrest a neighbourhood downward spiral of increasing criminality and disorder and diminish fear of crime.

While zero tolerance policing has some measure of political support, critics are concerned it only tackles the symptoms of a more deep-seated malaise, and may also erode civil liberties and adversely affect police-community relations, particularly in ethnically-diverse neighbourhoods, and diminish public support.

"The examined the different dimensions of a zero-tolerance strategy, and considered the best ways of promoting crime prevention, public safety and the policing of different communities," explained Dr Alice Hill, lecturer in policing and public safety in the Scarman Centre, who was one of the organisers.

Delegates from the police, local authorities, social services, education, shopping malls, chambers of commerce, and academics heard what zero-policing entails for different police forces and sectors of the community. They were told that zero-policing had led to a 38 per cent drop in crime in New York in three years.



MEETING: John Benyon and Eli Silverman.

## SARAH GETS GOLD

LOTS of hard work and determination paid off for History and Politics student Sarah Jones who has achieved the Gold Award in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. She received the award at a ceremony in London last month.

However, for the 20 year old from Mansfield in Nottinghamshire, completing the award scheme to Gold level was not a high priority when she first got involved through her school.

"I started by doing the Bronze Award with no intention of going any further. My teacher then suggested I continued on to Silver and then said 'well now you've got the Bronze and Silver, you might as well go for the Gold Award.'" She continued: "What helped was that I was already doing things that happened to fit into the Award requirements."

The Duke of Edinburgh Award requires the use of skills in three areas: service, physical and residential. Sarah explained: "The physical part was easy as I play hockey for the University. The service section involved teaching and training other people and for the residential element I did a history course for a week."

The final test was a 50 mile expedition on a North Yorkshire moor which involved being self sufficient for four days.

"It was at the end of October and very cold. You reach the point where you either stop or carry on.

When you get over the barrier it teaches you a lot - if you can cope with that then you can do anything."

Having completed the scheme, Sarah went to St James Palace in

London where she received her award and met the Duke of Edinburgh and radio presenter Ned Sherin.

By coincidence, three members of Sarah's school group that took part in scheme are now also studying at Leicester.

She found taking part in the scheme very rewarding and strongly recommends it. "It teaches a lot of skills such as team work and perseverance. It also builds confidence. It takes time but it's a worthwhile thing to have."

Sarah's next aim is to go travelling after she graduates later this year. "Doing the award has given me the confidence to go out and do things I would never previously considered."



AWARD WINNER: History and Politics student Sarah Jones.

Chris Smith

## SPACE MISSION PROVIDES 'ASTONISHING RESULTS'

INFORMATION about the stars that has come from the European Space Agency's Hipparcos satellite has been described as 'astonishing' by Leicester scientists working on the project.

Hipparcos is a milestone in the history of astronomy. In 1985 the American physicist Freeman J. Dyson hailed Hipparcos as the first major new development in space science to come from outside the United States.

The spacecraft operated in orbit from 1989-93, measuring the angles between stars in the sky. Over a further three years, computing teams across Europe generated a consistent, high-precision plot of 118,000 stars in the Hipparcos Catalogue and somewhat less accurate (but still unprecedented) data on a million stars in the Tycho Catalogue.

Dr Martin Barstow, of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, said: "The distances, motions, pairings and variability of stars are now known far more accurately than ever before. Hipparcos will make an impact on every branch of astronomy, from the Solar System to the history of the Universe, and especially on theories of stars and their evolution. For almost a year, astronomers most closely associated with the mission have had an early view of the completed catalogues and in Venice they summarised their initial results. The Hipparcos data will be published this month, as an extraordinary contribution from Europe to astronomy all around the world.

"Historically, astronomers have never been able to measure the vast distances to stars very accurately. The unprecedented precision of the Hipparcos observations will revolutionise what we know about interstellar distances."

## EXPERT MAKING WAVES IN CLIMATE RESEARCH



**MAKING WAVES:** Dr Lawrence is using satellite pictures to study waves and their effect on climate.

NEW research at the University could provide revolutionary answers about how massive waves influence our climate.

Dr Sean Lawrence, of the Physics and Astronomy Department, has received a £115,000 grant for an in-depth study of large-scale waves in the tropical Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

He believes that the waves - which can be thousands of kilometres wide and carry heat around the oceans - may well have an effect on the climate in distant Britain.

His research should provide new information about the mysteries surrounding our changing weather patterns.

The wide waves, which may be

## THE STARS ARE LOOKING YOUNGER

Already Hipparcos seems to cure a headache concerning the ages of stars. As recently as last year, astronomers were perplexed by a contradiction between their estimates of the age of the Universe, and stars that seemed to be older. An early Hipparcos result concerned the winking stars called Cepheids, used to measure cosmic distances. Corrections to the Cepheid distances made the Universe bigger and increased its age to 10-13 billion years, even according to the shorter of two rival scales from the Hubble Space Telescope. At the same time the Hipparcos Cepheid scale drastically reduced, from 14.6 billion years to about 11 billion years, the ages of the most ancient stars, occurring in globular clusters of stars that orbit independently around the centre of the Milky Way Galaxy.

Astronomers have been anxious to know if Hipparcos results on other kinds of stars would support these novel and reassuring conclusions from the Cepheids. A broad consensus seems to be emerging, although there may well be adjustments to make when more results are in and the discussion is carried further.

Martin Barstow and his colleagues at Leicester University have examined Hipparcos data on white dwarfs, which are the embers of burnt-out stars. At the time of their formation, white dwarfs glow at temperatures of hundreds of thousands of degrees C, and then spend billions of years cooling down, before they disappear from view. Good Hipparcos data on the distances of white dwarfs makes the theoretical picture of their evolution much more precise.

For example V471 Tauri is a double star, in which a white dwarf and an ordinary star, similar in size to the Sun, orbit around one another.

Both objects emit X-rays -- the sun-like star from its atmosphere and the white dwarf from its surface, which glows at 32000 degrees C. The Hipparcos distance of V471 Tauri (153 light-years) prompts calculations showing that the white dwarf is only 30 per cent wider than the Earth.

Yet it is 230,000 times more massive, and its gravity is a million times stronger than at the Earth's surface. From the diameters of this and other white dwarfs a cooling rate appears, and an age for the oldest and coolest white dwarfs which is less than 11 billion years.

Although this age is about the same as that suggested by the Cepheid distance scale, visible white dwarfs are not the oldest stars in the Galaxy. Those examined by Barstow and his Leicester colleagues exist in the disk that makes the band of the Milky Way across the sky.

Astronomers believe that some stars on independent orbits, among the so-called halo stars and the globular clusters, are older than the disk.

only centimetres high, are thought to give rise to adverse weather by indirectly influencing the storm tracks from North America to Europe, which form the very basis of our regional climate.

Dr Lawrence is using satellite pictures, along with state-of-the-art computer simulations, to aid understanding how the waves are generated. The work is helping to predict how they affect the atmosphere across the globe.

Dr Lawrence said:

"These waves have been known about for some years. They provide a driving engine for the whole climate. They are hard to measure and we are using space technology to achieve that."

Dr Lawrence has been studying the phenomenon since 1989. The substantial grant from the Natural Environment Research Council is phased over three years.

## NEW BOAT IS SIMPLY 'MAGIC'

DELIGHTED students at the University have taken possession of a new £8000 rowing boat.

Members of the University's Rowing Club have just acquired the new vessel which was launched officially on May 7 by the Vice-Chancellor Dr Kenneth Edwards.

It will benefit the club's 150 members, many of whom take part in national rowing competitions across the country.

Former club captain Mr Luke Cox said: "We are very grateful to the University and the Union's sports association for sponsoring the new boat. Members of the club also raised a total of £2,500 towards the final cost of the boat.

"Our previous boat was bought eight years ago and was quite dilapidated. Now we are off to a racing start in any competition with this latest boat."

Luke, a third year Geology student, said the boat would be named *The Magic Sponge* after the University's sports retail outlets which put profits towards the boat.

"The boatclub has been revamped through a lottery grant and now, with this new boat, we have excellent facilities," he added.

University sports and recreation manager Mr Colin



**IN ACTION:** Members of the University's Rowing Club in action on the new boat.

Hide said: "The University's rowing club is very successful indeed and has done well in several competitions. The members are very hard working and train in all weathers. We were delighted to be supporting them."

**CONGRATULATIONS :** The Vice-Chancellor with captain Norman Byrd, a medical student, at the naming ceremony for *The Magic Sponge* at The Leicester Rowing Club, Upperton Road, Leicester.



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76 High Street, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6AS

Arncliffe House, 9 Spencer Parade, Northampton NNI 5AH

## LESLEY REACHES NEW HEIGHTS

**THERE** seems to be no limit to the number of ways members of University staff try to 'escape' from the University. Lesley Dexter, of the Department of Engineering, is pictured abseiling down the Attenborough Tower.

Lesley was among 30 volunteers who went on the sponsored abseil in aid of Rainbows, the East Midlands Children's Hospice. She raised more than £200 towards the total of nearly £3,500 for the charity.

The sponsored abseil was conducted under strict Army supervision despite gale force winds - and lightning! Lesley said: "It was pretty scary- but I enjoyed it."



Picture: Paul Smith

## DEDICATED STUDENTS DEVOTE TIME TO HELPING OTHERS

TWO dedicated students from the University have rejuvenated a volunteer organisation which links the campus with local community charitable projects.

Contact (Student Community Action) provides a variety of placements for students. This includes working with the elderly, with children in playgroup and reading activities, helping the homeless, working with people with disabilities and student shadowing - providing opportunities for school students who may never have considered going on to university a chance to experience university life.

Thanks to the hard work of president Ms Angie Jones, 31, a politics and economic history student, and vice president/treasurer Ms Bal Panesar, a 20-year-old law student, Contact

has been transformed from just two members at the start of the academic year to 150 volunteers and a full committee.

Contact's difficulties at the start of the year arose because the leadership had consisted of third years who had graduated en masse, leaving only two members. The

two students rejuvenated Contact, brought in new members and, in addition to an overhaul of the group's structure and administration, new equipment was bought for the office. ID cards



**LOCAL LINK:** Angie, left, and Bal, the students who rejuvenated Contact, in action at a local school.



**RECOGNITION:** Representatives of the University and Union gathered for the presentation of a cheque for £500 by the Everard Foundation to Contact.

were introduced in the interests of security and to reassure the organisations the students work with, such as those involving children.

A special Everard Foundation Community Award has been presented every year to Contact to help fund the organisation. This year Richard Everard, on behalf of the Trustees of the Foundation, presented the 1997 award on 1 May.

"Contact is very grateful to the Everard Foundation for supporting our activities. Not only does its funding allow us the scope to do things we are otherwise unable to do, it also reminds our volunteers that our work is appreciated in the local community," said Angie.

From their office in the University of Leicester's Students' Union volunteers are organised for working with groups such as Menphys Saturday Morning Playgroup - for children with disabilities, the Anchor Association for ex-offenders, schools, Age Concern, Mencap and Leicester Nightshelter, an emergency hostel project in the community.

Clare Taylor, the University's senior welfare officer, said: "The students get a lot of very useful experience by joining Contact. This year has been particularly successful. By working in such a wide variety of areas, with the elderly, children, homeless and sick, it can lead on to a full time career after they graduate. Most importantly, however, is the way that the students spend their free time putting something back into the community."

## NEW STUDY ADVANCES RESEARCH INTO COT DEATHS

THE Department of Child Health at the University is involved in a new study into how babies control their breathing.

The Department has a long-established interest in this area, with much of the research programme being funded by the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths. The new project will look for changes in how closely babies can control their breathing between the ages of 6 and 18 weeks, which encompasses the age at which Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (Cot Death) is most common. There is a theory that babies may transiently become less sensitive to changes in oxygen levels, and it is this theory which will be examined.

Dr Caroline Beardsmore, lecturer in Child Health, explains: "We are able to measure the control of breathing in the laboratory, but now we are going to mobilise our test so can take it into the home. This means that we

will be able to make repeated measurements on the babies as they develop, to see if they do indeed go through a period of vulnerability.

"We would like to study a small number of babies before the end of the year, to help us decide if a major study is justifiable.

"Babies will be studied during a nap, in their own surroundings, so we will be causing minimal disruption. Every parent knows that babies do not go to sleep on order, so patience is essential for this work!"

Information about the breathing is collected onto computer from two stretchy bands worn around the chest and stomach while the baby is asleep. These signals are annualised, and the resulting data subjected to rigorous statistical testing by Dr John Thompson, senior lecturer in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health and an expert medical statistician. Results are expected early next year.



**CARING:** Dr Caroline Beardsmore with a young volunteer from an ongoing project.

■ Anyone who is expecting a baby during the summer and who is interested in finding out more about the project is asked to contact Dr Beardsmore at the Department of Child Health, Clinical Sciences Building, Leicester Royal Infirmary.

# Business Bulletin

## MUSIC AND SHOPPING BEHAVIOUR

### 'Which Wine Goes on Your Chopin Liszt?'

**The Effect of Musical Appropriateness on In-Store Wine Selections**  
**Dr Adrian C North, Dr David J Hargreaves, and Ms Jennifer McKendrick**

**Department of Psychology, University of Leicester**

**This study is part of a series which examines the effects of music on consumer behaviour. Future studies will be funded jointly by the Performing Rights Society and Phonographic Performance Ltd**

PSYCHOLOGISTS at the University have tested a theory that music can influence product choice - with startling results.

They set up a wine display at a superstore in Leicester, and discovered that playing French or German music influenced the choice of wine bought by customers.

The team from the Department of Psychology's Music Research Group followed up a small number of earlier studies which suggested that music might prime the selection of certain products if it 'fits' their image.

Dr Adrian North, a

lecturer in psychology, said: "To test this theory, we set up an aisle-end display in a superstore. On one side of the display were four different French white wines, and on the other were four different German white wines. The wines were matched for price and also their degree of sweetness/dryness.

"Over two weeks we played French and German music from a small tape deck on the display. Music presentation was counter-balanced such that e.g. French

music was played on the first Monday whilst German music was played on the second Monday. We then measured the sales of French and German wines from the display."

The researchers discovered that appropriate music guided wine choice. Dr Hargreaves, Reader in Psychology, said: "The results were clear. When French music

was played then sales of French wine outnumbered sales of German wine by 3.33 to 1; when German music was played then sales of German wine outnumbered sales of French wine by 2.75 to 1."

Dr Hargreaves added: "We also approached shoppers after they had selected one of the wines from the display, and asked them to complete a short questionnaire. Although this data has not been

analysed fully as yet, one clear finding is that customers were unaware of the effect that music apparently had on their behaviour. For example, in response to the question 'Why did you select that particular type of wine?', only one customer cited the music. Similarly, when customers were

asked explicitly to state whether they thought the music had influenced their choice then only two people thought that it had.

In conclusion, people are more likely to select particular products when the background music 'fits' them, although this effect may be unconscious."

## The Effect of Music on Atmosphere and Purchase Intentions in a Cafeteria

**THIS study by the same team of psychologists investigated the effect of music on the perceived characteristics of a commercial listening environment and on customers' purchase intentions.**

**"We played classical music, Britpop, easy listening and also no music in the University Student Union cafeteria over the course of four days. Different types of music produced different types of 'image' for the cafeteria," explained Dr North.**

"Classical music led to the cafe being perceived as upmarket, whereas Britpop led to the cafe being perceived as lively. Customers were also asked to say how much they would be prepared to spend for 14 different items that were on sale. Classical music and Britpop again led to the highest amounts.

Finally there was some evidence that

**classical music and Britpop increased actual sales."**

Some of the potential of this research is discussed in the book by David Hargreaves and Adrian North, *The Social Psychology of Music*, which was published last month by Oxford University Press.



**SOUND RESEARCH:** Dr David Hargreaves, left, and Dr Adrian North commanded considerable media attention for their notable study.

| NUMBER OF BOTTLES SOLD |              |              |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                        | French Music | German Music |
| French Wine            | 40           | 12           |
| German Wine            | 8            | 22           |

## EPIC PROJECT THAT LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

SCIENTISTS from the University are hopeful for a successful launch of Ariane V in June - following the disaster of the Ariane V Cluster mission last year.

Dr Martin Turner of the Department of Physics and Astronomy said a new £10 million space camera system had been developed and was due to go into orbit on the Ariane V in 1999. The European Photon Imaging Camera, or EPIC, will form part of the European Space Agency's £450 million XMM project - a massive satellite the size of a lorry which will circle the earth every 48 hours, reaching one third of the way to the moon.

It will be equipped with a trio of telescopes which will feed images to the £10 million camera system, EPIC, made at the University. Dr Turner said: "The whole satellite is an X-ray telescope, and our cameras determine the X-ray colours of whatever we look at, from an exploding star to a whole cluster of galaxies.

"The X-ray colours tell us what elements the object is made of, so we can look deep into the universe and find out what it is made of."

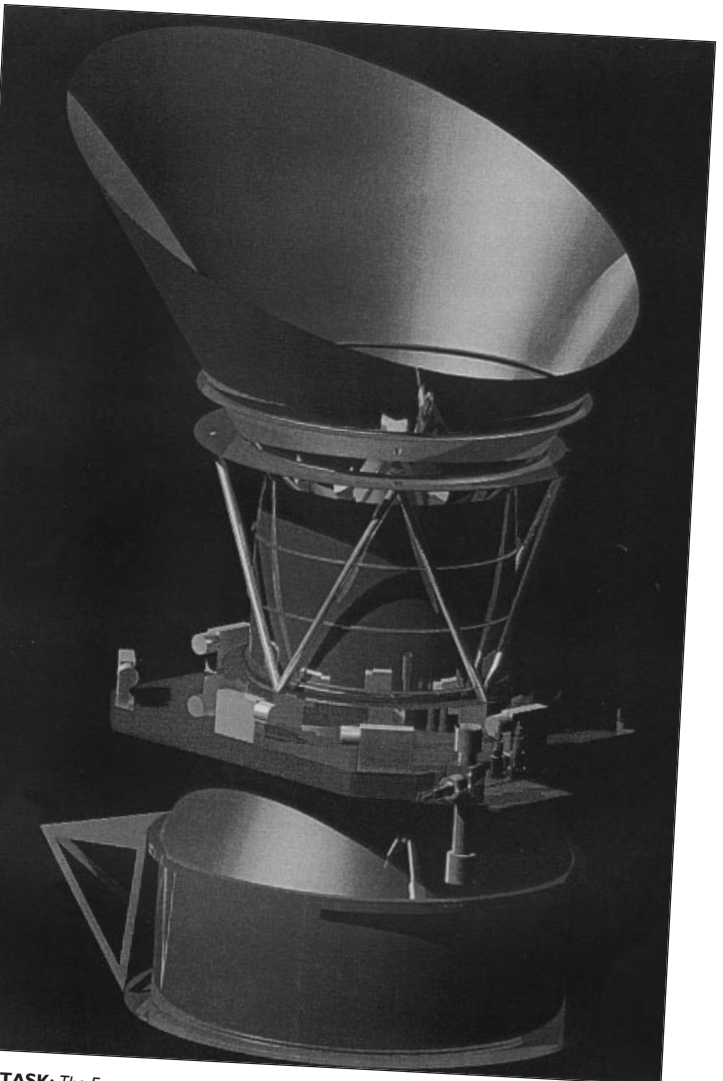
EPIC consists of three CCD cameras placed at the foci of the XMM mirrors; the cameras are the means by which XMM takes its images of the X-ray sky. EPIC has been made by a consortium of

four countries - Italy, France, Germany and the UK.

The responsibility of the UK is to provide the sensor heads and analogue electronics for two of the EPIC cameras. Leicester University has linked up with EEV Ltd in the development of this technology. Said Dr Turner: "The X-ray CCDs have taken a decade to develop to the point where they provide a unique resource to science.

"The CCDs are fabricated at EEV and then calibrated and tested at Leicester using special facilities built up over the years of collaboration. This collaboration is a genuine partnership between University and Industry, with each providing the elements it does best. Applications of these CCDs, for example to materials analysis, are being explored."

Dr Turner added that CCDs have to be cooled to about minus 100 degrees for X-ray work, and the camera designed and made at Leicester cools the CCDs using only the cold of space. To do this using radiators (which are the most obvious external feature of EPIC) required careful thermal design, a joint activity of Leicester and Birmingham universities. The radiators and some other parts are designed and made at



**EPIC TASK:** The European Photon Imaging Camera developed using University expertise

Birmingham while the cameras are designed and assembled at Leicester University with much of the metal working being done in small industry - spreading the

ability to make components to Space quality into SMEs.

## FROM OUTER SPACE TO DENTISTRY

**DERIVATIVES** of the Charge Coupled Devices (CCDs) developed and manufactured by EEV Limited in conjunction with University space scientists for use as detectors in advanced space telescopes, are now being used by dentists for X-rays as a replacement for film.

CCDs, which are also used in video cameras and other imaging equipment, are small silicon chips with a two-dimensional array of pixels (sensors) that detect light and translate it into an electronic charge which can then be recorded electronically. They are much more sensitive and much faster than photographic film.

The higher sensitivity of CCDs means that the patients need only receive 20% of the X-ray dose associated with traditional techniques. An additional significant advantage is that the image is provided instantly, with no waiting to get the picture developed. The new CCD devices are being marketed to a number of dental equipment manufacturers in several countries worldwide.

The University has been involved in the development of CCDs for the past 10 years. Working with EEV, a subsidiary of GEC plc, CCDs have been developed for two major space telescopes, the Joint European X-ray telescope (JET-X) and the X-ray Multi-Mirror (XMM), both of which are due to be launched this decade. These CCDs offer uniquely high detection efficiencies on a large area format to provide efficient focal plane coverage.

The University also collaborated with Cambridge Consultants (CC) to develop the on-board CCD and data processing electronics for these space telescopes. The electronic systems provide the correct drive inputs to the CCD detector arrays and also process the CCD X-ray data into a format that can be transmitted down to the ground for analysis. CC have also developed a novel way of processing the CCD data to achieve lower noise levels.

# OUT & ABOUT

**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.**

## ADULT EDUCATION

### The Rise and Fall of Towns in Roman Britain

Living in towns was not an entirely new experience for the indigenous population of a newly-conquered Roman Britain, but doing it the classical way was an acquired taste. During Leicester's 'holiday fortnight' the Department of Adult Education offers a chance to savour Roman town life. On Monday 30 June participants will get to know what life was like in Leicester, with a tour of Jewry Wall Museum and site, followed on Tuesday 1 July by a trip to Aquae Sulis (Bath), and a look at the Amphitheatre and Corinium Museum at Cirencester. Course tutor is Nick Cooper, from the School of Archaeological Studies. More details can be obtained by ringing Vaughan College (0116 251 7368).

## ECONOMICS

At the beginning of April Professor Wojciech Charemza of the Economics Department and Professor Victoria Parkhomenko of the University of Kiev, organised a Conference at the University of Kiev, Ukraine (formerly part of the USSR). The Conference brought together researchers from Western and Eastern European countries working on the project entitled "Econometric Inference into the Macroeconomic Dynamics of CIS Economies" and included sessions on the modelling of national economies, inflation, exchange rates and other issues. Dr David Pyle, Dean of the Faculty of the Social Sciences, gave a paper entitled "An economic explanation of crime levels in Russian and Ukraine". The Conference was funded by the

# Out & About

European Commission ACE-TACIS Project.

Professor Stephen Pudney of the Department recently presented a paper at the Royal Economic Society Conference at Staffordshire University. The paper by Professor Pudney entitled "Employers, Workers and Unions" is part of an ongoing project funded by the ESRC and the European Commission, looking at survey data to investigate the role of union recognition and membership in

labour market decisions.

Professor Clive Fraser presented a paper entitled "Revisiting the Club: Second best Provision of Congestible and Excludable Goods" during the 3rd Annual Institute of Fiscal Studies/Warwick Public Economics Weekend (25-26 April) at the University of Warwick. The 50 presenters, discussants and participants were leading Public Finance specialists from the UK, America and Canada. The Conference was

funded by Warwick University, the Economic and Social Research Council, the Institute of Fiscal Studies and the Barents Group which is a policy analysis subsidiary of KPMG Accountants.

*Janet Wimperis*

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION Report on Socrates Programme Visit to Finland, April 1997 – A link with Professors Pekka Niemi and Katri Sarmavuori at Abo Akademi and Turku University, Turku, Finland

This second visit aimed to develop further the work begun on a first Erasmus exchange in August 1995 to the University of Turku Centre for Learning Research. At that time a series of action research projects was communicated to teachers and researchers in Turku.

The visit included an invited guest lecture in Helsinki to introduce research on Family Reading Groups to a multidiscipline group of professionals with a shared interest in promoting the study of literature and children's love of reading.

## CAREERS

### Careers Week 9 June - 13 June, including Careers Information and Recruitment Fair (Tuesday 10 June)

Leicester University Careers Service will be holding its now well established annual Careers Week from 9 June to 13 June 1997. There is a whole range of workshops, presentations and insight courses for students to attend run by employers, careers advisers, and student learning centre officers.

Additionally there is a Careers Information Fair, which this year is expanded to include the collaboration of De Montfort University for an enhanced event encompassing both information and recruitment. A wide range of employers will be taking part. Last year around 700 Leicester University students attended so even higher figures will be expected for this year with the inclusion of De Montfort University students.

Workshops during the week include sessions on applications and interviews, career choice, teamwork skills, assertiveness, and presentation skills. There are insight courses on accountancy (run by the leading firm Coopers and Lybrand), and retailing (Marks and Spencer) and the selling profession (also run by employers in the field). In short, we hope, something for everyone.

In addition to poster publicity and broadcasts on student radio, the Careers Service organises a mailshot to all penultimate, final year and postgraduate students with information about all the activities that are taking place.



**IN SIGHT OF A CAREER:** *Careers Week and Fair - coming shortly.*

*John Constantinou*

## Main Events and Outcomes

The busy schedule for the eight days included a substantial number of school visits in both Helsinki and Turku, talks with teachers, teaching pupils, collaborative discussions with researchers, guest lectures with teacher educators in Turku's Normal School (Teacher-Training school) and the main invited guest lecture in Helsinki at the Reading Centre in the Villa Kivi, the city's Writers' House, which is in a protected old style wooden building on the lake-side maintained as a cultural centre for meeting of writers and teachers and housing an exhibition of portraits of Finnish writers.

The school visits were to both elementary and secondary schools in Helsinki and Turku, and to a nursery/early education centre attached to an 'all through' school in Helsinki. On all visits, the idea of Family Reading Groups (FRGs) was welcome and, in particular, the idea of having a Parents' Room in schools was considered to be a helpful suggestion, possibly to be adopted. The FRG idea was anticipated by one school as likely to be helpful for including 'godparents' for pupils whose own parents might not be in a position to attend FRGs with them. In this proposed adaptation of the model, the school staff suggested that the local Residential Home for the elderly, already a part of the school community life, would become involved in FRGs.

Finland's largest circulation daily newspaper, the Helsinki *Sanamat* published a full report and picture, which further assisted in disseminating in Finland, the findings of research on FRGs in the UK. Visits to the Abo Akademi Psychology Department and Turku University's Centre for Learning Research built on previous work, furthered the writing of joint papers and laid the foundations for future CPD links in addition to continuing exchanges between researchers and teacher educators. Copies of some recently published papers on reading; decoding, comprehension and motivation; writing; and on language learning

have been brought back from the Centre for Learning Research, and these may be borrowed, by arrangement with Morag Hunter-Carsch.

## INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR MANAGEMENT, LAW AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

### Anniversary Celebrations

This year, the International Centre celebrates its 10th Anniversary, with a Dinner to be held on the evening of Saturday 5 July at the Grand Hotel, Leicester. The 10th Anniversary Dinner marks the beginning of a 1997/98 programme of events designed to meet continuing professional development needs of the graduates from the MA/LLM in Law and Employment Relations and the MA/LLM in European Management and Employment Law courses, whilst at the same time endeavouring to keep graduates in contact with the Centre and the University.

### Centre Newsletter

Newly launched, the Centre's Newsletter aims to provide current news and information about its activities, its staff, students, and graduates. Issue No 1 was published in the Spring, and includes a programme of events from Summer 1997 to Spring 1998.

### Centre Internet Site

The Centre has had its own World Wide Web internet site for the last year (<http://www.le.ac.uk/depts/ic/>), giving information about the current postgraduate courses and regular programme. Internet users can also obtain details about the wide range of research activities, as well as information about recent publications by staff and graduates. The International Centre also hosts the World Wide Web site for the European Association of Labour Court Judges.

## CENTRE FOR LABOUR MARKET STUDIES

Course members from South Africa commenced the Centre's MSc Course at the end of February. Associate Professor

## EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT CENTRE Teaching and Learning Unit



**FOCUS ON WRITING:** Richard Clark, Assistant Director, introducing the first session of a year-long initiative in April 1997.

Representatives from more than twenty University departments and services gathered last month for the launch of the Teaching & Learning Unit's *Focus on Writing* programme. The launch marked the beginning of a year-long initiative to explore the development of students' writing skills across the University. The full programme of events will include sessions for both staff and students, drawing upon the considerable expertise that already exists within the University, developing new resources and promoting collaboration between academic departments and the central support services.

Richard Clark, the Assistant Director of the Teaching and Learning Unit, described the aim of the *Focus on Writing* initiative as being to "encourage staff from across the University to talk about the current standard of students' written work and to share effective ways of developing students' writing skills." Commenting on the launch, Annie Grant, Director of the Education Development and Support Centre, said "it was very reassuring to have so many departments represented at these important discussions. We hope that the launch has paved the way for more activity in this area."

A report of the launch session, together with details of the full programme is available from the Teaching & Learning Unit (Tel: 5232, email: [rpc3@le](mailto:rpc3@le)).

Richard Clark



Four final-year students from the School of Modern Languages have been accepted on the JET Scheme, to teach English in Japan next year. From left: Laura Griffin, Alex Allan, Tanya Race, Sophie Longstaff-Tyrrell.

# OUT & ABOUT

Georges Economides, from the Institute of Training Management (South Africa) CC, provides local support to a total of 17 course members, the first intake of which have just completed their first year and are submitting dissertation proposals. Margaret Black, MSc Course Leader for South Africa, says "we are eagerly anticipating that the dissertations will produce interesting and valuable insights into training and human resource management in the new South Africa, and we are looking forward to working with course members on their research."

## STUDENTS RUN FOR CHARITY

**THIRD-YEAR** medical student **Michael Simms (22)**, from **Hertford**, was one of several students to run in this year's **London Marathon**. He and



**Charlie Taylor**, a first year languages student, secured their places on the run through a charity. He said: "Running a marathon for charity is something I have always wanted to do. I raised £250 for a Parkinson's Disease charity group." **Michael** finished in 4 hours 23 minutes while **Charlie Taylor**, a former international athlete for Wales, finished in 3 hours 56 minutes. Other students that ran this year included **Joanne Cook** and **Jaish Mahan**, both medical students.

*Melanie Taylor*

## POLITICS DEPARTMENT

### The Elsie & Barnett Janner Travel Scholarship in Politics 1997

This scholarship, awarded annually for a travel project by a student studying Politics, has been won jointly by Jill Murdoch and Zoë Brooks, both of whom are second-year students. Jill is a BA Politics student and Zoë a Combined Arts student.

The students will be travelling to Strasbourg and Brussels to study the effect of "the Workings of the European Parliament's Committee on Women's Rights". The award, which is funded by the Elsie and Barnett Janner Charitable Trust, is worth £1,000.

*Renie Lewis*

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING UNIT

### Language Services Unit

#### Languages for All

Students on ERASMUS/SOCRATES study programmes are coming to Leicester University in increasing numbers each year, and anyone who has been involved with students on the ERASMUS programme will have noted their high levels of proficiency in English. In contrast, the number of home students spending time in other EU countries is considerably smaller, and there is evidence to suggest that one of their reasons for this is their lack of confidence in speaking a foreign language. Opting out of such a valuable study period abroad is not only unfortunate but potentially damaging to future career prospects within the EU.

The University is anxious to remedy this situation, and has expressed commitment to a languages for all policy in its mission statement. The Language Services Unit is therefore offering a range of 10-credit courses in French, Spanish, Italian and German. These are specifically aimed at attracting out-going SOCRATES students, but are open to all students interested in gaining credits in a foreign language. Classes will run in the early evening so that those with heavy day-time lecture/lab commitments may attend. The emphasis will be on the development of oral skills and will be related directly to the language needed to cope on a day-to-day basis in a foreign country. Students will also have use of the excellent facilities of the Self Access Centre. These include satellite TV, computer-assisted language learning and audio/video packages.

Departments throughout the University are invited to think about the language learning opportunities they offer to their students as part of their degree programmes. The LSU would be delighted to discuss requests for specific courses, particularly if provision can be made for time-tabling

within the normal working day.

For details of the above courses and all other courses offered (eg lunch-time classes for all-comers, inc. staff), please contact the Secretary (telephone: 2845 or e.mail: [language.services@le.ac.uk](mailto:language.services@le.ac.uk))

Throughout the month of May, the English Language Teaching Unit ran an intensive English

course for two groups of teachers from Seine-Maritime in France. The programme, funded by LINGUA, was arranged in conjunction with Leicestershire County Council Education Department, and consists of language tuition in the mornings,



followed by an extensive afternoon programme of visits to places of interest in Leicestershire. The teachers each stayed with a host family in Leicester so that they could practice their language skills and experience the British way of life.

The visitors were all teachers in primary education in France, and were here as a result of educational initiatives in France to offer English tuition at primary level. In some schools in Seine-Maritime, English has been taught to 10-year-olds since 1990, but the plan is now to offer English from the age of eight. The visit, aimed at training the teachers needed, was the first step in the implementation of the programme.

In addition to improving language skills, the ELTU course offered insights into British culture and training in the teaching of English to young learners. The teachers were particularly keen to improve their pronunciation, and found the new facilities in the Self Access Centre invaluable.

The French co-ordinator, Mme Leone Hamel, is keen to maintain the Leicester link, and plans are underway to run a similar course here next year.

*Martin Kenworthy*

## GENETICS

Sandy Davis, Departmental Secretary, has been awarded a three-year Earthwatch Millennium Fellowship. This award will enable Sandy to work alongside scientists as a field assistant on an Earthwatch field project lasting two weeks in September. The project which Sandy has chosen will take her to the Caribbean to study the Manicou crab, an amphibious freshwater crustacean of the tropical rainforests of Trinidad and Tobago.



The Millennium Awards, set up by the Millennium Commission, are grants which enable individuals to make a real contribution to their communities whilst fulfilling their own personal aspirations. Earthwatch is a Millennium Award scheme partner and was awarded around £1.4 million to reward and motivate over 500 teachers and education officers by involving them in hand-on scientific field research. Sandy is a part-time post-graduate student and also teaches adults GCSE Environmental Studies one evening a week at Wreake Valley Community College.

## DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE



**DISCUSSING STRATEGIES:** Dr Richard Baker (far left), Dr Francine Cheater (second left) and Professor Robin C Fraser (far right) welcome Dr Graham Winyard and Yvonne Moores to the Eli Lilly Centre.

Mrs Yvonne Moores, Chief Nursing Officer, and Dr Graham Winyard, Medical Director, NHE Executive, visited the Eli Lilly National Clinical Audit Centre, Department of General Practice and Primary Health Care on 2 April. The purpose of their visit was to hear about the work being undertaken at the Lilly Audit Centre. The discussions centred on methods to support the development of an evidence-based audit to improve the quality of health care, with particular attention being paid to the programme of trials the Centre is undertaking to evaluate strategies for improving the performance of health professionals.

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

SO, you've had the good news - in nine months' time the ultimate responsibility is yours to cherish as the proverbial stork pays a visit; in nine months' time you will finally reach the Rubicon of inescapable adulthood, and during these nine months you must face the anguish of bestowing a name upon your little bundle of joy.

Where then, can you seek inspiration for such an important decision? Do you flick through the obligatory books of names? Peruse a list of recent royal choices? Consult the Bible? Nominate a favourite celebrity? Or forever cast embarrassment upon the innocent victim by christening it after auntie Ethel? According to Dr David Hargreaves, Reader in Psychology at Leicester, names, like the clothes we wear, are subject to the cycles of fashion. "If you are called Susan, Judith, or Janet, the chances are that you were born in the fifties, and, while these names are less popular now, they may well surface again in a number of years." So, unless you are

particularly sadistic, Ethel is not likely to be your first choice.

Yet how does a fashion begin? Dr Hargreaves suggests that "Some names stem from popular culture, for example: in the eighties, while Jamie Lee Curtis, and Jamie Summers (TV's bionic woman) were popular, Jamie became a fashionable name."

Dr Hargreaves' work on names was part of a larger study of people's everyday likes and dislikes. "People feel more comfortable with the familiar; names come into fashion and grow in popularity because they become known, in short, they snowball and then decline



"...I see a future in newspapers for a child named Rupert..."

once again."

This year's 'top ten' list of names published by the Office of National Statistics in January

shows that the choices for boys' names are generally more conservative than those for girls. While Jack is number one, the majority are biblical - Daniel, Joshua, James, Samuel, and Joseph are all in the top ten. The top seven are unchanged since 1995, and it's only through the biggest rock band in the country,

Oasis, that influence by popular culture can be found as Liam makes its first ever 'top ten' entry. The girls' list is less formal, with Sophie topping the chart, and with Chloe, Lauren, Hannah, Megan, and Shannon all in the top

ten - is it coincidence that all these names have featured in Australian soaps recently? Let's hope that there aren't too many Posh or Scary Spices taking their first breaths this year.

However, there is a flip side to famous names. Dr Hargreaves comments that "For obvious reasons, the name Adolf is not the first choice of every parent, and Idi (Amin) or Saddam may also be unpopular."

No matter how you look at it the choice is never an easy one. The name may go out of fashion, or a certain Neighbours star may be written out of the series. For boys, the decision is easier - a solid biblical name is the most likely choice. For girls, if you are going to go with popular culture, for their sake, try to avoid Paula Yates' choice of Heavenly Hiraani Tiger Lily!

Stephen Lakelin

# FEATURES

## 5\* SUCCESS IN NEW DEPARTMENT

**Professor Stefan Nahorski talks to Jane Pearson about the development of one of the University's youngest departments which obtained the top rating in the recent RAE.**

It was a restructuring exercise within the Faculty of Medicine which gave birth to the new Department of Cell Physiology and Pharmacology in 1993. Like Pre-clinical Sciences, it evolved from elements of the departments of Physiology, Anatomy, and Pharmacology and Therapeutics, as a result of changes in research strategy coupled with curriculum changes in medical teaching at the University.

The reasons for this were twofold. In relation to research, it was felt appropriate to draw together researchers working at cellular and molecular levels as distinct from those working on intact tissues and/or the whole organism. This coincided with a revision of the medical teaching programme, involving less formal lecturing, an integrated curriculum and more task-related work for students.

Four new appointments since its inception have brought the total number of academic staff in the Department to 12. Speaking of staffing, Professor Stefan Nahorski, Head of Department, said, "We have appointed relatively young staff who we believe are entering the 'fast-track' in research.

Furthermore, in each case, the new research complements and enhances existing strengths. We were lucky to be able to make good key appointments for the future."

Although the total department now comprises approximately 70 people, it is dominated by research staff, many of whom are on short term contracts. These

are funded by grants awarded by MRC, BBSRC, Wellcome Trust, Royal Society and other sources. "The Department has also been successful in attracting a number of longer-term Research Fellows who are developing independent programmes here and these are crucial to a

top department of Pharmacology with that at University College, London. It reflects the

restructuring in part, but particularly, the outstanding overall contribution of all members of the Department."

The focus of research in the Department is to understand the mechanisms of cell function

### spotlight



**RECEPTORS:** Professor Stefan Nahorski with Dr Ken Young examining receptor signalling in single cells.

successful research department", Professor Nahorski continued. "Since 1993 we have also tried to develop a strong body of research support staff, several laboratories have been refurbished and we have centralised and developed specialist areas."

The Department celebrated the culmination of its success with a

5\* rating in the most recent Research Assessment Exercise. This rating is defined by HEFCE as "research quality

that equates to an attainment of international excellence in a majority of subject areas of activity and attainable levels of national excellence in all others."

Professor Nahorski added: "We are obviously delighted with this outcome which puts us as equal

been genetically modified to probe their function," explained Professor Nahorski.

"Three major areas of research exist in the new department. Researchers are exploring the responses of receptors and cell signalling. Cells 'talk' to each other by way of chemical 'messengers', and receptors are the specific proteins which receive these messages," Professor Nahorski explained. "We are interested in how they respond and the mechanisms of regulation of the responses".

Research teams in Cell Physiology and Pharmacology are also interested in the movement of ions across cell membranes which again is fundamental to signalling. In particular, there is much emphasis on the nature and regulation of ion channels, particularly those that regulate the movement of K<sup>+</sup> (charged species of potassium) through such channels.

Thirdly, they are exploring how these systems relate to the function of various specified cells e.g. smooth muscle and various nerve cell systems in the brain.

"Hopefully, this basic work will provide clues to



**CHANNELS AND NEUROSCIENCE:** Dr Ian Forsythe detecting signals between brain cells.

(physiology) and to identify potential targets for drugs (pharmacology). "Some people focus on smooth muscle cells, some on nerve cells and others work on model cells that have

understanding mechanisms in cardiovascular disease and various brain disorders. For example, in two projects staff are involved in understanding the mechanisms

# FEATURES

underlying arthritic pain and other work may shed light on epilepsy, stroke and perhaps schizophrenia and depression".

Research grant income for the department has trebled between 1992 and 1996. "There has been a very big increase in external funding which has allowed us to appoint more research fellows and research assistants", Professor Nahorski pointed out. "We have also doubled the number of our PhD student. That has contributed to our 5\* rating and this in turn helps us to recruit new people. We are getting a lot of

enquiries, and I feel we can now get the best post-graduate and post-doctoral researchers. As a smallish department, we depend heavily on external research funding. Our current research income is now about £5 million, some of which is long term but it means we have to remain very competitive."

One result of the growth in research staff and research income is that almost all research based in the department now has international links, with a constant stream of visiting scientists staying in Leicester from 6 months to 2 years. In addition, staff are represented on the editorial boards of no fewer than 12 international journals.

**L**INKS are not only with other university researchers. Cell Physiology and Pharmacology is also now receiving an increasing number of unsolicited enquiries from industry, as Professor Nahorski explained.

"The funding of research in areas such as biology and medicine is increasingly being linked to industry by the past and present governments under

schemes such as Technology Foresight. This does not mean direct contract work but also a rather broader partnership with industry. In the future it is very clear that major funding initiatives will be linked increasingly in this way. We already have links with the bigger pharmaceutical



**INSIGHT:** Pam White, from the department, brought her daughter Gemma to work during Take Your Daughter to Work Day in April. Gemma was able to get first hand experience of what goes on in cell culture.

companies like Roche Bioscience and Glaxo Wellcome. Fisons in Loughborough has recently been taken over by the Swedish company, Astra and we are forging links with them. Swedish companies are more used to university partnerships than UK companies and they have agreed to fund several laboratories in the Medical School. They will again support basic research and not just research linked to the company's products. There are, of course, pros and cons to basic research operating hand-in-hand with industry, but on the whole I think it is an important way forward."

Internally, too, the Department collaborates with other departments and centres, such as the Centre for Mechanisms of Human Toxicity, and the Departments of Biochemistry, Medicine and Therapeutics and Psychology. "Gone are the days when we can hide behind departmental fences and hope to compete internationally," concluded Professor Nahorski.

In addition to research, the Department has a strong commitment to undergraduate

teaching with not only contributions to the new medical curriculum but a major input to Biological Sciences courses. "The Department alone contributes 5 courses to science students in physiology and pharmacology. We have introduced a new second year course in

pharmacology for next year and there are strong plans afoot for closer teaching links with Psychology, developing a degree in psychology and neuroscience, in which the newly appointed Professor of Behavioural Neuroscience, Michael Joseph, will be involved, as well as the Department of Pre-Clinical Sciences. This new

course is planned to start by 1999. We believe it will be an excellent recruiting course that will also forge links in the general area of neuroscience.

"Also, by the turn of the century, we hope to run a degree in Physiology and Pharmacology. We would be very interested in advice from industry on the types of students and skills they look for. Students could work for a whole or half-year in industry, and our links with Astra Charnwood would be important here."


There is no doubt that the Department of Cell Physiology and Pharmacology is growing in all directions. It may still be thought of as a new department, but Professor Nahorski leaves no doubt as to the energy and drive behind its expansion into the new millennium.

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*Leicester University Conferences*

## ANNIVERSARY TWINNING

BY DR LES BOOTH, LEICESTER  
UNIVERSITY RESIDENT DIRECTOR

**I**n June 1987 Sunway College, a privately owned college, first opened its doors in Petaling Jaya, a suburb of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Created by the then Dato Jeffrey Cheah, Group Managing Director of the Sungei Way Group, predominately a construction company, the purpose was to provide "twinning" education for Malaysian students, a new concept in which Dato Cheah was one of the pioneers. Students could follow the first year of an overseas university undergraduate course in the College and then transfer over to the parent university for the second and third years.

The big advantage is the saving in cost through much lower tuition fees and living costs in that first year. It is also believed that students can cope with the transition from school teaching to university-type teaching while still with their family, and then only have to cope with possible culture shock when going overseas.

Leicester University was one of the three original partners in this venture along with West Michigan in America and Curtin in Australia, these three countries being the popular overseas destinations for Malaysian students.

In June 1987 Foundation courses in Engineering and in Economics began, followed by the first intake to the LLB course in October.

The following year, in October 1998 the first year of the degree courses in Engineering and in Economics started, though the Economics course was discontinued after the 1989/90 session due to lack of numbers. The student work in Sunway parallels the courses in Leicester

with the same syllabus, course outlines, tutorial sheets and laboratory work. The examinations taken by the students are the same papers taken by students in Leicester.

From the outset, the post of Resident Director was built into the University's contract with the College, to be filled by a member of the University on secondment. The duties are to ensure the smooth running of the programme and maintain standards, recruit qualified teaching staff, recruit students to standards laid down by the Leicester participating Departments, possibly teach and generally to liaise between the University and the College. The post has been filled variously by

Department. The College has an Academic Board of Governors which meets once a year. The Vice-Chancellor or his representative attends this Board.

**T**HE original twinning concept has been broadened and now pre-university courses, such as A level, and professional and financial courses such as CIMA and ACCA are offered. At the end of 1992 the

accommodation and now the students number more than 4000. Future plans see growth to over 8000 and a second building has been erected for this expansion.

Over the years 210 Sunway students in Law, 156 in Engineering and 6 in Economics have graduated from Leicester. We hear of our graduates opening their own legal firms and holding responsible positions in industry. Currently there are 32 students in the Law Department and 89 in Engineering in their second or third years. In the current programmes in Sunway there are 110 students. The University has been well satisfied with the quality of the students transferring over from Sunway, and its decision to join with the fledgling College in 1987 has been vindicated.

At a Degree Congregation in July 1996 the University conferred on the now Tan Sri Dato Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah, President of the Sungei Way Corporation, an Honorary Doctorate of Laws in recognition of his contribution to business and education developments in Malaysia. As Sunway College celebrates its first ten years the University looks forward to further collaboration in the future.



**INTERNATIONAL LINKS:** Sunway College in Malaysia has strong links with Leicester



**RECOGNITION:** The University conferred an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws on Tan Sri Dato Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah, President of the Sungei Way Corporation, (front left) at the July 1996 degree congregations.

Tony Pearson, now the Director of the International Office, John Baker, formerly of the Education Department, Les Booth and Tony Corbett from Engineering and Richard Stone, formerly of the Law

College had grown from an initial 250 students to over 2000 and the original premises were more than bulging at the seams. Early in 1993 Sunway College moved to a new building with student residential

## SHARING A NATURAL VISION

**On the day of his visit to Leicester to formally open the University's Arboretum, Sir David Attenborough was questioned about his childhood and career by BBC Radio Leicester's Martin Ballard. Barbara Whiteman selects extracts from that interview, reproduced here by kind permission of Radio Leicester...**

*Martin Ballard began by asking Sir David about his childhood in Leicester, and how interested he was in nature at that early stage...*

*Sir David:* I think all children are interested in nature. I lived in what was then called College House which was the residence of the Principal of University College, and so we had a big garden and I was also next door to Victoria Park. I ran around there, but mainly one got on a bicycle and just bicycled out of the City. I don't know how far you have to bicycle from College House and Victoria Park to see a good nice hawthorn hedge these days, but certainly I could do that when I was eight or nine - and did - watching foxes, grass snakes, great crested newts, dragonflies... So, yes, I saw a lot of natural history in Leicester.

*Martin Ballard:* Was that childhood a major influence on you in career terms later on? Do you think that perhaps if you had lived somewhere else you may not have been so interested?

*Sir David:* No. I think that if you are born with an interest in natural history, it will out, wherever you are brought up, and I suppose in an ideal world, if I had been brought up on the Galapagos, I would have been even more interested in natural history! But Leicester gave me a very good basis.

*Although his family moved away, Sir David enjoys returning to Leicester. He was present several years ago at the opening of the Attenborough Building, when both he and his brothers, Richard and John, were delighted to see that their father's work was recognised in that way. Since then, he has become an honorary graduate of the University. During his Leicester years, his path towards a scholarship involved a period of study at University College...*

*Sir David:* I was a student at Wyggeston Grammar School and I wanted to go somewhere where I could learn about Zoology and Botany, and University College did not have those subjects available and in any case my father was 'the boss'. My father said that he could not afford to pay for my studies if I did not get a scholarship, so I had to work for a scholarship. After taking what would now be called your A levels, there was a period of 6-9



**NEW VISTAS:** *Sir David continues to make new programmes on nature for the BBC.*

months before you went to University, and it was during that period that I went to University College Leicester and boned up a bit on scientific subjects in order to try and get a scholarship, which fortunately I did.

*Martin Ballard:* As children, did you spend a lot of time together - because obviously in career terms you have all gone in very different directions? Did you share the same interests as children?

*Sir David:* Well, we hit one another, you know! - the way that brothers do. But we had different friends. When you are 10 or 12, you don't mix with boys of 15, so I did not see

much of my brother Richard's friends. He was an absolutely dedicated actor - all he wanted was the theatre, and the Little Theatre which was, and probably still is, a very distinguished amateur theatre, was one of the focuses of his life, far more than school or anything else. I got dragged along to see shows, and indeed dragged in to take part. Dick was and still is a very good actor. But, as I say, I was more likely to be on my bicycle looking for dragonflies and fossils than backstage in the Little Theatre.

*Sir David's involvement with the BBC began in 1952 (he eventually went on to become Controller of BBC2). He traces the events prior to joining as a trainee, when BBC Television's programmes were all studio-based and it was the only television company in Europe...*

*Sir David:* I thought I was going to become a scientist - and wanted to become a scientist, so took my degree. That was just at the end of the war, and then there was still conscription, so I went into the Navy. When I came out of the Navy, I couldn't bring myself to go back to a laboratory. It sounds odd now, but again in the forties and early fifties, Zoology was very much a laboratory-based subject, and I wasn't particularly interested in cutting up dead animals, or indeed watching pink rats wandering around mazes. I wanted to be out there! You know, I wanted to watch elephants. In those days, watching elephants wasn't science. That was something you did if you were a big game hunter and writing letters in *The Times*. So I decided not to take an academic career, and I thought I would go into publishing, since I had a Science degree I thought Science publishing would be OK. I did that for a couple of years, and then answered an advertisement in *The Times* for a job in the BBC, which was a radio job, in fact - for which I was immediately turned down! Then a month later I got a letter saying that they had a new thing going called television, and people are very rude about it, but we think if we persevere something worthwhile might come out of it. Would you like to join us as a trainee? I said, No, certainly not. Who would want to join a fliberty-gibbit fly-by-night organisation like television - good heavens! But they were very persuasive.

*Martin Ballard:* Regarding programmes - I don't know how many people would remember *Zoo Quest*, but certainly *The Living Planet*, *The Trials of Life* and others in more recent years... Do you remember the first location filming you ever did?

*Sir David:* Yes, the first time I managed to get away from these shores out to the Tropics was in 1954. We went to Sierra Leone in West Africa. I managed to persuade the BBC that

# JUBILEE FEATURE



**PLEASED TO BE BACK:** Sir David Attenborough with the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Kenneth Edwards, and school children at the formal opening of the University Arboretum.

the London Zoo should send a collecting expedition to collect animals for the Zoo, and wouldn't it be a good idea if we went along and we could then film the background as to how this thing was done.

*Martin Ballard:* There can't be many parts of the world that you haven't been to, but I know that on occasions you have almost taken your life into your hands. Have there been any particularly risky moments?

*Sir David:* No. I'm a died-in-the-wool coward - I don't take undue risks. I'm not sent out to South Africa or anywhere else in order to come back minus an arm, or limping, or with a broken camera saying "Yes, we were charged by an elephant, but we were terribly brave, but... we haven't got any film". Our job is to make programmes. I have friends who enjoy danger - they think it's absolutely terrific if they can get just that little closer to the elephant so that it does charge - that's not my game at all. I think it's my job to minimise risks, not to maximise.

*Sir David is particularly proud of the Life on Earth series. As far as he was concerned, it represented a milestone in television...*

*Sir David:* It was a new kind of television programme and it was a very serious one - 13 one-hour programmes about evolution - not a lot of organisations would have commissioned that sort of thing, and it did have a very big impact world-wide. But I suppose the things I am most proud of are the ones where it was not an obviously easy subject. Making films about lions catching wildebeests and so on - it is very easy to be very excited because it is very exciting. Making films about the development of a blackberry is not necessarily quite so exciting, so the last big series I did, which was the *Private Life of Plants* was entirely about plants and nobody had made that kind of programme before. That it got a good

audience and was popular was a great pleasure to me.

*Martin Ballard:* Obviously the profile of natural history has been lifted tremendously by the environmentalist movement in various areas. We are more conscious I think now than ever before of our environment, but are we doing enough, do you think?

*Sir David:* No - of course we aren't. How could any naturalist sit here and say we are doing enough, and of course we are still continuing the damage, and as long as the human race goes on increasing in numbers, we will be demanding more and more living space, more and more food, and the natural world (by which I mean the world that is independent of humanity) will be pushed further and further back. And that in the end, if it goes too far, will be catastrophic because the climate and our food and the whole of the living on this earth will be damaged - gravely damaged, and so I have been working for conservation organisations almost as long as I have been making natural history films.

*Returning to local memories, Sir David recalls the famous fossil ammonite found at Tilton-on-the-Hill and named after the village - Tiltoniceras. He has seen Jurassic Park, in which his brother stars, and wishes he had its film budget to bring fossils to life. When asked if it could ever become reality, he replies...*

*Sir David:* It's great entertainment and an enjoyable movie, but the chances of resurrecting an extinct life form, particularly of the Jurassic period, from a fragment of DNA is pretty well discounted, I think.

■ *Sir David is currently involved in the preparation of a new series for BBC Television.*

## JUBILEE PLAY INVOKES COLLEGIATE SPIRIT

*Forty years on when afar and asunder  
Parted are those who are singing today,  
When you look back and forgetfully wonder  
What you were like in your work and your play...*

Staff who remember the early days of the University tend to recall it as a more sociable and closely-knit community. Leicester University Theatre presents a chance for members of the University to unwind after exams and rediscover that sense of community.

Alan Bennett's aptly named comedy, *Forty Years On*, takes the form of an end-of-term production at Albion House School and casts an ironic but affectionate eye over England's changing fortunes since the turn of the century. Fresh from his success in *Beyond the Fringe*, Bennett stuffed this, his first play, with parodies and one-liners, and a characteristically hilarious mangling of familiar phrases.

In a deliberate move to create a representative and retrospective celebration of drama in the University, this Jubilee production involves not just students but also stalwarts of the days when staff regularly played an active part in campus theatre. Accordingly, Robert Kenny (French) will take on the part of the Headmaster (a role created by Gielgud in 1968) supported by Roger Scoppie (Administration) as his Senior Housemaster and Ann Taylor Davies (now retired from the Department of Psychology) as Miss Nisbitt, the school secretary. Margaret Dunn (Careers and Welfare) - for many years the in-house alto in the regular summer Gilbert & Sullivan productions - returns as the indomitable School Matron.

The show also features new student faces - Gareth Williams plays the junior master, Tempest, a role Bennett wrote for himself (and for which he reserved some of the best lines). The University has gone to local Lancaster Boys School, originally sited directly next to University College, to cast the 20 or so pupils of Albion House. The School has been enthusiastic in its support of the project and will be celebrating its own 50th anniversary later this year.

This is an opportunity to celebrate the collegiality which, for many, lies at the heart of University life: and if the Jubilee can do that it will have really achieved something.

### Forty Years On Fact File

- Performance dates: Thursday 12, Friday 13, Saturday 14 June
- Time & Place: 7.30, Queen's Hall
- Tickets £3 (£2 concessionary rate) from Charles Wilson Bookshop or at the door.
- Contact for further information: Roger Scoppie (0116 252 2416)

# ACADEMIC SERVICES



## Audio Visual Services

### RECYCLING OF USED TONER CARTRIDGES

For a number of reasons, AVS can no longer act as a recycling point for used toner cartridges. Less money has been passing to the NSPCC as older types of cartridge become obsolete. We thank you very much for your support of this project to date and trust you will be able to make your own arrangements for the disposal of these items in future.

### OPEN DAY

AVS is recovering from Open Day preparations, which included provision of 871 presentation items, mostly display boards, televisions and various types of projector, the use of 157 metres of Velcro by departments mounting displays, and midnight working on several occasions by AVS staff. Thanks go to departments for responding to the tight schedule.

### FUTURE INVESTMENT

Ian Hickman, Print Manager, has been visiting in-plant units around the country to get a picture of the feasibility of networking our high-speed copiers to enable customers to send jobs for copying down the line. A great deal of work by AVS and Computer Centre remains to be done, but if anyone is interested in this and would like to be kept informed of developments, please contact Ian on 2443.

We have been investigating the possibility of installing equipment to enable us to do most types of photographic colour printing in-house. At the moment, any such work has to be subcontracted, making this one of the few services where our prices are not considerably lower than outside. The relevant equipment is very expensive, the equivalent of one year's turnover for the Photographic Unit. Any contributions will be welcome.

### MORE STRESSES AND STRAINS

Work in the Reprographics Department may have to stop for a couple of days while several serious cracks in the floor are repaired. We apologise

for any inconvenience to customers and hope the service will shortly be restored to full strength.

### CHIEF TECHNICIAN RETIRES

**Doug Crisp, Chief Technician in AVS for eighteen years, will be retiring this June.**

Formerly Chief Technician in the AVS at Loughborough University, Doug was involved from the beginning with educational television. His move to Leicester in 1979 brought him into contact with the Medical School where he helped to develop new technologies to teach students.

Most academic departments will have used Doug's expertise, from advice and help with equipment to the making of audio and video programmes. As well as his technical duties, Doug has contributed to a commercially successful series of Counselling programmes.

Since 1993, he has worked for us on a part-time basis, arriving at 7.00 am to check the equipment in the main lecture theatres.

There will be a formal goodbye to Doug in the Belvoir Annexe, Charles Wilson, at 4.00 pm on Friday 13 June. Anyone wishing to contribute to a gift, probably some golf clubs, should contact Avril Vilcins (2917).



### USER AREA

We are now in a position to help with Web design work, and the designers will be happy to convert existing logos into a format suitable for the Web or to design new ones specifically for this purpose. You are also reminded that you are welcome to use the scanners in the User Area.

## Computer Centre

### GROWTH OF THE CAMPUS NETWORK

The last 12 months have seen further extension of the campus computer network to off-campus locations. Thanks to funding secured from a HEFCE sponsored initiative to enhance Local Area Networking, and our relationship with Diamond cable, the network has been extended to the following:

- Fraser Noble (*School of Education*)
- 2 University Road (*School of Education*)
- 103 and 105 Princess Road (*Museum Studies*)
- 108 Regent Road (*Urban History*)
- 152 Upper New Walk (*Public Order*)
- 3 and 5 Salisbury Road (*English Local History*)
- Glenfield Hospital (*Clinical Sciences Block*)

Academic, administrative and research colleagues in each of these locations now have access to the same wide range of IT services as their counterparts on the main campus. These services are provided via a 10Mbps ethernet link to the main campus.

The connection to Glenfield Hospital is the most recent of the installations and broke new ground for us in terms of the distance involved. An initiative at the General Hospital has provided various University staff there with a 2Mbps ethernet link to the campus.

A bid has been submitted against phase 2 of the HEFCE networking initiative. If successful, it will enhance bandwidth provision on the campus network by deployment of ethernet switching and the introduction of fast ethernet (100Mbps).

### IRIX CHANGES

The central irix service was procured in 1991. After some painful 'teething problems' it has provided a reliable and well used UNIX service. However, rising maintenance charges and significant hardware developments mean that the original systems now need to be replaced.

During the next few months 'hawk' and 'eagle', which run the general interactive and batch services, will be replaced by two Silicon graphics Origin 200 systems.

Although this is essentially a cost containment exercise it brings a CPU enhancement of between 50% and 200%. The lower figure is expected for Integer operations, the higher figure for Floating Point. The Computer Centre is exploring the possibility of running these two machines as a single service with day time usage being reserved for interactive use and night time being predominantly batch.

### THE INGRES DATABASE SERVICE

The Ingres database service is to be moved off Silicon Graphics equipment by summer 1998. A new NT based Ingres service should become available during the next few months allowing users to migrate to this new system during the 1997/8 session. This move is precipitated by a number of factors, not least being the lack of support for Ingres on the Silicon Graphics platform.

# ACADEMIC SERVICES



## NEW ELECTRONIC RESOURCES IN THE LIBRARY

### MEDLINE ON CD-ROM 1966 TO DATE

The Clinical Sciences Library now has the full electronic dataset of Medline from 1996 to date.

### THE NATIONAL RESEARCH REGISTER

The Clinical Sciences Library also has available the pilot version of the National Research Register. This is a database of information about research and development projects taking place in, or of interest to, the National Health Service. It includes research projects funded by the Department of Health, NHS Executive HQ and Regional Offices, and projects funded by other bodies such as the MRC.

The Library is taking part in a pilot project to disseminate the Register across the UK; please help us to evaluate the database by filling in a short questionnaire for Trent R&D. Joanne Dunham (ext 3102/ jdl@le) has further details.

The workstation for both the above electronic resources can be booked in advance in person or by telephone (ext 3104).

### THE ENGLISH POETRY FULL-TEXT DATABASE

Chadwyck-Healey's *English Poetry* database on CD-Rom is now available on the stand-alone workstation in the Main Library. The five discs contain the entire text of over 165,000 poems by more than 1,250 poets. The collection is based on the *New Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature* and covers the period 600-1900. The database can be searched for any word or phrase in the text, title or first line of any poem contained in it, and also provides lists of poets, titles and first lines for browsing.

### NINETEENTH-CENTURY SHORT TITLE CATALOGUE

All three series of this database can now be consulted on the CD-Rom workstations in the Main Library. Series I and II contain all catalogue records from the Bodleian, British Library, Cambridge University Library, Trinity College, Dublin, National Library of Scotland, and the University of Newcastle upon Tyne for books published between 1801 and 1870, plus all records from Harvard University and the Library of Congress for 1816-1870. Series III has begun continuation of the catalogue to 1919. The project aims to provide increasingly complete listing of British books (defined as books published in Britain, its colonies and the United States, all books in English and all translations from English) printed between 1801 and 1919. The database is a valuable adjunct to The Eighteenth Century Short Title Catalogue on CD-Rom.

## LIBRARY'S ENGLISH LOCAL HISTORY PROJECT REACHES MILESTONE

In Autumn 1995 the Library was awarded a four year grant under the Higher Education Funding Council's "Non-formula funding programme for Specialised Research Collections in the Humanities", for the complete cataloguing and conservation of its English Local History Collection. The objective of these awards is to make research collections more accessible

to scholars nationally, especially through their inclusion in catalogues and databases which are accessible over the JANET network and the Internet. In Leicester's case the catalogue records are being included in the Library's online catalogue, which is available widely within the University and also accessible both nationally and internationally via JANET.

The cataloguing team have been working their way steadily through the county sequences, and have now reached the milestone of the 10,000th catalogue record created. This happened to fall in the county sequence of Northumberland, and the actual 10,000th item was *The Roman Wall; a description of the mural barrier of the North of England*, by Rev J Collingwood Bruce, 3rd edition, 1867. The project still has to cover the rest of the alphabetical sequence of English counties, the general local history books, and the English Local History books in the Special Collections store. There are also smaller collections on Scotland and Wales. There is therefore much more work to be done, but the project is expected to be completed in the allotted time.

The condition of every book in the collection is also being checked, and such repair and conservation measures as are needed are being taken as the work progresses. Other benefits of the project have been the placing of the open access stock on fixed shelving for greater availability, the acquisition of a special photocopier with an angled platten for copying from delicate books, and the provision of specially trained staff to provide an extended hours service for the Library as a whole and the English Local History Collection in particular.

It was perhaps appropriate that *The Roman Wall* should become a significant item in the project, because the title page bears the inscription:

*"I do love these ancient ruins,  
We never tread upon them, but we set  
Our foot upon some reverend history."*

Paying tribute to the dedication and skill of the small team of Library staff involved in the project, University Librarian Dr Timothy Hobbs said, "The non-formula funding programme is of vital importance for specialised humanities collections in university libraries around Britain. Some very ambitious and exciting projects are taking place, and I am pleased with the way Leicester's project compares in terms of its steady progress and the quality of its work. It is of enormous value to the academic community, within the University and beyond, to have easy access to the Library's holdings, and the addition of the project's 10,000th catalogue record marks a significant achievement, in an area which is of great importance to the University's research."



The Librarian, Dr Timothy Hobbs (centre) with the NFF cataloguing team. Left to right, Mary Claxton (Chief Cataloguer), John Smith, Karen Garland and Lynda Chapman.

## ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENTS IN THE REGION

by Dr Nick Measor (Mathematics and Computer Science)

At last the hectic pace of the academic year is winding down in June, and there's time to enjoy the artistic life of the region without the shadow of exams obscuring the landscape.

The visit of Opera North to the Theatre Royal in Nottingham from 17 to 21 June is the centrepiece of a varied musical diet. The new production of Wagner's **Tannhäuser** has attracted national media attention as one of the few fresh Wagner stagings outside the capital in recent years. The conflict in this work between sanctity and eroticism produces some of the most thrilling moments in the composer's early work and gives a foretaste of already well-known for his Wagnerian roles, and there is a strong supporting cast. Purists, however, may not appreciate the fact that the opera, like all the works in the Opera North season (which includes Mozart's **Così fan Tutte** and Monteverdi's **The Return of Ulysses**), is sung in English. Am I alone in finding the words in translated operas almost invariably

inaudible?

Closer to home, the enterprising local Bardi orchestra is performing an ambitious programme at the De Montfort Hall on 18 June, including Brahms's Double Concerto and Vaughan Williams's atmospheric A London Symphony. Our own university music programme is still active in June. A highlight for the members of the Proteus Chamber Orchestra is 11 June, when they are performing twice: at lunchtime they perform Krommer's Double Clarinet Concerto and Beethoven's Eighth Symphony (the venue for this concert is dependent on meteorological conditions), and in the evening they move to Sutton-in-the-Elms Baptist Church, where they add Haydn's 'Marie Thérèse' Te Deum to the programme with members of the University Choral Society. Middle-aged members of the university community will be intrigued that musicians of a slightly more recent era than Haydn and Beethoven, the Everly Brothers, are performing at the

# ARTSTOP

De Montfort Hall on 19 June. At the Richard Attenborough Centre, the piano duo, David Nettle and Richard Markham are booked to play an exciting programme of works for double piano on 24 June, which includes their large-scale transcription of scenes from **West Side Story** by Bernstein.

The City Gallery is a splendid centre for contemporary visual arts in Leicester. From 5 June to 5 July they are showing **Under Construction**, an exhibition of experimental pieces by seven textile artists. This is a touring exhibition from the Crafts Council, and has associated with it a construction workshop on 21 June which gives you a chance to try your hand at textile artwork. It's easy to overlook the fact that the De Montfort Hall also mounts exhibitions in association with the City Gallery. From 3 June to 19 July they are showing the one person show by Roger Bradley, well-known hereabouts for running the Lansdowne House resource centre in University Road for many years.

Outside the city, the Djanogly Gallery at the University of Nottingham is showing intriguing figurative paintings by Peter

Howson, official British War Artist for Bosnia, until 15 June. This is followed from 21 June at the same venue by Nottingham University's annual summer exhibition of work by its own members. Meanwhile at the University of Warwick's Arts Centre, Ken Kiff is exhibiting his recent prints - for a taste of his work you can always visit the first floor of the Fielding Johnson Building.

In Leicester itself theatrical activity is winding down for the summer, so you will probably have to go further afield for a thespian experience. Choices range from **Everyman** at the Other Place in Stratford, staged by Kathryn Hunter and Marcello Magni, familiar in Leicester for their recent starring roles in **King Lear** at the Haymarket, to **Les Misérables** at the Birmingham Hippodrome (19 June to 4 October).

Finally, if the June weather turns really hot, you might want to audition for the Chippendales, who appear at the De Montfort Hall on 20 June.



**DYNAMIC DUO:** Nettle and Markham - '... brilliantly fleet and entertaining ... performed with infectious verve and spirit' (Music & Musicians)

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

## 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. ROSEMARY PATTERSON, (Department of Politics) reviews a selection of cuttings from recent weeks.

Pride of place in the press extracts recently must unquestionably go to the 'great and the good' in *The Express*, which features the select company of top achievers awarded the Order of Merit - the personal gift of the Sovereign. Leicester University is doubly represented in this eminent group of expert people by the present Chancellor, Sir Michael Atiyah, and a former Chancellor, Lord Porter of Luddenham. The Order of Merit ranks among the highest orders of chivalry and is restricted to 24 people who are judged to be leaders in their field.

From this sublime pinnacle of eminence, most other topics appear to be mundane. In the pursuit of happiness, *Men's Health*, reporting on a study by Dr Brian Parkinson from the Psychology Department, states four ways to deal with depressing problems: avoid them, accept them, confront them, or give them a heady 'get stuffed' and do something more fun. One detects a certain preoccupation with drink of the alcoholic variety as the adjacent article in *Men's Health* gives a step-by-step guide to uncorking a champagne bottle. Perhaps this activity provides 'something more fun', or perhaps not, as one's goal in life is to control the extraction of the cork, as the 80-85 pounds per square inch of pressure is twice the pressure of car tyres. If this pressure is too much, then this magazine offers relief on the same page in the heading 'a new angle on colonic irrigation' (is there really a choice of angles?).

Back to the alcoholic beverage. The pub reinvents itself as the top social institution, reports the *Oldham Evening Chronicle*. Drawing on Professor Peter Clark's knowledge of urban history, it goes on to say that

things have changed from the humble origins of the medieval alehouse, then the meeting place of the poor with no fireside of their own, a place to find a job, borrow some money, or pick up a woman. The



modern pub can now provide the venue even for a marriage ceremony. A pub in Cambridge establishes a precedent by appointing its own chaplain and the Bishop of Huntingdon supervises the taking of marriage vows in the presence of a drinking congregation. This, we are told, is made possible by the relaxation of the marriage laws. Presumably, we can expect that a future requirement will be to take a breathalyser test before slurring the vows.

Those seeking to rationalise their drinking habits receive a

boost by an Australian study published in the *British Medical Journal*, and outlined in the *Leicester Mercury*, which reinforces the discovery by Leicester University's Dr

Simon Maxwell that drinking red wine can have a beneficial effect and may minimise the incidence of coronary disease. Tipplers may be further encouraged by the recognition since biblical times of the health-giving properties of wine. The Apostle Paul's injunction to Timothy was to 'take a little wine for your stomach's sake and for your often infirmity'. More recently, Louis Pasteur advised 'Wine is the most healthful and hygienic of beverages'. Dr Maxwell does however issue a timely and sobering temperance warning - 'Don't drink it all on a Saturday night'.

The inevitable result of drinking causes a headache for marine biologist Iain Stanland, who gained a PhD at Leicester. He is part of the British Antarctic Survey, and tells of the everyday dangers posed by giant seals during trips to the loo in the



freezing and remote Antarctic observation station of Bird Island. "To get to the toilet, you have to walk down to the stream with a broom handle called a bodger. If one of the large territorial males charges you, the stick can be used to tickle him under the chin. This mimics the behaviour of the females, and

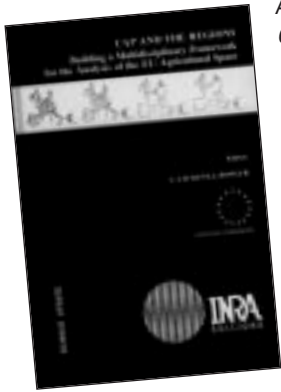


usually calms him down", he was quoted as saying in the *Leicester Mercury*. "Some of the island's giant-toothed bull elephant seals can weigh up to two tons, grow to 16 feet in length, and can kill with one swipe of their powerful flippers." Puts moaning about the lack of public conveniences into perspective, doesn't it?

Also featured in the *Leicester Mercury* is a grant award from the National Environmental Research Council to enable Dr Sean Lawrence of the Physics and Astronomy Department to research the effect of ocean waves on changing weather patterns. On a similar tack is the headline in the *Glasgow Herald* - 'High and dry and all at sea'. This statement refers to Scotland's water supply, most of which runs copiously into the sea. It seems that political reasons rather than technical reasons are the main constraint in exporting this surplus water to England. The water companies would prefer to invest in desalination plants - Paul Herrington from the Economics Department sees the use of these plants as a short-term measure.

We seem to have turned once again to the subject of drink. Perhaps the most constructive suggestion for conserving water supplies comes from Sir David Frost - dilute it!

**CAP AND THE REGIONS: Building a multidisciplinary framework for the analysis of the EU agricultural space**  
 Edited by Catherine Laurent and Ian Bowler  
 (Department of Geography)  
 Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (Paris),  
 April 1977, £20 (hardback)



Available from the Bookshop (ISBN 2-7380-0715-5)

National and EU policies need to take into account the extreme diversity of the agricultural sector from region to region. In addition, policy makers now have to deal not only with the productive functions of agriculture, but also the sector's contribution to economic development and the management of natural resources and the environment. To help decision making in this complex situation, there is a need to analyse in depth the processes leading to

spatial diversity in the structure and dynamics of agriculture in the EU and to build appropriate tools for this analysis.

This book marks a step in this direction. It brings together the research work of a group of scientists from diverse backgrounds (agronomy, ecology, economics, geography, political science, soil science) who share these concerns. A multidisciplinary regionalised database (AGRIREG) has been built which incorporates several European databases. The various components of the database are described, including the interface for interrogating the database, mapping AGRIREG data using Geographical Information Systems, and theoretical research on the problems of multiscale spatial databases. The potentialities and limits of applying the database to the empirical analysis of regional agricultural adjustment patterns and processes within the EU are demonstrated and discussed. In a final section, the data needs of further analyses are considered, especially as regards incorporating environmental data from different sources.

**TEACHING IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOL: A Learning Relationship**

Edited by Neil Kitson & Roger Merry (School of Education)

(Contributors Janet Moyles, Linda M Hargreaves, Sylvia McNamara, Susan Cavendish, Jean Underwood, Maurice Galton, Martin Cortazzi (School of Education), and David J Hargreaves (Department of Psychology)  
 Routledge, January 1997, £12.99 (paperback)

Available from the Bookshop

It is now recognised by many professionals that what is learned by children is not necessarily the same as what is taught to them. The writers in this book recognise that the successful learner needs to be an active participant in a learning relationship with other people.

The book offers a coherent introduction to primary education and child development. Its focus is on learning relationships rather than the more traditional content and delivery approach. The first part of the book emphasises the child's contribution to this relationship, and the second looks at what the teacher brings to it.

Topics covered include active learning; child development; special educational needs; observation, assessment and recording; classroom culture; being a reflective practitioner; communication between children and teachers; primary school management; teacher training.

**J J THOMSON AND THE DISCOVERY OF THE ELECTRON**

by Professor E A Davis (Department of Physics & Astronomy) and Dr Isobel Falconer  
 Taylor & Francis, May 1997, £16.95 (paperback), £45 (hardback)

Available from the Bookshop

1997 sees the centenary of one of the most important moments in modern physics - the discovery of the electron. This volume maps the life and achievements of J J Thomson, with particular focus on his ideas and experiments leading to the landmark discovery. A foreword by Thomson's grandson provides valuable insights into Thomson's personality, while the reproduction of original papers allows an appreciation of Thomson's own style and

way of thinking. The book describes Thomson's early years and

education. It then follows his career, first in Cambridge as a fellow of Trinity, later as the head of the Cavendish

Laboratory, and finally as Master of Trinity and national spokesman for science. The core of the book concerns the work undertaken at the

Cavendish, culminating in the discovery of

'corpuscles', later named 'electrons'. The final two chapters describe the immediate aftermath and implications of the work, and include the creation of the subject of atomic physics as well as the broader long-term developments, from vacuum valves and the transistor through the microelectronics revolution.

**'An accessible and carefully-researched historical survey of the discovery of the electron'**

**J J THOMSON:** *Before his discovery, the atom was thought to be indivisible.*

■ The above entry was incomplete in the last issue of the Bulletin, as the illustration was omitted. This was due to an error at the time of printing.

**PSYCHOLOGY AND YOU: AN INFORMAL INTRODUCTION (Second Edition)**

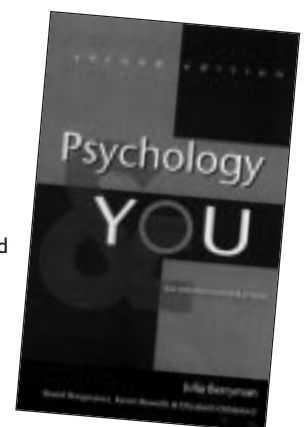
by Julia Berryman (Department of Adult Education) & David Hargreaves (Department of Psychology), Kevin Howells (formerly Department of Psychology, now University of Leeds) & Elizabeth Ockleford (Department of Adult Education/Department of Psychology)

The British Psychological Society,  
 Mid June 1997

Can be ordered from the Bookshop  
 (ISBN 1-85433-226-0)

Now well established as an introduction to psychology, this book has been fully revised and expanded to reflect current changes and developments in the subject. It starts from issues which are of interest to us all, rather than covering any particular syllabus, covering such topics as body language, emotions, on being male or female, growing up, how we learn, styles of loving, uses and abuses of psychological tests, the differences between humans and other animals.

In a readable and informal style, this book (illustrated throughout) presents a thorough overview of modern psychology's approaches to



# BOOKS

human behaviour and emotion, with examples drawn from real-life experiences. Since psychology is first and foremost a practical subject, the authors have included 21 exercises to challenge the reader to think further on topics discussed.

The book has sold extremely well, and is published in a number of languages. The new edition has already been accepted for publication in Chinese, Russian, and Dutch, and an Australian edition by Allen and Unicorn is forthcoming. It is expected that students and non-students alike will find this a lively introduction to the subject.

**GETTING THE MEASURE OF TRAINING**  
by **Dr Alan Felstead (Centre for Labour Market Studies), Professor Francis Green (formerly Department of Economics), and Ken Mayhew (The Centre for Industrial Policy and Performance, University of Leeds, May 1997, £10)**

Available by cheque (+ 50pp) from *The University of Leeds*

Despite the prominence of work-based training in national policy debate, the published statistics are poor. They fail to give solid information on either the volume or the quality of training. In this report, three leading experts in the study of training in Britain subject the existing statistics to an in-depth analysis.

The first part examines the quantity and quality of training, using information from various repeated surveys. The Labour Force Survey is commonly used to give a picture of increasing training, by concentrating on the frequency of training participation in any 4-week period. The report shows that choosing only this measure of training gives a misleading picture as to the real trend in the volume of training in Britain.

The second part of the report gives the findings from two new surveys of training that examine the quantity and the quality of employee training in Britain. One survey looks at training from the point of view of individuals, while the other elicits the responses of member firms of the CBI. Both surveys focus on economically meaningful aspects of training, including: who sponsors the training, whether the training leads to improved skills and to qualifications, and the objectives and outcomes of the training.

The report suggests how, at little extra cost, official training statistics could be improved to yield greater information on trends in the quantity and quality of training. It will be highly relevant to policy analysts, researchers, practitioners and academics interested in the field of training studies.

## DISCOUNT OFFER

During the month of July, Leicester University Bookshop is offering all University staff members, on production of identification, 10% off publishers' recommended prices. This offer applies to all books in stock.

### Loughborough University's Engineering Faculty Daphne Jackson Fellowships

Well-qualified local engineers wanting to return to their profession after a career break of at least three years are invited to apply for two-year fellowships worth around £15,000 on a half-time basis. During this time, a tailor-made programme and guided research project is undertaken. The closing date for applications is 17 June. For initial enquiries, please telephone Patricia Ellis on 01483 259166.

# PEOPLE

## MAN WITH X-RAY VISION

**Years of unstinting and notable public service have distinguished the career of Trevor Griffiths, who recently celebrated 40 years of involvement with the University. Judith Shaw reflects upon the highlights of his career in this special report.**

Trevor Griffiths, as an undergraduate student at University of North Wales, Bangor, learned about x-rays from his tutor Professor Edwin Owen.

Edwin Owen had studied and worked at the Cavendish Laboratories at Cambridge in the early years of x-ray development. It was no surprise, therefore, that on leaving Bangor Trevor Griffiths, fascinated by the subject, went to take up a post at the teaching hospitals in Birmingham, working at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in the Radiotherapy Department.

He transferred to the small department at Leicester Royal Infirmary in 1956 as physicist in charge. A few months after his appointment, Trevor Griffiths began his long association with the University of Leicester. He was recruited by the late Professor Stewardson of the Physics Department to carry out radiation dose measurements in the University Library, which was then situated over the experimental Van de Graff machine. "The fear was that 2MeV x-rays could be travelling from the machine to the students studying in the Library", explained Mr Griffiths.

### Sensitive

Increasing emphasis was being placed on the safe usage of Ionising Radiation in clinical situations. This was formalised when a National Survey of Radiation, headed by Lord Adrian, was conducted in the early 1960s. The Report arising from this survey aided progress towards the safe use of x-rays in today's clinical environment.

It was just over a century ago, in 1895, when Wilhelm K Röntgen, a German physicist with an interest in photography,

discovered the invisible rays which could penetrate the body. In the same year, he showed that x-rays would pass through the body and print a shadow picture of the bones on a sensitive photographic plate.



**MAN OF COMMITMENT:** Trevor Griffiths

"At one stage the x-ray was thought to have a 'cure-all' ability, but its indiscriminate use created serious risks to those coming into contact with the rays - patients and hospital staff alike", explained Mr Griffiths.

"By using x-ray machines on children's feet as a way of measuring them, differential or stunted growth could occur in one foot. Following the production of my report, I was asked to continue to carry out more measurements, and this led subsequently to the establishment of a regular radiation monitoring service, which I carried out quite informally. Film badges and later TLD were in use for 20 years."

With the acquisition of radioactive sources in the Chemistry Department, Trevor Griffiths' work began to include other University departments

using such sources. He comments, "In 1962, as honorary radiation protection officer, I received a small honorarium from the University, but as I was employed by the NHS, I was required to hand over this fee to the Leicestershire Hospital Management Committee".

"I very much enjoyed working with University staff and this informal arrangement helped to establish useful links between departments. Ultimately, the work at the University as well as at the hospitals expanded considerably, so that I had eventually to terminate this work." At that time, John Baker was appointed to the first post of radiation protection officer.

Nevertheless, Mr Griffiths' involvement with the University continued. In 1973, as chief physicist at the Leicester Royal Infirmary, he helped to establish the Medical Physics course, which provided a link between the NHS Department of Medical Physics and the University's Physics Department. He retired in 1989.

His public and political activities began in 1976, when he became a Desford parish councillor. The next year he was elected a county councillor for Leicestershire, becoming vice-chairman in 1990-1992 and chairman in 1992-1993.

As an elected member of the

Leicestershire County Council, Councillor Trevor Griffiths was nominated to serve on University Council and Court in 1981.

Included in his lifetime of public service are membership of the county's Police Authority, of which he was vice-chairman for four years. He has been chairman of Barwell Conservative Association for the past 12 years.

Committed to serving educational interests in Leicestershire, he is chairman of the governors of many colleges and schools, he also sits on Leicestershire Local Government Advisory Committees, is Chairman of the Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education, and a member of Leicestershire Community Health Council.

His services in various forms to the University have been invaluable during his long association, and, fortunately, he is still a vital part of its success. Even more importantly, many people have reason to be grateful to a man who has dedicated his life's work to ensuring the best possible health care with the safe use of radiotherapy and diagnostic x-rays as well as the safety of the professionals who care for them.

## RETIREMENT

### JOYCE HICK

Joyce Hick, part-time telephonist, retired on 16 May after eighteen years' service in the University.

Although probably not known to staff by sight, her voice would have been recognised by many who have benefited from her assistance over a long period of service. Joyce was the telephonist who opened the switchboard each morning at 8.30 a.m. - a duty in which she never failed.

She has seen many changes in her years at the University. In her own working environment, the most significant was the progression from old plug switchboard to the present digital exchange. No doubt she will have many pleasant memories of the telephone exchange and her friends and colleagues.

Joyce will be devoting more time to her grandchildren in her retirement years whilst indulging her love of travel abroad. She is also a member of the Departmental Staff Common Room Association and enjoys fell walking.

*Linda Duncan*

## OBITUARIES

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

### EMERITUS PROFESSOR J H PATERSON

**Professor of Geography,  
died 2 May 1997**

Professor John Paterson has died at the age of 73 after a short illness. John was educated at Monkton Combe School, Bath and St Catharine's College, Cambridge, where he was awarded a first class honours degree in 1948.

His undergraduate career was interrupted by five years of military service, much of it with the Leicestershire Yeomanry, during which he rose to the rank of Captain. After graduation he spent two years as a Commonwealth Fund Fellow at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. While there, he studied under the eminent political and regional geographer, Richard Hartshorne. He was awarded an MA degree in 1949 for research on the then controversial subject of Contributions of the German geopoliticians to the concepts of geographic regions. This was an extension of an interest he had formed while working on the denazification programme in the British zone of Germany, and which he was to revive nearly forty years later with a measured critique *German Geopolitics Reassessed in Political Geography Quarterly* 1987. His fluent knowledge of German was an asset to him in this specialised work, and he was able to speak confidently about *Kirchturmschattenbeschränktheit* (the parish pump spirit) which had been criticised by the geopoliticians, and which he

claimed must have been one of the longest words ever compiled, even in German!

In 1950 he returned to Britain and worked for six years as a University Demonstrator and Assistant Lecturer at the University of Cambridge. In 1956 John was appointed lecturer at the

University of St Andrews, where he remained, apart from another year in the USA, as a Fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies, until appointed to a Chair of Geography at Leicester from January 1975.

He succeeded

Professor Norman Pye to the headship of the department in 1978. During his period as Head of Department he was instrumental in bringing the annual conference of the Institute of British Geographers to Leicester for the first time. He would surely have been pleased that it will be returning in 1999. John took early retirement in 1983 and, after three years on a teaching contract, he and his wife, Evangeline, left Leicester and moved to be closer to their family in the North East.

John had an outstanding academic career. To many his name will always be synonymous with his famous book, *A Regional Geography of North America*, first published, to world-wide acclaim, in 1960 and now in its ninth edition. 'Paterson's North America' is a synthesis of both John's own research and that of others and has been a major source for generations of students in all parts of the world. To this day even Americans regard this book as the definitive text on their continent.

However, this magnum opus



# PEOPLE

should not overshadow John's other considerable contributions to the discipline. *Land, Work and Resources: An Introduction to Economic Geography*, published in 1972, also received laudatory reviews and went into several editions. Of his numerous papers, those such as *The poet and the metropolis*, published in *Images of America* in 1964 and *The novelist and his region: Scotland through the eyes of Sir Walter Scott*, published in the *Scottish Geographical Magazine* in 1968, were particularly significant since they foreshadowed the emergence of a 'new' cultural geography. At the time of his death John had just begun work on a new book, concerned with the grasslands of North America, and, which had, according to the reviewers of the original proposal, the makings of another major contribution to our understanding of the American environment.

A good teacher is knowledgeable, lucid and approachable, but a great teacher inspires. John was a great as well as a good teacher, and had an enormous influence on several generations of students who passed through the Geography departments of Cambridge, St Andrews and Leicester. He had an uncanny knack of making complex processes understandable, and the enviable ability of being able to maintain the attention of his audience throughout the whole of an hour's lecture. It was a fitting tribute to his reputation as a teacher that his final lecture was marked by a presentation from the students of the Department of a framed print of one of Ansel Adams' atmospheric photographs of an American landscape. It is little wonder that he was in constant demand to make presentations outside the University, whether it be to an international conference, a local society or a sixth form. It is said that he lectured to more branches of the Geographical Association than any other Professor, and these visits resulted in large numbers of highly qualified students being attracted to Leicester. Yet, probably, the most

memorable of his presentations were those jointly with his Evangeline, an acclaimed poet, on the cultures and landscapes of

North America.

John was a loyal colleague and a good friend. A man of great integrity, sincerity and patience.

Colleagues and students alike will always be thankful for his readiness to listen, advise and support. Despite his many commitments he

## EMERITUS PROFESSOR F W J HEMMINGS

**Professor of French Literature,  
died 9 May 1997**



John Hemmings, who has died at the age of 76, was one of the foremost and most influential scholars of French of his generation. Through his Oxford tutors (including Gustave Rudler and Herbert Hunt), he benefited

from the oldest traditions of French teaching in British universities. In the 1950s he was one of the first English-speaking academics to work on newly-accessible manuscripts and produce substantial work on Emile Zola. He soon came to be acknowledged as a leading authority on literature and other aspects of culture in nineteenth-century France, continuing to enhance this reputation by publishing major volumes until shortly before his death.

Frederic William John Hemmings was born in Southampton, where his father, the headmaster of Taunton's School, encouraged his interest in France from an early age. He took a First in French and German at Exeter College Oxford in 1941. After basic infantry training for the Army Intelligence Corps, he was posted to Bletchley Park for the remainder of World War II, being involved in deciphering communications traffic between German SS Army headquarters and Army Corps. Word-of-honour security was tight and only later did he learn that he had contributed to the work on Enigma.

Appointed as assistant lecturer in French at the University College of Leicester in 1948, he was to play a significant part in the processes by which the institution became an independent university and expanded nearly tenfold during his 37-year career there. He was briefly the first non-professorial Dean of Arts in 1963, before becoming the first holder of a personal chair at the University. Having spent the 1966-67 session at Yale, it was with some reluctance that, in the middle of a particularly fertile research period, he took on the headship of French at Leicester in 1970. During a nine-year spell of imaginative leadership, he considerably broadened the base of undergraduate programmes and encouraged the development of many academic careers.

His first publication, building upon his earlier learning of Russian and his Oxford DPhil, was *The Russian Novel in France, 1884-1914*, issued in

1950. It was followed by his *Emile Zola* (1953), a critical study which did much to establish his reputation and was extensively updated in 1966. His eleven further books included a life of Zola (1977) and monographs on Stendhal (1964), Balzac (1967), Dumas père (1979), and Baudelaire (1982). His work on individual authors led him into the study of movements and socio-cultural phenomena in general, and he went on to write two considerable volumes, *Culture and Society in France*, covering the periods 1789-1848 and 1848-1898. In his retirement he turned to the relatively unexplored territory of the theatre world in nineteenth-century France, bringing out, in addition to a series of articles, *The Theatre Industry in Nineteenth-Century France* (1993) and *Theatre and State in France 1760-1905* (1994).

Work on a third volume concerning the theatre was near completion when his health began to fail at the end of 1966.

His devotion to his own specialist research was unswerving, but this never stood in the way of other, broader types of commitment to the academic world and its values. For two years in the 1960s he regularly reviewed current English fiction for the *New Statesman*, and in 1966 he helped to bring to England one of the first intellectuals to be permitted to leave the Soviet Union, Valery Tarsis - an event that attracted extensive publicity. In the 1970s and early 1980s he made a number of trips to Canada, to advise on the setting up of a centre for Naturalist Studies and on the publication of a series of French-Canadian texts. He always took great pleasure in his contact with students in Leicester, collaborating with them for a number of years in the production of French plays and teaching even the least gifted with inexhaustible patience and kindness.

He was a softly-spoken, deeply modest man, who inspired enormous respect and lasting affection in most of his undergraduates, postgraduates and colleagues. His quiet competence in university administration was arguably greater than that of many who actively seek out such responsibilities, and his humanity in carrying out all of his duties exemplary. He looked upon the expansion of university provision without hostility, but also without illusions. In his total devotion to his subject and to quality in all intellectual endeavour, as well as in his unselfishness and his ability to keep the extraneous and the secondary in perspective, he represented much that risks disappearing from British academic life.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret, and a daughter and son from his first marriage.

*Professor Terry Keeffe*

always had time to talk to individuals. An active Christian, John was a lay-preacher at Charles Street Baptist Church and broadcaster on local radio in the 'Thought for the Day' format. He is survived by Evangeline, three children, Ronan,

Michael and Caroline, and four grandchildren. As an appreciation of John's contribution to the discipline and to Leicester in particular the department proposes to introduce an annual John H Paterson Prize.

## JOAN KNOPP

### Vaughan College student, died 7 May 1977

Mrs Joan Knopp died in hospital on 7 May, shortly after hearing the news that she had won a major prize in a nationwide Italian Essay Competition, organised by the Association for Language Learning. Besides making assiduous use of the Language Centre's self-access facilities, she was a regular attender at a course on Shakespeare at Vaughan College, which formed part of the Certificate in Combined Studies.

Joan was also a reliable and enthusiastic reader in a small team of volunteers working for the Study Support Centre, recording material onto cassette for students who are blind or have a visual impairment. Her funeral was held on 14 May at St Denys Church, Evington.

## ALAN GAYTON, OBE

### Member of Council, died 14 May 1997

Alan Gayton, who died at the age of 73, was a long-serving lay member of the University's Council, first appointed in 1981 and serving without a break until 1996 when new membership regulations made his retirement obligatory.

A man of great energy and charisma, Mr Gayton was particularly associated on Council with developments in the management and marketing of the University's residential accommodation. He served for a number of years on the Accommodation Committee and its sub-committees. He also served on the University's original Planning Committee, the Finance and General Purposes Committee and the Bookshop Management Committee, always making informed and practical contributions to their business.

He studied briefly at the University College, but went on to the LSE, where his studies were interrupted by war service. After the war, instead of completing his degree course, he joined the family firm, Frank Gayton Advertising, and was Chairman of its successor company Gayton Graham from 1986. The companies were responsible for the University's staff recruitment advertising for many years. Mr Gayton and his colleagues were also responsible for the development of the University's visual identity, including the tactful modernisation of the logo introduced in the late 1980s and still in use now.

His public service was not confined to the University. An enthusiastic amateur actor, he became general secretary of the Leicester Dramatic Society and, together with the late Geoffrey Burton and Professor Philip Collins, helped create the Phoenix and Haymarket theatres. He served for 30 years on the Leicester bench of magistrates, and became Chairman of the Magistrates' Court Committee. In 1982 he became a part-time member of the Commission for Racial Equality. His contribution to the judiciary system resulted in the award of an OBE in 1994.

A Thanksgiving Service at Leicester Cathedral was attended by senior representatives of the University and former colleagues of Mr Gayton on Council. The bidding prayer recalled "his zest for life and enthusiasm for all he undertook ... his friendship and kindness, his generosity and hospitality".

*Nigel Siesage*



## GRANTS FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES

### ANAESTHESIA

**Prof D J Rowbotham**

#### Opioids and transmitter release

£ 25,000 (supp) *Leicester Royal Infirmary NHS Trust*

£ 154,364 *MRC*

**Dr A Maxwell**

#### A study of DNA Gyrase: - Energy coupling & coumarin drug action (Prize Studentship - Miss C V Smith)

£ 549 (supp) *Wellcome Trust*

### BIOCHEMISTRY

**Dr C R Bagshaw**

#### Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellowship

Dr Bagshaw received one of eight grants awarded across the UK by the Royal Society to academics in mid-career to relieve them of teaching duties for one year to concentrate on research. The principle work undertaken will involve studying molecular interactions of muscle proteins at the level of single molecules using highly sensitive fluorescence methods. This project stems from the development of a total internal reflection fluorescence microscope originally assembled by a former collaborator, the late Professor David Gingell, University College London. Following his untimely death, the apparatus was reconstructed in Leicester and the sensitivity of detection was improved to the single molecule level with sub-second time resolution.

£ 23,436 *Royal Society*

**Prof E Cundliffe**

#### Strategies for producing novel macrolides

£ 56,156 (supp) *Eli Lilly & Co*

### BIOCHEMISTRY (MEDICAL)

**Prof R C Liddington**

#### Crystallographic studies of a protein translocation machine

Many types of bacteria secrete protein toxins which target human cells. The present studies are aimed at determining the atomic resolution crystal structures of one of these toxins, from *Bacillus anthracis*. The toxin consists of three proteins, one of which is responsible for transporting the other two across the human cell membrane into the cell interior. This protein can also translocate human proteins, and is being evaluated as a general  $\bar{O}$ protein translocation machine. Many applications of such a system to molecular medicine immediately suggest themselves, including treatment of genetic disorders by replacing essential cellular proteins, as an alternative to gene therapy. For example, muscular dystrophy is caused by the production of a single defective protein. The information from our work will allow the development of engineered toxins that can target specific cell types and deliver proteins with greater efficiency.

### BIOCHEMISTRY (MEDICAL)

**Dr S A Prigent**

#### Identification of signalling pathways utilised by the vascular endothelial growth factor receptors KDR and FLT1

£ 98,044 *British Heart Foundation*

### BIOCHEMISTRY (NMR CENTRE)

**Prof G C K Roberts**

#### Study of zinc b-lactamases: metal binding and catalytic mechanism - Fellowship Dr C J F Dambon

b-lactamases are enzymes which destroy b-lactam antibiotics such as penicillin and cephalosporins and are responsible for bacterial resistance to these antibiotics. A class of b-lactamases which is becoming of increasing clinical significance is that in which the enzymes contain an essential zinc atom at the active site. The aim of this project is to use NMR spectroscopy to study the environment of this zinc atom, its role in catalysis and the binding of substrate analogues and inhibitors. The information obtained will contribute to the design of antibiotics which are not as susceptible to cleavage by these enzymes.

£ 50,720 *Wellcome Trust*

**Prof G C K Roberts**

#### Structural studies of an effector protein of the G protein RAC - Prize Studentship - Mr M Wright

£ 56,975 *Wellcome Trust*

### BOTANY

**Prof J Draper**

#### Assess anti-fungal activity of Agrevo chemicals for activation of SAR

£ 16,474 *Agrevo UK Ltd*

**Dr M R Grant**

#### Characterisation of mutants in the plant disease resistance defence response - Acciones Integradas

This project involves the characterisation of genes involved in plant resistance. Putative Arabidopsis mutants showing differences in the levels of expression of pathogenesis related genes have been isolated by our Spanish partners in the laboratory of Dr Carmen Castresana. A member of this laboratory will visit Leicester to map those putative mutants.

# RESEARCH

A member of the Leicester Laboratory will visit Spain to screen the mutagenised lines for individuals which fail to recognise known resistance gene specificities which reside on different chromosomes. This approach may identify genes involved in a common plant disease resistance signal transduction pathway.

£ 1,100 British Council

## Dr M R Grant

### Equipment Grant

This grant is specifically designated towards building a highly sensitive, thermally cooled luminometer capable of measuring low level photon emissions.

The elevation of cytosolic calcium concentrations initiates a multitude of cellular events which are fundamental to the viability and natural ontogenic process of plants.  $Ca^{2+}$  is implicated in plant disease resistance. Using a model pathosystem comprising the model plant *Arabidopsis thaliana* accession Col-0 (carrying the resistance gene RPM1) ectopically expressing aequorin and a collection of isogenic *Pseudomonas syringae* lines containing various avirulence genes (*avr*) we will use the luminometer to measure *in vivo* changes in intracellular calcium levels during a resistant interaction. These studies are undertaken in collaboration with Dr Marc Knight, of the Plant Sciences Dept, Oxford.

£ 8,682 Royal Society

## CELL PHYSIOLOGY & PHARMACOLOGY

### Prof S R Nahorski

#### Prize Studentship - Ms E C Akam

£ 1,044 (supp) The Wellcome Trust

### Prof P R Stanfield

**Studies of selectivity & gating of cloned & mutant inward rectifier potassium channels (IRKI) expressed in mammalian cell line (Prize Studentship - Mr C J Abram)**

£ 549 (supp) The Wellcome Trust

### Dr A B Tobin

**Role of receptor phosphorylation in the regulation of phospholipase coupled receptors**

£ 56,975 The Wellcome Trust

## CHEMISTRY

### Dr E G Hope

#### Low-valent metal fluorides

£ 1,478 CLRC

### Dr E G Hope

#### Catalysis in the fluororous biphasic

£ 820 CLRC

### Dr P Kocovsky

#### Molybdenum catalysis in allylic

## substitution

New avenues built on a mechanistic approach

£ 139,856 EPSRC

## CHILD HEALTH

### Dr U Frey

#### Prof M Silverman

**The effect of risk factors for infant mortality upon physiological development**

£ 1,215 (supp) Society for Protection of Infant Life

## ENGLISH LOCAL HISTORY

### Prof C V Phythian-Adams

#### Research Associate Costs

£ 3,000 British Library

## EPIDEMIOLOGY & PUBLIC HEALTH

### Dr S Ablett

**SIOP study of the treatment of hepatoblastoma & hepatocellular carcinoma in children**

£ 1,707 Cancer Research Campaign

## GENETICS

### Prof G A Dover

**Book proposal : Genetic Redundancy & Biological Novelty - Research Fellowship**

The last 10-20 years of research into the behaviour of genes reveals that evolution is a more complex process than that defined solely by the Darwinian mechanism of natural selection. Genes are in a continual state of flux due to a variety of molecular rearrangements of DNA, leading to high levels of genetic redundancy and the spread of variant genes through populations. This internal turbulence of DNA (giving rise to the evolutionary process of 'molecular drive') coupled to the external turbulence of the ecology (giving rise to the process of natural selection) leads to biological novelty and the inception of new species.

Professor Dover's book will review the new discoveries of the behaviour and functions of genes and incorporate them into a comprehensive theory of evolution. The book may take the form of a series of letters to Mr Darwin explaining our late 20th Century observations on the wonderful world of genes and their significance for development and evolution.

£ 14,974 Leverhulme Trust

### Dr E Orr

**Israel Science & Technology Fund Project**

£ 45,000 British Council Israel

## GENETICS (MEDICAL)

### Dr R C Trembath

**The molecular pathology of Pendred syndrome**

Exactly 100 years ago a British doctor, Vaughan Pendred wrote of two sisters who both suffered from profound hearing loss and substantial swellings of the thyroid gland in the neck. We now recognise this important cause of deafness to be inherited disorder but the connection between these organs remains unclear. We have used genetic techniques to locate the Pendred syndrome gene and we now plan to identify the gene itself. This research is likely to lead to both new and rapid tests for Pendred syndrome and shed light on the inner ear mechanisms leading to the abnormalities of hearing.

Value reported in *May Bulletin Action Research*

**A gene causing primary pulmonary hypertension: Refinement of genetic localisation and physical mapping of the disease gene**

Primary pulmonary hypertension (PPP) is a disorder characterised by abnormally high blood pressure, affecting blood vessels from the heart to the lungs. By placing excess strain on the heart, the condition is usually fatal. As the triggers for PPH are unknown, we initiated genetic studies to locate the defective gene. The gene has recently been placed on the long arm of chromosome 2 as part of an international collaboration we plan to contribute to the detailed analysis of the PPH region including the generation of a map of the DNA segments thereby proving a framework to isolate the defective gene itself. These findings have immediate application to the management of PPH families and will herald entirely novel research into the treatment of PPH.

Value reported in *May bulletin British Heart Foundation*

## GEOGRAPHY

### Prof A J Parsons

**Hydrological modelling of the Jornada Basin**

The overall aim of this project is to develop an understanding of the processes of runoff and infiltration on a bajada surface. Such surfaces are created within closed basins in dryland environments as a result of runoff transporting sediment into the basins from the surrounding mountains. Their hydrology is complex, shows evidence of dynamic change, and is intimately related to patterns of vegetation growing on them. The project is being conducted within a larger framework concerned with understanding environmental change and its impact on drylands. Research so far on this project has focused on (i) establishing instrumental sites to measure water and

sediment movement in the small, discontinuous ephemeral streams that develop on the surface; (ii) conducting field experiments to determine infiltration characteristics of the surface and the small stream channels; and (iii) developing relationships between the surface hydrology and topography. The future development of the project will concentrate on using the field experimental data to develop a model for predicting runoff and sediment responses of the instrumented sites and on integrating this model into a larger scale model for the whole bajada surface.

£ 1,919 Research Foundation of State University of New York, University of Buffalo

## MASS COMMUNICATIONS

### Dr A Hansen

**Local media reporting of the community sentence demonstration project**

£ 49,925 Home Office

## MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

### Prof W A Light

#### Dr J Levesley

**Approximation problems arising in geodesy & earth observation science**

£ 105,071 EPSRC

### Dr M Marletta

**Collaborative Research Grant**

This collaboration between Malcolm Brown and Michael Eastham of the Department of Computer Science of the University of Wales at Cardiff, and Marco Marletta of the Department of Mathematics & Computer Science in Leicester, will examine eigenvalue problems for differential equations posed over semi-infinite intervals. The aim of the project is to obtain eigenvalue approximations with guaranteed and computable error bounds. Using a mixture of asymptotics, automatic differentiation and interval arithmetic, we aim to show that for certain numerical methods, the eigenvalue error bounds which have hitherto been regarded as purely theoretical can actually be evaluated. The techniques to be used are often referred to by the collective name validated computation and involve a bootstrapping process in which one assumes a value for the error bound and, based on this assumption, one uses interval arithmetic to compute intervals in which all the quantities appearing in the formula of the error bound must lie. This then allows one to compute an interval in which the error bound must lie. This interval can then be compared with the initial assumed value of the error bound: agreement implies validity of the original assumption. The grant

from the LMS is to fund visits to Cardiff to carry out the initial groundwork.

£ 300 London Mathematical Society

## MEDICINE & THERAPEUTICS

**Prof D P De Bono**

**Discretionary Chair Fund**

£ 7,506 (supp) British Heart Foundation

**Dr R I Norman**

**Dr R F Bing**

**Membrane properties in hyperlipidaemia**

£ 13,171 (supp) Glenfield Hospital

**Dr N J Samani**

**Mapping of genetic loci predisposing to traits of the insulin resistance syndrome**

£ 75,058 British Heart Foundation

## PATHOLOGY

**Prof I Lauder**

**Q Probe Audit**

£ 8,000 (supp) Royal College of Pathologists

## POLITICS (CSPO)

**Prof J Benyon**

**Grants in Aid of Research**

£ 25,783 (supp) Private Sector Companies

## PRE-CLINICAL SCIENCES

**Dr C Ockleford**

**Molecular & cellular mechanisms of involvement of extracellular matrix degradation in the process of implantation & parturition**

The Wellcome Trust have provided £149,295 to support the continuation of research on a Royal Society Chinese Academy of Sciences Link grant between Dr Colin Ockleford's laboratory in the Department of Pre Clinical Sciences at Leicester and that of Professor Liu at the state Key Laboratory for Reproductive Biology at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing. This productive link has been in existence for 3 years. The new research aims to provide opportunities for the parental control of reproduction and to reduce perinatal mortality. This support is mainly for a talented young visiting Chinese worker, Dr Qiang Feng, who will carry out studies of the molecular and cellular processes by which tissues are degraded in a controlled manner during the crucial periods of physiological change at the beginning and end of pregnancy. He will continue the development of methods initiated in the Leicester Laboratory and then return to Beijing for the last two years of the 5 year programme to set up an independent laboratory.

£ 149,295 The Wellcome Trust

## PYSCHIATRY

**Prof J Lindesay**

**Research & Information Officer**

£ 43,862 (supp) Leicestershire Mental Health Services

## SOCIAL WORK

**Prof P J Aldgate**

**Report on research findings on work with children and families where adult mental health, alcoholism and substance abuse and domestic violence are issues**

The School of Social Work has been commissioned to investigate the impact of domestic violence, mental illness, alcohol and substance abuse in parents on children's well being. This is an important commission within the Department of Health new initiative on refocusing children's services which suggests that the different services responsible for children's welfare, such as Health, Education and Social Services should work more closely together.

Furthermore, because of the current split of Social Services into adult provision and services for children, the needs of the family as a whole are not always adequately addressed. The Department of Health's overview of studies on child protection, to which the School of Social Work contributed two key studies, showed that the problems of domestic violence, mental illness, alcohol and substance abuse in parents were not fully appreciated. Another ongoing study at the School of Social Work (Department of Health) on the needs of children in the community has added further evidence about the need for social workers to define risk to children in wider terms than direct harm. For example, children may be at risk from witnessing physical violence between parents although they are not themselves being assaulted.

This study will provide guidance for policy makers and practitioners on the impact of parents' problems on the children. The results will be widely disseminated nationally in collaboration with the Social Services.

Value reported in May bulletin.

## SOCIOLOGY (CLMS)

**Dr M Powell**

**Dr A Felstead**

**Prof D Ashton**

**A holistic approach to working together**

£ 4,941 Government Office for East Midlands

## ZOOLOGY

**Dr T A Burke**

**Parental Investment in Birds**

£ 9,961 Royal Society

## AS YOU BIKE IT

FOR years now my lovely wife and I have been keen walkers, rambling through many a Shire in the South and passing breathless hours scampering up and down the mountains of wildest Scotland. Operating with the minimum of equipment - cheap boots, my old painting trousers and a hole-riddled waterproof - I have tramped hundreds of miles fuelled only with a crushed egg sandwich and a Cupasoup but rewarded many times over by a communion with nature, an increased fitness and a general sense of wellbeing. Shortly after settling in this Shire we call Leicester, we both felt a yearning for challenges new, something that would enable us to continue our love of the outdoors but be more physically punishing, involve less climbing over stiles and, dare I say it, be a bit sexier.

We didn't have to look far for the answer for, switching on the gogglebox one night, what should we see but Jill Dando peddling her way round the ring of Kerry - on a bicycle. No sooner had the credits rolled than we were on our way to an "Irish cycling safari" - I've got the T-shirt to prove it in fact - but that's for another time. The main point is I left the painting trousers behind and converted to lean mean, lycra clad cycling.

Just as we had purchased slim amateurishly-produced walking guides, now we found a smaller, more select range of slim amateurishly-produced cycling books. One in particular has been our recent bible featuring as it does "serious" rides of 30 miles or more. The only slight drawback is the author seems to be related to an old testament prophet of doom and damnation.

If you're looking for incentives to do the ride you'll be hard pushed to find them. Perhaps you fancy some picturesque villages, think again "small village with little of interest", "small isolated village", "small unspectacular village", "of no note", "has a shop" are some of the mouthwatering enticements with which our author teases us.

Similarly, his idea of basic concepts such as "flat", "mountainous", "steep" and so on would not, I believe match everyone else's. "Very easy riding throughout with no hills to justify dismounting" is a commonly invoked description. Imagine our guilt then, when we collapse purple-faced at the top of a mountain, sorry "undulation", having pushed our bikes for the last three miles.

It's not as bad as that of course - I haven't got time to mention the tea rooms, the ridiculous helmets, the mysteries of changing gear, or oil - its part in my downfall. All I will say is that we are now super-fit people who will, no doubt, soon be looking for an even bigger challenge - if anyone knows a place that does tiger wrestling, could they please let me know?

Peter Allen

**Dr D M Harper**

**Blue/green algae monitoring**

£ 17,254 (supp) Environment Agency

**Dr D M Harper**

**Marine Biologist (post 7)**

£ 18,841 (supp) Environment Agency

**Dr D M Harper**

**Humber Officer**

£ 21,194 (supp) Environment Agency

**Dr D M Harper**

**Ferric dosing monitoring**

£ 16,284 (supp) Environment Agency

**Dr D M Harper**

**Marine Biologist (post 5)**

£ 19,982 (supp) Environment Agency

**Prof R Smith**

**Conservation studies of the amphibians & reptiles of GOA**

£ 2,000 (supp) Mr E P Killips

# NOTICES

## ESTATES & BUILDINGS OFFICE

### SUMMER VACATION - BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE WORKS

During the summer vacation, the Estates and Buildings Office will be undertaking a substantial series of building and major maintenance works, including further schemes funded under Phase II of the Backlog Maintenance Programme. Colleagues will remember that this programme, funded from part of the proceeds of the sale of the Oadby playing fields and by a 25% grant from HEFCE, is designed to bring buildings and services into compliance with the most recent legislation, in terms of Health and Safety and facilities for the disabled.

The following is an outline of the work that is planned for each building and the dates, where known. Detailed specifications are being prepared for competitive tendering, and the actual timing will depend on the workplan to be provided by the successful contractors. This outline is provided here in order to inform all who may have an interest, but detailed discussions on the implications of the work for the operation of each building will be held with building/department representatives as appropriate.

The discussions with building representatives will aim to reduce the impact of this work as far as is possible, but some disruption and noise cannot be avoided. We shall keep everyone affected by the major schemes fully informed via the Local Contacts as the work progresses.

Staff wishing to raise matters relating to any works should contact Stella Moore (ext 2506/7).

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Adrian Building</b>   | Replacement of fume cupboards<br>Structural fire precautions<br>Completion of HV upgrade   | ] | Start July 1997                              |
| <b>Adrian Link Building</b>                                    | Structural fire precautions<br>Completion of HV upgrade  |   | Start July 1997                              |
| <b>Astley Clarke Building</b>                                  | Alterations to basement<br>External redecoration   |   | August-September 1997<br>July-September 1997 |
| <b>Attenborough Building</b>                                   | Redecoration of lecture theatres and<br>renewal of lecture theatre concourse ceiling<br>External redecoration                            |   | August 1997<br>July-September 1997           |
| <b>Bennett Building</b>  | Upgrading of passenger lift for<br>disabled persons<br>Completion of HV upgrade  |   | June-September 1997                          |
| <b>Bridge - Adrian/MSB</b>                                     | External redecoration<br>Internal redecoration   | ] | July-August 1997                             |
| <b>College House</b>   | External redecoration  |   | July-September 1997                          |
| <b>Engineering Building</b>                                    | Structural fire precaution work and new<br>fire alarm and pressurisation systems   |   | Start June 1997                              |
| <b>Percy Gee Building</b>                                      | External redecoration<br>Part internal redecoration  | ] | July-September 1997                          |
| <b>Physics Building</b>  | Conversion of goods lift to passenger<br>lift for disabled<br>Recovering of roof   |   | June-September 1997<br>Start June 1997       |
| <b>R Block</b>   | Reslating of roof  |   | Start August 1997                            |
| <b>Charles Wilson Building</b>                                 | Extension to coffee shop<br>Part internal redecoration   |   | July-September 1997<br>July-September 1997   |
| <b>108 Regent Road</b>   | External redecoration  |   | June-July 1997                               |
| <b>3/5 Salisbury Road</b>                                      | External redecoration  |   | July-August 1997                             |
| <b>7/9 Salisbury Road</b>                                      | External redecoration  |   | July-August 1997                             |
| <b>Sports Hall, Manor Road</b>                                 | External redecoration  |   | August-September 1997                        |
| <b>Vaughan College</b>   | External redecoration  |   | July-September 1997                          |
| <b>161 Welford Road</b>  | Redecoration of areas occupied by<br>doctors' practice   |   | June-September 1997                          |
| <b>Northampton - 6/12</b>                                      |  |   |  |
| <b>Leicester Parade</b>  | Alterations and upgrading  |   | June-September 1997                          |
| <b>Beaumont Hall</b>   | Upgrade including rewiring, ensuite<br>facilities to 84 bedrooms, 12 study<br>bedrooms for disabled students and<br>general improvements |   | June-September 1997                          |
| <b>Charnwood Cottage</b>                                       | External redecoration<br>Internal redecoration   | ] | September 1997                               |
| <b>Glenfield General Hospital<br/>- Clinical Sciences Wing</b> | Internal redecoration  |   | June-September 1997                          |

## NEW FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE EXHIBITION

Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19  
June 1997, 10.00 am - 4.30 pm,  
at The Royal Society, 6 Carlton  
House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG

This annual Exhibition is designed to  
demonstrate recent advances in  
basic research and, where  
appropriate, their application.  
Among the exhibits are Brain  
Scanners by the Bed  
(Addenbrooke's Hospital,  
Cambridge); Messengers from Mars  
(The Natural History Museum);  
How to Look Cool: Controlling the  
Infrared (Defence Research  
Agency). All are welcome to this  
free Exhibition (last entry 4.00 pm)  
and refreshments are available.  
Enquiries: 0171 839 5561.

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE

Expressions of interest are sought  
from University staff who would like  
to be considered for membership of  
the University's Equal Opportunities  
Committee, which will have two  
vacancies from September 1997.

The terms of reference of the  
Committee are to advise the Vice  
Chancellor and relevant Boards of  
Senate and Council on the  
implementation of all aspects of the  
University's equal opportunities  
policy and to monitor progress.

Informal enquiries may be made to  
either Fiona McPhail, Staff Welfare  
and Equal Opportunities Officer and  
Secretary to the Committee (ext  
2747), or to Professor R C A White,  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Chair of the  
Equal Opportunities Committee (ext  
2323).

## GRADUATE REUNIONS

The forthcoming London Reunion is  
to be held at the RAF Club, Piccadilly,  
on the evening of Thursday 19 June.  
August sees a gathering of graduates  
from the 1940s, with lunch and an  
evening meal on Wednesday 13  
August in the University's Charles  
Wilson Building.

The Annual Reunion in Leicester is  
being held on Saturday 20 September  
- a special invitation goes out to  
graduates of Stamford Hall and  
graduates of the years 1978-82.

For details on any of the above  
events, please contact Peter Allen on  
252 2195, or Abi Skeggs on 252 2931.

# NOTICES

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### EVENTS ARE ALSO LISTED ON CWIS

#### JUNE

##### SUNDAY JUNE 6

Siobhan Davies Dance Company: Siobhan Davies will introduce two works, *White Man Sleeps* (1988) and *Bank* (1997) in a Studio Performance (without costumes and sets). 7.00pm. The Richard Attenborough Centre. For ticket details, telephone 0116 252 2455.

##### SUNDAY JUNE 8

Jubilee Bike Ride. Further details from Manor Road Sports Hall - Telephone 0116 271 9144.

##### TUESDAY JUNE 10

Inaugural Lecture: 'Take an Aspirin': Salicylates, Signalling and Cell Suicide in Plant Defence. Professor J Draper, Botany. 5.15 pm. Lecture Theatre 1, The New Building.

##### THURS/FRI/SAT 12, 13, 14 JUNE

University Theatre joint production with Lancaster Boys' School and Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth I College. Alan Bennett's 'Forty Years On'. Further details from 0116 252 2416. Tickets from the University Bookshop.

##### WEDNESDAY JUNE 11

Lunchtime Concert: Proteus Chamber Orchestra. Daniel Heard & Even Bell (clarinets) conducted by Anthony Pither. Krommer Double Clarinet Concerto in E flat major, Op.35. Beethoven Symphony No. 8 in F major. 12.45 pm Open Air or Charles Wilson Building, 10th Floor. Admission free.

##### WEDNESDAY JUNE 11

Evening Concert: Proteus Chamber Orchestra with members of the University Choral Society and Singers, conducted by Anthony Pither. Haydn Te Deum "Marie Thérèse"; Krommer Double Clarinet Concerto, Opus 35; Beethoven Symphony No. 8 in F major. 7.30 pm. Sutton-in-the Elms Baptist Church. Tickets: £3.50 (£2.50). Proceeds to The Laura Centre.

##### THURSDAY JUNE 12

University Library Public Lecture: Connectivity, Content and Competences. Margaret Haines, Principal Advisor, Library and Information Commission. 5.30 pm. Lecture Theatre 2, New Building.

##### WEDNESDAY JUNE 18

Lunchtime Concert: Philip Herbert and Anthony Pither. Piano duet. Music by Schubert, Brahms and Debussy. 12.45 pm. Richard Attenborough Centre. Admission free.

##### THURSDAY JUNE 19

The Frank May Prize Lecture: Like Father Like Son: The Era of Molecular Cardiology. Dr N J Samani, Senior Lecturer in Cardiology and Honorary Consultant Cardiologist. 5.00 pm. Lecture Theatre 1, Maurice Shock Medical Sciences Building. Reception in the Foyer after the Lecture. Open to the public and free.

##### SATURDAY JUNE 21

Evening Concert: Cantamici, conducted by Phillip Gilbert. The programme includes Britten's Flower Songs, spirituals, opera choruses and folk songs, together with Bernstein's *Best of all Possible Worlds* and Kosma's *Autumn Leaves*. 7.30 pm. Fraser Noble Building. Tickets: £5 (£4).

##### TUESDAY JUNE 24

Evening Concert: Nettle & Markham (piano duo). Music by Mozart, Schumann, Brahms, Walton, Ravel, Berstein, Milhaud, Coates, and Grainger. 7.30 pm. Richard Attenborough Centre. Tickets £10 (concessions £7.50). Telephone 0116 252 2455.

#### JULY

##### MONDAY JULY 7 - FRIDAY JULY 11

Degree Congregations - Leicester and Northampton.

### ACADEMIC OFFICE

Temporary staff are required in the Academic Office for the following periods:

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Post 1:             | Higher Degrees Office - full-time from 23 June to mid October.                  |
| Post 2:             | Registry - full-time from 4 August to mid October.                              |
| Post 3:             | Admissions - full-time from 4 August to 19 September.                           |
| Post 4:             | Admissions - full-time from 4 August to 29 August.                              |
| Posts 5,6,7,8,9,10: | Registry/Higher Degrees Office - up to 6 full-time from 6 October - 17 October. |

Applications in writing to include CV, giving details of post applied for, dates of availability, plus dates of any holiday booked, to Registry, Academic Office by **Friday 13 June 1997**.

## PRESS COVERAGE FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS

After graduation ceremonies (to which the media is invited), the Press & Alumni Relations Office sends out details of graduating students to the local Press across the UK. However, it is very useful if the Press & Alumni Relations Office can be alerted to matters that may be of interest to the media. These are often the so-called 'human interest' stories, e.g.:

- achievements in the face of difficult circumstances
- stories about members of the same family/different generations getting degrees
- exceptional results by a candidate
- unusual/groundbreaking research topics
- exceptional achievements by international students

Photographs of groups of international students at graduation - particularly by country of origin - are also welcome.

The names of students together with a contact number (if available) should be sent to Ather Mirza, Press & Alumni Relations Office. The consent of students selected for public relations purposes will be sought.

## UNPREDICTABLE

The outcome of the Politics Department staff sweepstake on the recent General Election results may amuse Bulletin readers. Entrants had to predict the number of seats to be won by Conservatives, Labour, Liberal Democrats and Others, as well as the size of the overall winning majority.

The academic members of the Department were soundly beaten by the Departmental Executive Secretary, Renie Lewis, who not only came closest to getting the majority right, but predicted precisely the number of Labour seats (418)!



## KPMG TAX AND PERSONAL FINANCIAL ADVISORY SESSIONS

FREE INITIAL ADVICE is available on personal tax, investment planning and any area of personal finance.

For an appointment at KPMG telephone David Norman on 0116 256 6000

**KPMG - Accounts and Business Advisers**  
Peat House, 1 Waterloo Way, Leicester LE1 6LP



KPMG is a trading name of KPMG Peat Marwick which is authorised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales to carry on investment business.

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 15 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.

|    |    |    |  |    |    |    |    |    |  |    |  |   |
|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|----|----|--|----|--|---|
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|    |    |    |  |    |    |    |    |    |  |    |  | 7 |
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|    |    |    |  | 10 |    |    |    |    |  |    |  |   |
| 11 |    |    |  |    |    | 12 | 13 |    |  | 14 |  |   |
|    |    |    |  | 15 | 16 |    |    |    |  |    |  |   |
| 17 |    |    |  |    |    |    |    |    |  | 18 |  |   |
|    |    |    |  | 19 |    | 20 |    | 21 |  |    |  |   |
| 22 |    |    |  |    |    |    |    | 23 |  |    |  |   |
|    |    |    |  |    |    | 24 |    |    |  |    |  |   |
| 25 |    | 26 |  |    |    |    |    | 27 |  |    |  |   |
|    |    |    |  |    |    |    |    |    |  |    |  |   |
|    | 28 |    |  |    |    |    |    |    |  |    |  |   |

### Clues Across

- Unseen quality of Herbert George's man (12)
- Direction of the reaction? (5)
- See the old poet who made harness (7)
- 'Grocer' finally defeated (3)
- When disturbed, loves to do crossword (5)
- Ed's opinions expressed here, and bosses' (7)
- Perhaps King in play, or overthrown (5)
- Legally without a function (4)
- Namely a sailor breaks strike (4)
- True male domain (5)
- Beg Eric to prepare the lettuce (7)
- Repeated a profit (5)
- Scoff, in theatrical language (3)
- Light, with nothing on, is 'skittish' (7)
- Affair I should extract e.g. from Limerick (5)
- Wife's girl may be pert, and hugs date (12)

### Clues Down

- Is terrible, is terribly overpowering (12)
- Unofficial cop dispatches evil giant! (9)
- The dog does pose a problem (6)
- How to go with Enterprise! (6)
- Peacock's earlier form was of particular value (6)
- Kit's dad's test coming up (3)
- Pass over lawyer for neutral member (12)
- Peer into rear light (4)
- Sacrament his curate could purvey (9)
- Surplus deliveries (4)
- Require coupon-filling to make good (6)
- Things to do - and badly after time (6)
- Periodical embraces can, and union (6)
- Kit's dad's come up with witticism (3)

## PRIZE CROSSWORD 14 SOLUTION

**Across:** 1 Crambo. 5 Apache. 9 Ounce. 10 Bursar. 11 Ethics. 12 Scandalmonger. 16 Thy. 17 Ere. 18 Ninth. 19 Fad. 21 Eta. 23 Epiphenomenon. 24 Campus. 26 Schism. 27 Sepia. 28 Dulcet. 29 Pliers.  
**Down:** 1 Cubist. 2 Airway. 3 Boardinghouse. 4 Our. 5 Ace. 6 Petrochemical. 7 Cringe. 8 Ensure. 13 Cheap. 14 Linen. 15 Erato. 19 Fenced. 20 Dismal. 21 Endive. 22 Animus. 25 Set. 26 Sip.

### WINNER OF PRIZE CROSSWORD 14

Rita Denton, University Bookshop

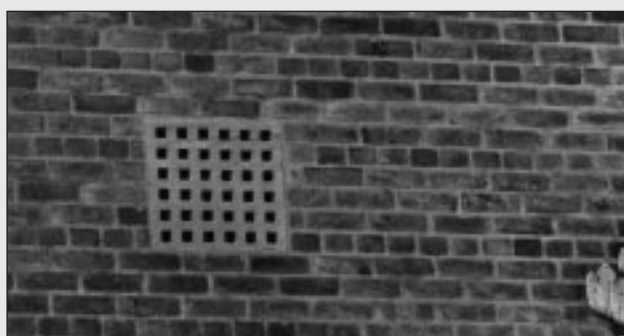
### PRIZE GIVEN BY LEICESTER UNIVERSITY CATERING SERVICES

Entries in a sealed envelope - clearly marked  
 PRIZE CROSSWORD COMPETITION, C/O LUSU RECEPTION, PERCY GEE  
 BUILDING BY NO LATER THAN NOON ON FRIDAY 20 JUNE.

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

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

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



### EYE SPY COMPETITION

A corner of the campus is captured by a photographer from the Central Photographic Unit. Don't be negative, try to identify its location and send in an entry to Barbara Whiteman, Press & Alumni Relations, by Friday 20 June to secure your chance of winning a £10 book token. A draw from correct entries determines the winner.

### WINNER OF LAST MONTH'S EYE SPY COMPETITION:

Simon Marlow, Porter, Fielding Johnson Building

Last month's photo featured the light over the main entrance of the Fielding Johnson Building.

### DEPARTMENTAL STAFF COMMON ROOM ASSOCIATION

#### TRIP TO PARIS - "THE ROMANTIC CITY"

From Friday 8 August - Sunday 10 August, a trip to Paris, organised by the Departmental Staff Common Room Association, will take in a sightseeing tour of the capital and a visit to Versailles. The party will be staying at Hotel Ibis in Paris after a Dover-Calais crossing, returning via the Le Havre-Portsmouth ferry. An optional tour to Disneyland is offered at a cost of £30 per person, including entrance. The cost of this trip is £99, inclusive of two nights' bed and breakfast, ferry and tours. For further details, telephone Chris Day (Engineering) on 2565.